



GOODHUE COUNTY EDUCATION DISTRICT #6051

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Member Districts: Cannon Falls #252 • Goodhue #253 • Kenyon Wanamingo #2172 • Lake City #813 • Red Wing #256 • Zumbrota Mazeppa #2805

General Information

The Minnesota Student Survey (MSS) is a triennial survey of young people regarding a variety of risk and protective factors. The survey asks young people questions about their activities, opinions, behaviors and experiences. It includes questions on a variety of issues, such as substance abuse, school climate, violence and safety concerns, healthy eating, out-of-school activities, connections to school, community and family and many other questions. The survey is administered in schools, alternative learning centers and juvenile correctional facilities. The purpose of the survey is to:

- Provide data for program planning and evaluation.
- Meet state and federal student survey requirements.
- Address relevant issues confronting students.
- Mark trends over time.
- Involve schools/other educational settings statewide and provide data for local use.

2016 Minnesota Student Survey

The next MSS administration window is between January and May 2016, with registration opening at the end of November 2015. Once again, Minnesota students in grades 5, 8, 9 and 11 will be invited to participate. A majority of the survey will be conducted online, but there will be a limited number of paper copies available for students in grades 9 and 11. The online surveys will be compatible with desktops, laptops, tablets (e.g. iPad, Surface, etc.), and Chromebooks.

All schools and districts that participate in the survey are required to follow federal laws regarding parental notification as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA). PPRA requires participating schools to notify parents of the survey administration, provide parents the opportunity to review the survey instrument, and allow parents to opt their child out of participating. Sample parent notification letters are available in multiple languages for school districts to adapt.

The survey is made possible through a partnership between the Minnesota Departments of Education, Health, Human Services and Public Safety. These agencies provide funding and staff time to develop, administer and analyze the survey.

Source: Minnesota Department of Education,
<http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/StuSuc/SafeSch/MNStudentSurvey/> (accessed on 1/6/16)