

Glassboro Public Schools



MEMO

To: Dr. Silverstein, Superintendent of Schools

From: Danielle M. Sochor, Director of Curriculum and Personnel

Date: April 11, 2014

Re: GIS Inclusive Schools Program Grant

Requesting permission to participate in the Inclusive Schools Climate Initiative parent notification and on-line survey. Please see attached details.

DS/ed

Inclusive Schools Climate Initiative (ISCI)
Parent Notification

Spring 2014

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As you may know, the Glassboro Intermediate School has been selected by the New Jersey Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs to participate in the Inclusive Schools Climate Initiative (ISCI) which is funded through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part B. During our involvement with this initiative, we will be engaged in ongoing development of a supportive and safe, school environment that is inclusive for all students.

A key component of the school's involvement in ISCI is the development of a comprehensive profile of the school environment to better understand the students' academic and social experiences. This spring, students will participate in an on-line survey focused on their day to day experiences at school. This survey is not a test, there are no right or wrong answers, students will not personally be evaluated in any way in relation to their responses, and will not take longer than 30 minutes to complete. Student names will not appear on or be associated with survey responses.

The research is confidential and research records may include some student information such as grade, gender, and age. This information will be stored in such a manner that some linkage between student identity and response in the research exists. The research team and the Institutional Review Board at Rutgers University are the only parties that will be allowed to see the data, except as may be required by law. The survey administration and data analysis will be conducted by the ISCI consultants at Rutgers University. The aggregated survey results will form the School Climate Profile that will be shared with our school.

I am writing to notify you of this survey activity. If you have any questions or concerns about this survey, or if you feel strongly about your child's responses not being included in the research results, please feel free to contact me. Please be advised that student participation is voluntary and students can withdraw from the survey process at any time without being punished in any way. If you have more detailed questions about the survey process, please feel free to contact Dr. Virginia Stillson, Director of Research and Program Development/ISCI, at 848-932-5907.

Sincerely,

School Principal

This informed consent form was approved by the Rutgers University Institutional Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects on 8/7/2013; approval of this form expires on 8/6/2014

Spring 2014 Grade 5-8 Student Survey

Student Assent

This is a survey and not a test and there are no right or wrong answers.

Please select the answer that best describes how you feel in response to each of the questions. You may ask for assistance if you do not understand any of the questions or the response choices.

You will not be asked to provide your name anywhere on the survey. All survey responses will be kept confidential and the survey responses will be combined with all the student survey responses from your school.

Please let your teacher or school person assisting in the survey process know if:

You do not wish to complete the survey

You wish to stop at any time

You prefer not to answer a particular question

You have any questions

There will be no penalty for non-participation in the survey, but please know that your responses are very important and will be kept confidential.

Your opinions are very important and we value your participation in this survey.

Thank you!

This informed consent form was approved by the Rutgers University Institutional Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects on 8/7/2013; approval of this form expires on 8/8/2014.

Sponsored by New Jersey Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (NJOSPEP) in collaboration with The Center for Applied Psychology at Rutgers University. Funded by IDEA, Part B.

Office Copy Only

Spring 2014 Grade 5-8 Student Survey

1. My School is:

2. Check one: I am a

- Male
 Female

3. What grade are you in?

- 5th
 6th
 7th
 8th

4. How old are you?

- 10
 11
 12
 13
 14
 15
 16

Office Copy Only

Spring 2014 Grade 5-8 Student Survey

Part I

The following statements describe situations found in many schools. Select the response for each statement that you feel is most true for your school.

5. Students generally treat each other with respect.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

6. Students help each other even if they are not friends.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

7. Students who belong to different groups are friendly with each other.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

Office Copy Only

8. Students trust each other.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

9. Students and teachers trust each other.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

10. Teachers generally treat students with respect.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

Office Copy Only

Spring 2014 Grade 5-8 Student Survey

11. Teachers are interested in students and want to help.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

12. Teachers give students a say about what goes on their classes.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

13. Teachers teach students to reach out and help others students.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

Office Copy Only

14. Teachers encourage students to give their ideas in class.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

15. Teachers stop students from being verbally abusive to each other.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

16. Students feel they can discuss things with their teachers.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

Office Copy Only

Spring 2014 Grade 5-8 Student Survey

17. Students are involved in deciding rules for the school.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

18. Teachers teach students how to take other people's points of view.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

19. Students try to have a positive influence on other students.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

Office Copy Only

Spring 2014 Grade 5-8 Student Survey

20. Students with disabilities can participate in any activities or clubs if they want to.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

21. Students with disabilities have friendships with other students.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

22. Teachers help students learn to give each other another chance.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

23. Students with disabilities are active members of our school community.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

Office Copy Only

Spring 2014 Grade 5-8 Student Survey

Part II

The following statements ask about your own ideas and about what you do in school. Select the response for each statement that is most true for you.

