



Hesston Unified School District 460

150 N. Ridge Road • PO Box 2000 • Hesston, Kansas 67062-2092

PARENT/STUDENT AUTHORIZATIONS

Explanatory Notes: 2021-2022

*** PLEASE READ ALL INFORMATION PRIOR TO SIGNING the ***
Parent/Student Consent & Authorizations Form

1. Movies

Movies with the ratings noted below may be used for instructional purposes or special activities. By giving permission, your child will be able to view movies during the school year without obtaining further parental permission. Notification for each movie will be given to students before the movie is shown.

Elementary School "G"; Middle School "PG"; High School "PG-13"

If you choose "No" at this time, you will have the option of giving permission on an individual-movie basis. A permission form for each movie to be shown will be sent home with your child before the viewing time.

2. Field Trips

Field trips may be taken to enhance the curriculum. Most field trips are in-town trips or trips to locations nearby (within 60 miles). Separate parental permission may be sought for field trips of an extended duration or distance, at the principal's discretion. In every case, all reasonable safety precautions will be taken and adequate supervision will be provided. By marking "Yes" on the Parent Authorization form, you agree you will not hold USD 460 or its employees responsible in case of an accident. Furthermore, if your child should need to be removed from the field trip for illness or disruptive behavior, you will be notified to pick up your child.

3. FERPA and Student Data Privacy Act Notices

To read this notice regarding student educational records and data privacy rights, please go to www.hesstonschools.org and click on Menu – Documents – Families. Then, scroll down to the document titled "2021-22 Annual Notice of FERPA Rights and SDPA" and click on it to open.

4. Acknowledgment of Student Handbook

Each Hesston school issues a handbook for students and parents, which is available on the school's web site. Go to www.hesstonschools.org and then follow the links to your student's school and handbook. For families without internet access, hard copies are available at enrollment. The handbook contains various notifications required annually by the State of Kansas, including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. Nondiscrimination and Harassment
- b. Drug Free Schools and Communities Policy
- c. Emergency Safety Interventions

As a condition of enrollment, the student is required to abide by all regulations contained in the handbook as well as other policies established by the board of education (BOE). If the student chooses not to abide by school/BOE rules, regulations or any established policy, or any reasonable request by school authorities, disciplinary action may be imposed, up to and including expulsion from school.

Questions regarding this acknowledgement and the handbook should be directed to your student's building principal.

5. Electronic Information Services Acceptable Use Policy

To read this notice regarding the use of district computers and electronic information services (Internet, social media, etc.), please go to www.hesstonschools.org and click on Menu – Documents – Families. Then, scroll down to the document titled “2021-22 Acceptable Use Policy” and click on it to open. All students and parents are required to read and abide by this policy.

6. Kansas Communities That Care Survey

Please refer to the attached “Kansas Communities that Care (KCTC) Student Survey” information sheet.

7. Patriotic Exercises

According to board policy, students in grades 1-8 shall recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States on a daily basis. Students in grades 9-12 shall recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States on at least a weekly basis. Students who opt out of patriotic exercises for personal religious reasons will not be expected to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

8. Release of Student Photos

Photos of student activities and individual students may be used in district publications (e.g., yearbook, newsletters, athletic programs) and for purposes of district publicity (e.g., district and school web pages). Opting out of this item means that:

- a) your child’s named photo will **not** appear in these publications or web sites; but
- b) your child’s image may still appear in these locations (generally in candid shots) without being identified by name.

9. Human Sexuality and Aids Education

Students in our school district are presented information about Human Sexuality and HIV/AIDS in health and life management classes in accordance with the Kansas State Board of Education regulations. The content is age appropriate and relates to the current topic in the health curriculum. Grade level content for these classes is available from the principals upon request. Parents may opt out their child from a portion, or from all, of the curriculum.

10. Non-Participation Due to Religious Objections

Parents may excuse their student from activities that are counter to their religious beliefs. As in the case of all other opt-out selections, this designation is valid for the current school year and must be re-designated on an annual basis.

11/12. (HHS only) Regarding Student Information Access

Federal law requires school districts to provide certain student directory information to military recruiters and post-secondary institutions unless parents/eligible students specifically opt-out of such release of directory information. “Directory information” includes, but is not limited to, students’ name, address, telephone number, grade level, and activities participation.

If you wish to limit or withhold the release of directory information about your student (or yourself, if a student age 18 or older) to the armed forces or colleges/universities, please mark the appropriate opt-out box. This designation is only effective for the school year in which it is submitted.

Kansas Communities That Care (KCTC) Student Survey Information for Parents



Overview

The Kansas Communities That Care (KCTC) student survey 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.

1. Why is this survey 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.

2. Is the information confidential?

- The survey is completely anonymous
- Students are not asked for their names or other personally identifiable information on the questionnaire
- No one can connect any student with his/her responses
- School staff do not see any one student's responses

3. What questions are asked?

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

4. Who uses the data? What is it for?

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 Justice Authority, and community coalitions) counting on annual survey data to apply for grant funding for student and community prevention programming that will benefit the students.

5. How much time does the survey take from the school day?

The survey will take approximately 50 minutes to complete and will be administered during a single class period.

6. Who pays for the survey?

This survey is funded through the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) and is available at no cost to all districts.

7. How long has the survey been offered in Kansas?

The survey has been administered annually in Kansas since 1994-95.

Resources:

KCTC Website - www.kctcdata.org

KCTC Survey - www.kctcdata.org, scroll to **Quick Links**

KCTC Video - <http://bit.ly/KCTCVideo>