



STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. BOX 83720
BOISE, IDAHO 83720-0027

TOM LUNA
STATE SUPERINTENDENT
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

October 31, 2014

Molly M. Stein, Superintendent
Soda Springs Joint District
250 East 2nd South
Soda Springs, ID 83276

Dear Superintendent Stein:

I am writing to inform you that 1 school in your district is among the 53 schools randomly selected across Idaho to participate in the 2015 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), sponsored by The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and supported by the State Department of Education (SDE). The YRBS is a survey of students in grades 9 through 12 that assess priority health-risk behaviors, including (1) behaviors that result in unintentional injuries and violence; (2) tobacco use; (3) alcohol and other drug use; (4) sexual behaviors that could contribute to HIV infection, other sexually transmitted diseases, and unintended pregnancies; (5) unhealthy dietary behaviors; and (6) physical inactivity. The YRBS was designed in cooperation with federal agencies and numerous state and local departments of education and health and is conducted biennially in odd-numbered years.

The selected school in your district is Soda Springs High School.

The SDE respects the educational mission of schools; for that reason, only a small number of classes in each school are chosen randomly to participate. Data collection will occur during January through April 2015. Questionnaires will be administered during one normal class period. Survey administration procedures are designed to protect student privacy and allow for anonymous participation. Counties, cities, school districts, schools, and students will not be identified in any published reports.

Your support for these surveys will help ensure the voluntary participation of the schools selected in your district. The YRBS has become the primary source of information on the most important health risk behaviors of high school students in this country and is increasingly used by leading educators, public health officials, the media, and others to advocate for and improve school health policies and programs. The YRBS is being conducted in other states, cities, territories and nationally. The results can be compared to the results from the other surveys and are used to support the design, implementation, and evaluation of effective prevention and control programs.

Enclosed is a copy of the YRBS 2015 questionnaire and a copy of the 2013 YRBS full report. Within two weeks, I will contact you to answer any questions you may have and to identify school contacts. If you have any immediate questions, please contact Lisa Kramer at 208-332-6947 or Rhonda Heggen at 208-332-6950. Your support for this survey will help assess and improve efforts to reduce priority health-risk behaviors among adolescents throughout our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Luna", is written over a horizontal line.

Tom Luna
Superintendent of Public Instruction

Enclosures

Office Location
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208-332-6800

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