

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Every two years, the Strategic Prevention Initiative for Families and Youth (SPIFFY) administers the Prevention Needs Assessment (PNA) Survey to all 8th, 10th, and 12th grade students. The PNA survey measures such problems as alcohol and substance use, depression and violence and other problem behaviors in our schools and communities. These factors may place students at risk for engaging in problem behaviors. It also looks at the factors that make students less likely to engage in problem behaviors. This year, the survey will also be asking students about the impact of COVID on their lives and learning.

The students will be participating in the survey on **Wednesday, March 31, 2021**, and your child will be asked to take the survey during asynchronous learning time. The purpose of the survey is to gather the information needed to plan important prevention and intervention programs to combat at risk behaviors. It will also help us judge the effectiveness of our current prevention and intervention efforts.

I have a copy of the survey instrument in my office, if you wish to contact me to review it. I can also send you a pdf of the survey to review at home.

The survey is administered electronically and is anonymous. Raw data will be sent directly to SPIFFY for compilation; the school will not see any individual student responses. All results from the survey will be presented only in summary form.

Your child's participation in the survey is completely voluntary. Each child will be given the option of leaving blank any question that he or she prefers not to answer, or to not participate at all. You may decline to have your child participate, if you wish.

If you have any questions regarding the study, please contact either me, Nancy Blume, Adjustment Counselor @ [nblume@grsd.org](mailto:nblume@grsd.org) or call 413-685-1210 or reach out to Heather Warner of SPIFFY at [hwarner@collaborative.org](mailto:hwarner@collaborative.org) or 603-475-7713 (work cell).

**Please let me know in writing by March 31, 2021 only if you do not want your child to participate in the survey.**

Thank you,  
Nancy Blume, LICSW  
School Adjustment Counselor