



SHOREWOOD SCHOOL BOARD EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Topic: Survey Procedures

Date: February 9, 2021

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Recommended action:

- Information only
- Presentation/discussion
- Discussion/action by board of education
- Presentation/action next meeting

Purpose:

Information provided by the Director of Curriculum and Instruction outlining the purposes of our surveys and assessments of students perceptions.

Background:

Shorewood School District values the input of our students, families, faculty, and community stakeholders. We have a practice of using surveys and collecting feedback as one approach to gather data. This data is used to help us understand what we are doing well and ways we can improve our practices and systems.

Since we have been in a virtual learning environment, we have shared a number of surveys with students, parents and faculty to help us make decisions that are informed by data. We also believe that having a gauge on students' perceptions of connectedness and engagement is a priority and has particular importance at this time due to the increased difficulty of accurately interpreting students' dispositions in a virtual learning environment. At the end of January, students were provided a digital survey designed to help us understand students' perceptions of connectedness and students' sense of belonging at school. The questions used in the survey were similar to survey questions we have used in recent years. The district facilitated the rendering of this survey internally rather than use a third partner provider. Individual students' responses to this survey may only be accessible by the students' teachers, counselors, and administrators.

Our school district's [student survey policy](#) provides parameters for the use of surveys, protecting students' privacy, communication protocols with parents, and providing an opportunity for students to decline to participate in surveys. In this case, prior to the survey being administered, parents or guardians were not notified about the survey as called for in the policy and students may not have been aware of their right to opt out of participating in the survey. We understand there is increased concern about student privacy and the use of surveys to make inferences that inform decisions.

Please know that we take the privacy of our students very seriously. As we continue to make decisions and leverage strategies that proactively address students' sense of connectedness and engagement, we will work to ensure sufficient transparency and communication with students, parents, and faculty.