



WILSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Where Respect, Responsibility and Results are Core Values

22 Rutledge Road - Natick, MA 01760-1764

(508) 647-6670

Anna Nolin, Principal

*Niall Carney, Vice Principal
Suzanne Kenny, Vice Principal*

November 5, 2008

Dear Parent or Guardian,

To make sure we give the best possible education and services to children in Natick, we want to learn about their attitudes and behaviors with regard to a variety of health issues. In order to accomplish this, students at Kennedy and Wilson Middle Schools are being asked to participate in a survey called the *MetroWest Adolescent Health Survey*. The questions of the survey cover many topics including alcohol, tobacco and other drug use; violence and safety; nutrition, physical activity and mental health. This project will help our district develop and enhance its health education and prevention services. We will be giving this survey to students in grades seven and eight on November 10, 2008.

The survey is **anonymous**, meaning your child will not put his or her name on the survey and no one will know what he or she writes. There will be no identifying information on any the surveys.

Completing this survey is **voluntary**. Your child's grades in school will not be affected by whether or not s/he participates. Your child can also decide not to take the survey or skip any question s/he doesn't wish to answer.

The *Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment* is a Federal Law that requires us to notify you ahead of time about the survey, and give you the chance to look at it, so you can let us know if you don't want your child to take part. If you want to see the survey before deciding, a copy will be available at the front office from October 30 – November 5, 2008.

If you DO NOT want your child to take part in the survey, please complete the form below and have your child return it to his or her school by November 6, 2008.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lynn Reulbach, Health teacher at lynn_reulbach@natick.k12.ma.us.

Sincerely,

Anna Nolin

Child's Name (Please print): _____

Child's School: _____ Grade: _____

I DO NOT allow my child to participate in the 2008 MetroWest Adolescent Health Survey.

Your name (please print)

Signature

Date

PARENTAL NOTIFICATION RELATIVE TO SEX EDUCATION

In accordance with General Laws Chapter 71, Section 32A, the Natick School Committee has adopted this policy on the rights of parents and guardians of our students in relation to curriculum that primarily involves human sexual education or human sexuality issues.

At the beginning of each school year, all parents/guardians of students in our schools will be notified in writing of the courses and curriculum we offer that primarily involve human sexual or human sexuality issues. The Superintendent of Schools will determine the administrator(s) responsible for sending the notice(s). Parents/guardians of students who enroll in school after the start of the school year will be given the written notice at the time of enrollment. If planned curricula change during the school year, to the extent practicable, parents/guardians will be notified of this fact in a timely manner before implementation.

Each such notice to parents/guardians will include a brief description of the curriculum covered by this policy, and will inform parents/guardians that they may:

1. Exempt their child from any portion of the curriculum that primarily involves human sexual education or human sexual issues, without penalty to the student, by sending a letter to the school Principal requesting an exemption. Any student who is exempted by request of the parent/guardian under this policy may be given an alternative assignment.
2. Inspect and review program instruction materials for these curricula, which will be made reasonably accessible to parents/guardians and others to the extent practicable. Parents/guardians may arrange with the Principal to review the materials at the school and may also review them at other locations that may be determined by the Superintendent of Schools.

A parent/guardian who is dissatisfied with a decision of the Principal concerning notice, access to instructional materials, or exemption for the student under this policy may send a written request to the Superintendent for review of the issue. The Superintendent or designee will review the issue and give the parent/guardian a timely written decision, preferably within two weeks of the request. A parent/guardian who is dissatisfied with the Superintendent's decision may send a written request to the School Committee for review of the issue. The School Committee will review the issue and give the parent/guardian a timely written decision, preferably within four weeks of the request. A parent/guardian who is still dissatisfied after this process may send a written request to the Commissioner of Education for review of the issue in the dispute.

The Superintendent of Schools will distribute a copy of this policy to each Principal by September 1 of each year.