



STUDENT – KCTC STUDENT SURVEY INFORMED CONSENT

Greenbush - The Education Service Center

PROJECT TITLE: Kansas Communities That Care (KCTC) Student Survey

DEAR VALUED STUDENT:

The Kansas Communities That Care (KCTC) Student Survey has been administered annually in Kansas since 1994-1995 and measures teen substance use, delinquency, and related problem behaviors. We know that students are influenced by many factors and behavior and attitudes do not develop in isolation. What happens at home affects youth performance and behavior at school. What happens in our schools can affect youth attitudes toward the community, and vice versa. It is critical that we look at the whole picture to determine the most appropriate approaches to focus on prevention efforts. If problem behaviors decrease in schools and communities, they are better places to learn, grow, and live.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY?

With the movement towards accountability at all levels, having high quality youth data is critical for school districts, community, county and regional organizations as well as state agencies. KCTC data is used across multiple state agencies, including the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS), Behavioral Health Services Commission, Kansas State Department of Education, and Juvenile Justice Authority. Frequent and consistent participation is critical to establishing reliable trend data over time.

WHY IS THIS STUDY IMPORTANT?

The KCTC student survey provides schools with data. This data is used to help districts gauge what is working and what needs work within their schools. Districts can then look into different programs to address weaknesses or enhance strengths. Districts can also use the data when seeking funding for programming.

There are many community organizations (e.g., United Way, Big Brothers/ Big Sisters, Boys & Girls Clubs, Kansas Children's Service League, Communities in Schools, Juvenile Services, and community coalitions) counting on annual survey data to apply for grant funding for student and community prevention programming that will benefit students.

WHY HAVE I BEEN ASKED TO TAKE PART IN THIS STUDY?

Principal Investigators with KDADS have determined the KCTC is grounded in rigorous research from a variety of disciplines. This research has identified the predictors of youth problem behaviors, developed assessment tools for measuring those predictors in a community, and tested programs that work to address those predictors.

HOW MANY PEOPLE BESIDES ME WILL BE IN THE STUDY?

This study is expected to collect results from at least 30,000 participants.

WHAT WILL I BE ASKED TO DO IN THIS STUDY?

Participants will be asked to complete an online survey.

WHAT QUESTIONS WILL I BE ASKED?

The survey is a valuable tool in asking questions to help us understand how students behave, think, and feel about bullying and school safety, as well as alcohol, marijuana, and other drug use. The survey also includes questions regarding student-teacher relationships and student involvement.

Districts may choose to include any of the following optional sets of questions, which are not automatically included in the core survey: depression/suicide, family domain, demographics for gender identity, and demographics for sexual orientation. For districts participating in the depression/suicide set of questions, these questions are not a suicide risk assessment or suicide screening tool. Talk with your school to learn which optional question sets you will receive, if any.

A copy of all questions on the survey can be viewed at kctcdata.org/studentsurvey. To learn more about which survey questions your school district elected to administer, please contact your school administrator.

HOW MUCH TIME WILL I SPEND BEING IN THIS STUDY?

The survey will take approximately 27 minutes to complete and will be administered during a single class period. Keep in mind, some students are able to finish more quickly, while others may need additional time.

Most students will be with their teachers when taking the survey. Some students may take the survey remotely. In the context of remote survey administration, we advise survey coordinators to supervise the survey virtually over their district-provided live video/audio platform. However, in few cases where this is not an accessible option, students are provided the survey as an assignment where they complete the survey on their own.

WILL I BE PAID FOR BEING IN THIS STUDY? WHO PAYS FOR THE SURVEY?

You will not be paid for being in this study. This survey is funded through KDADS and is available at no cost to all districts.

WILL BEING IN THIS STUDY COST ME ANYTHING?

There is no monetary cost to you for completing the survey.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF BEING IN THIS STUDY?

Annual participation is important. Even if you have participated in previous surveys, annual data is extremely helpful in determining the effectiveness of previous efforts and changes in program areas.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS IF I AM IN THIS STUDY?

No risks, danger, or harm exists for participating in this study. You may choose to leave the study at any time. No personally identifying information will be collected about you. It is possible, however, with Internet communications, that through intent or accident someone other than the intended recipient may see your responses.

HOW WILL MY CONFIDENTIALITY BE PROTECTED? WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE INFORMATION THE STUDY KEEPS?

This survey is completely anonymous. You will not be asked for your name on the questionnaire/survey, nor will anyone be able to connect you with your responses. School staff will not see your responses, but only summaries of results.

Data security is ensured through a combination of sound technology infrastructure, clear protocols and practices for key personnel involved in data collection, storage, transit, and access. All data is stored, encrypted, and secured with offsite backups. The data can be accessed only by managed authenticated users with least privileged access. Data is stored onsite and offsite using redundant servers protected by managed firewalls. Access to server(s) is restricted to authorized users and accessed by encrypted connection only.

Summaries of survey results will be published online each spring and can be viewed at kctcdata.org.

WHAT ARE THE ALTERNATIVES TO BEING IN THIS STUDY? DO I HAVE OTHER CHOICES?

The alternative/other choice is not to participate in this study. Participation is entirely voluntary. You may decline to participate in the survey, or you may simply skip any particular question you do not wish to answer.

WHAT ARE MY RIGHTS AS A PARTICIPANT?

Taking part in the study is completely voluntary. You may choose not to take part. If you start the survey, you can stop at any time. Partial responses will be recorded.

Greenbush – The Southeast Kansas Education Service Center’s (SEKESC) Institutional Review Board (IRB) is the committee that protects the rights of people in research studies.

WHO DO I CALL IF I HAVE QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS?

If you have any questions or concerns about this study, please contact the Project Manager via email at kctc@greenbush.org or via phone at 620-724-6281, extension 366. The Institutional Review Board (IRB) at Greenbush SEKESC has approved this study. If you have any concerns as to your rights, or the rights of your school district, you may contact The Research Compliance Officer of Greenbush SEKESC, at irbchair@greenbush.org.

WHAT SHOULD I DO NEXT?

If you choose to participate in the KCTC Student Survey, the following will occur:

- Click “next” indicating your acceptance to participate in the survey.
- Please follow the on-screen instructions to complete the survey.

If you have questions about what to do next, please talk with the adult at your school giving this survey. Or contact the KCTC Team at Greenbush - The Education Service Center, at 620-724-6281 extension 366 or at kctc@greenbush.org.



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