

April 26, 2022

Dear Parents and/or Guardians:

Our school is participating in a statewide Needs Assessment Survey. The Montana Prevention Needs Assessment Student Survey is funded by the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Service's Addictive and Mental Disorders Division's Prevention Bureau. The results will be used to help plan substance abuse prevention strategies and programs in our community. Some important facts about the survey:

1. **It is anonymous.** Students will not put their names on the survey. No one will be able to connect any individual student with his or her responses. School staff will not see any student responses.
2. Participation in the survey is voluntary. Your son/daughter may decline to participate at any time or skip any question they do not wish to answer.

Questions cover alcohol, drugs, tobacco, and family and community factors related to substance use and abuse.

Example Questions in the Survey:

- I feel safe at my school?
- My teachers praise me when I work hard in school?
- I enjoy being in school?
- I made a commitment to stay drug-free?

I, personally, feel that the survey is a worthwhile undertaking that will help create better, more effective prevention interventions to combat the problem of drug and alcohol use by youth in our community. I hope that you agree to allow your child to participate in this statewide effort. **If you agree, you need to do nothing further.**

However, if for any reason you do not wish your child to participate, please complete and return the denial of permission slip to the EVMS Office by April 28, 2022 and your child will be excused from participation.

Thank you in advance for your support toward creating healthier environments for our youth.

Sincerely,

Brenda Stoltz
EVMS Principal

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DENIAL of PARTICIPATION

I **do not** want my son/daughter to participate in the Montana Prevention Needs Assessment Student Survey.

Student Name _____

Parent Name _____

Please return to the EVMS Office by Thursday, April 28, 2022 if you DO NOT want your child to participate!