

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Your child's school has been selected to participate in a survey to more greatly understand the impact of school nursing on the mental and physical health of teens (7-12th grade) attending school in Marsing. This survey is being conducted by Dr. Megan L. Smith at Boise State University. Please read this letter for information about the survey.

If you **do not** want your child to complete the survey, please do one of the following by **MAY 9th 2023 at 5pm**:

- Sign the this letter and have your child deliver it to his or her teacher OR
- [Use the electronic link you received in your email to opt out of your child participating.](#)
- Contact Dr. Megan L. Smith, 208-426-3335, email: [mlsmith@boisestate.edu](mailto:mlsmith@boisestate.edu) either by telephone or by email.

Any of the above methods will ensure that your child will not be asked to participate in the survey.

The purpose of this evaluation is to identify the impact of a full time school nurse on the mental and physical health of students at this school. The results of this project will help adults create a supportive and safe environment where students can do well. Questions on the survey include getting along with teachers, following rules, and homework. Sometimes students have a hard time being successful in school because of things that are sensitive. As a result, some of the questions in the survey are somewhat sensitive. They include questions about using cigarettes, alcohol, or other drugs or experiencing mental health challenges such as depression or anxiety. The survey takes between 30-50 minutes to complete. Participation in the survey is voluntary, and participants can skip questions or stop filling in the survey at any time without penalty. All responses are confidential. If you would like to see a copy of this survey, we are happy to make one available to you if you contact Dr. Megan L. Smith, email: [mlsmith@boisestate.edu](mailto:mlsmith@boisestate.edu); phone: 208-426-3335.

Although we do not intend to cause any stress, we know it is possible and will do several things to help your child be safe and feel comfortable. We will ask as few sensitive questions as possible and let students skip any questions they do not want to answer or quit taking the survey whenever they want. We will also let them know that if they choose to skip a question or quit they will not get in any trouble. We will let them know that their responses will be anonymous, their participation confidential, and that their names will never appear on any survey they complete. Finally, we will make sure school counselors are available in case anyone has something they want to discuss after the survey.

If you choose to let your child take part in this study, all of their information will be collected anonymously. Because of the way we will be using computers and confidential questionnaires

to ask questions, no one will ever know how your child answered any question on our survey, including us!

If you have any additional questions related to this study, you may contact Dr. Megan Smith or the Superintendent of your child's school, who will also keep a copy of the questionnaire for you to review if interested.

Thank you for your consideration,



**/ Megan L. Smith, Ph.D.**  
**Director; Communities for Youth**  
**Associate Professor; Boise State University**  
**Email:** mlsmith@boisestate.edu

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM if you DO NOT want your child to participate:**

I do not wish my child to participate in this study:

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parent signature, date

Student(s) name who should not participate; please print:

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