

Mervin B. Daugherty, Ed.D.
Superintendent



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Chesterfield County Public Schools
Innovative. Engaging. Relevant.

October 7, 2019

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Chesterfield County Public Schools, Chesterfield County government and Substance Abuse Free Environment, Inc. (SAFE) are partnering to conduct a prevention needs assessment survey in middle and high schools. This survey will be given in November to randomly selected classrooms in grades 8, 10 and 12 in all Chesterfield middle and high schools. Approximately one-third of the classes in these three grades will be selected to participate.

We are requesting permission for your son or daughter to participate in this survey if your child's class is selected. The survey will not identify your child, and information about specific schools will not be reported. The results will be used to form a profile of the youth in Chesterfield County. Information will then be used in applications for various local, state and federal grants to support programs for our students. We are planning to administer this survey again in two years to provide information about the effectiveness of our programs in reducing risky behavior.

The survey asks questions related to substance abuse, school and community connections. It does not ask questions of a sexual nature. You may read the entire survey at www.chesterfieldsafe.org. Copies of the survey are also available for review at all Chesterfield County middle schools, high schools and libraries.

Participation in the survey is voluntary and confidential. The names of students taking part are not recorded, and your child's grades or progress in school will not be affected by taking or by not taking the survey. The on-line survey will be conducted in one class period and will take about 45 minutes. No information will be collected to identify your child individually. A commercial evaluator in another state will process the surveys for scoring and reporting. Reports of all surveys, including the current survey when available, can be accessed by the public at the SAFE website (www.chesterfieldsafe.org).

By not returning this form, you are giving permission for your child to take the survey. If you do not want your child to participate in this survey, please check the box below and return the form to school by **October 18, 2019**. Students not taking the survey will be allowed to read or do other work while the survey is in progress. Questions about this survey may be directed to Regina Whitsett of SAFE, at (804) 694-7794. We appreciate the participation of every student and thank you in advance for your support of this project.

Sincerely,

Mervin B. Daugherty, Ed. D.
Superintendent

I do not give my permission for my child, _____, to participate in the prevention needs assessment survey in November 2019.

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date