



Nordonia Hills City School District
9370 Olde Eight Road · Northfield, OH 44067 · Phone: 330.467.0580 · Fax: 330.468.0152
Dr. Joseph Clark, Superintendent · www.nordoniaschools.org

Dear Nordonia families,

Students are not immune to the growing mental health challenges in Ohio. Some face anxiety and depression firsthand. Others feel the impact of our state's struggles with suicide and substance use.

We are excited to offer you a tool for gathering information on health and safety behaviors and non-academic barriers affecting student success. With the help of data from the [Ohio Healthy Youth Environments Survey](#), known as OHYES!, district leaders can gather credible information on issues essential to make learning successful and enable you to:

- Identify trends in mental health and environmental challenges among students,
- Tailor positive behavioral interventions and mental health supports,
- Advance school culture and climate goals,
- Make strategic use of Student Wellness and Success funds,
- Partner with local mental health and health organizations to improve student health.

About OHYES!

OHYES! is offered by the Ohio Department of Education, Mental Health and Addiction Services, and Health. OHYES! is part of the State of Ohio's system of youth surveys that includes the Ohio Youth Risk Behavior Survey/Youth Tobacco Survey (YRBS/YTS), Prevention Services Survey, and School Health Profiles. This year the State is recruiting for the OHYES!

The OHYES! gathers data on health risk and protective factors facing Ohio's young people, including:

- Feelings about their school and community, including bullying, and school climate and safety,
- Personal use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs and perception of risks,
- Mental health, suicide, and access to health care,
- Family and personal relationships, and demographics,
- Health-related behaviors such as sleep, nutrition, and exercise.

The survey is:

- Free, voluntary and web-based,
- Designed for students in grades 7-12,
- About 30-35 minutes in duration.

The current standard survey includes 110 questions. The standard survey does not include sensitive questions. The standard survey version is available on the OHYES! website.

The high school and the middle school will find non-instructional times to administer the survey, minimizing disruptions to classes. Nordonia High School and Nordonia Middle School will survey all students in grades 7, 9, 10, and 11 on December 21, 2022 whose parents do not opt out of the student's participation. Survey administration has been designed to protect student privacy anonymity. Supporting materials are provided to notify parents and assist with administering the survey.

To decide if OHYES! is right for your district or school, please:

- Visit the [OHYES!](#) website
- [OHYES! Tri-fold brochure](#)
- [OHYES! Standard 110-item survey example \(Revised for Fall 2022\)](#)

To meet the needs of middle and high school students, school leaders must first understand what their student population faces. That's why we strongly encourage you to participate and benefit from the important information that OHYES! provides.

Ohio law requires parents be informed of school surveys and have the ability to opt out of their child's participation. This method is commonly known as passive consent, and minimizes administrative burden on schools, maintains student confidentiality, and increases response rates. We hope you will permit your child to participate. If so, there is no need to do anything. If you do NOT want your student(s) to participate in this survey, please sign the form [HERE](#) and list the name and grade of your student(s) who will NOT participate. A separate form must be filled out for each student.

Sincerely,

Shon Smith
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