

Springs Valley Community Schools

Office of the Superintendent
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Mrs. Kathy Allstott
Treasurer

Dr. Trevor Apple
Superintendent

Mrs. Peggy Simmons
Deputy Treasurer

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I wanted to let you know that we have an opportunity to work with the IU School of Public Health on a research project. We are asking your written permission to allow your child to participate in a survey. I have outlined a few key points regarding the survey.

Purpose:

According to the most recent Kids County Data Book, Orange County ranks # 1 on teenage pregnancies in Indiana. The IU School of Public Health will administer a social norms survey to 9th through 12th grade students to better understand possible reasons why Orange County ranks # 1 in teenage pregnancies. The survey also seeks to understand current teenage thoughts and beliefs regarding peer group involvement.

Survey Details:

The survey is **confidential** and **anonymous**. No one will know how the student answered the questions. There will be no identifying information except gender and grade. The survey consists of 115 questions relating to teenage social behavior, thoughts regarding peer group behavior and approximately 10-15 questions regarding teenage thoughts about sexual behaviors. There will be questions relating specifically to teenage pregnancy opinions. The words "sex", "penis", "vagina" and "sexual intercourse" will be used in the survey.

Benefit to Student and School Corporation:

We will be able to use the research data collected to apply for additional grant funding for our school. We will be participating in research that will allow our school and county to become proactive in better understanding teenage opinion regarding healthy relationships and behaviors that may lead to the decision to engage in sexual relationships.

Additional Information:

Students who are 18 years old will not need to have parent consent to participate. They will be given the opportunity to sign their own consent forms if they choose to participate in the survey.

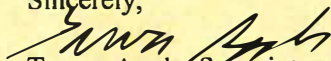
Students under 18 years old will be able to opt-out of the survey even if their parent gave written consent.

Students will **NOT** be able to participate in the survey without parent written consent.

We are working with the IU School of Public Health alongside Thrive Orange County to better understand some important issues facing our teenagers. Please feel free to reach out to Brandy Terrell for more information. She may be reached at bterrell@sichc.org or at 812- 345-5529.

Please return your signed consent form in the stamped envelope by February 26, 2021.

Sincerely,


Trevor Apple, Superintendent