24. I listen to my friends when they talk about their problems.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

25. I try to cheer up a student when they are feeling sad.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

26. I understand how my friends feel when they are angry, upset, or sad.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

Office Copy Only

Spring 2014 Grade 5-8 Student Survey

27. I talk things over with classmates when there is a problem or an argument.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

28. When I am having a problem in class, some other student will help me.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

29. I talk with my family about how I feel about my school day.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

Office Copy Only

Spring 2014 Grade 5-8 Student Survey

Part III

In the following statements please select the response that reflects how you feel.

30. I try to understand other people's points of view.

- never
- not often
- sometimes
- often
- very often

31. Teachers include students with disabilities in classroom projects.

- never
- not often
- sometimes
- often
- very often

32. I am responsible for my own actions.

- never
- not often
- sometimes
- often
- very often

33. I try to include students with disabilities in school activities.

- never
- not often
- sometimes
- often
- very often

Office Copy Only

Spring 2014 Grade 5-8 Student Survey

Part IV

The following statements are about the adults at your school. Select the response that reflects how you feel.

34. The teachers at this school help each other.

- strongly disagree
- disagree
- not sure
- agree
- strongly agree

35. The teachers at this school trust each other.

- strongly disagree
- disagree
- not sure
- agree
- strongly agree

36. The teachers and the other school personnel at this school seem to get along with each other.

- strongly disagree
- disagree
- not sure
- agree
- strongly agree

37. Parents participate in school activities.

- strongly disagree
- disagree
- not sure
- agree
- strongly agree

Office Copy Only

Spring 2014 Grade 5-8 Student Survey

Part V

How do you feel when the following things happen at school? Select the response that is most true for you.

38. When I am mean to someone, I feel bad about it later.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

39. I am happy when my teacher says my friend did a good job.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

40. I feel sorry for students who can't find anyone to hang out with.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

41. I would help another student choose between doing right and doing wrong.

- false
- often false
- sometimes true, sometimes false
- often true
- true

Office Copy Only

Spring 2014 Grade 5-8 Student Survey

Part VI

Select the response that is most true for how "easy" or "hard" it is for you to do the following actions.

42. A student cuts in front of you in line. Telling the student not to cut in is ____ for you.

- really hard
- hard
- easy
- really easy

43. Some students are making fun of someone in your classroom. Telling them to stop is ____ for you.

- really hard
- hard
- easy
- really easy

44. Your class is going on a class trip and everyone needs a partner. Asking someone to be your partner is ____ for you.

- really hard
- hard
- easy
- really easy

45. Some students are sitting together. Asking if you can sit with them is ____ for you.

- really hard
- hard
- easy
- really easy

Office Copy Only

Spring 2014 Grade 5-8 Student Survey

Part VII

Please provide your opinion on the following statements. Select the response that is most true for how you feel about each statement.

46. It is important that desks and tables be placed to allow a student using a wheelchair to be able to move between them.

- yes
- no
- I don't know

47. Students with disabilities and students without disabilities can learn in the same classroom.

- yes
- no
- I don't know

48. Students with disabilities are left out of activities.

- yes
- no
- I don't know

49. Students with disabilities should be taught in a different classroom.

- yes
- no
- I don't know

50. It is fair for a student with a disability to go to lunch, their locker, or their bus early.

- yes
- no
- I don't know

51. Students with disabilities can be included in games at recess.

- yes
- no
- I don't know

Office Copy Only

Spring 2014 Grade 5-8 Student Survey

52. It is better for a student with a disability to go to the same school as students without disabilities instead of a school just for students with disabilities.

- yes
- no
- I don't know

Office Copy Only

Spring 2014 Grade 5-8 Student Survey

We appreciate your participation. You may now exit the survey.

Office Copy Only

