

December 16, 2019

Dear Parent or Guardian,

We are writing to inform you about a student survey that will be administered at your child's school called the Illinois 5Essentials Survey. This is the eighth year the Illinois State Board of Education will implement this survey across the state. This survey is based on 20 years of research at the University of Chicago. It asks students about their experiences in school, giving school leaders critical student input to help develop school improvement plans.

Student participants will be required to log-in using their state student ID and birth date in order to complete the survey. Students' identities will be completely confidential. Teachers or administrators will never see individual responses to survey questions and will only receive aggregated information, such as the total percentage of students who agree homework assignments help them learn the course material.

Please be aware that under the Protection of Pupil Rights Act, 20 U.S.C. Section 1232(c) (1) (A), you have the right to review a copy of the questions asked of your student(s). Survey questions can be found on the Illinois 5Essentials [website \(https://www.5-essentials.org/illinois\)](https://www.5-essentials.org/illinois).

If you do not want your son or daughter to participate, please contact his or her school office and indicate you do not want your child to take part in the 2019-2020 5Essentials Survey. That contact and the decision to have him or her opt out will be recorded and maintained in the office, as required, and your son or daughter will not participate in the survey.

Additionally, our district has chosen to provide the optional Parent Supplement survey. If at least 20 percent of the parents in each of our schools complete this survey, a parent supplement report will also be generated. The parent data will not be reported on the State Report Card.

Your participation in the parent portion of the survey will help us understand the conditions at your child's school and guide improvement. Your identity and survey responses will be kept completely confidential and will never be connected to you or your child.

The Illinois 5Essentials Survey for students, teachers, and parents will be conducted through February 14, 2020. To take the parent survey please visit <https://survey.5-essentials.org/illinois/> and select the appropriate survey to begin.

For more information about the Illinois 5Essentials Survey, or to view previous years' reports, please visit <https://www.5-essentials.org/illinois>. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact 5Essentials Client Services at 1-866-440-1874 or 5essentials@uchicago.edu.

Thank you for your cooperation,

Kathy Dinger, Ed.D.
Superintendent