

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
BUREAU OF DRUG AND ALCOHOL SERVICES

Lori A. Shibinette
Commissioner

Katja S. Fox
Director

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October 12, 2022

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Behavioral Health (DBH), Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Services (BDAS) I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which gathers nationally representative data from the State of New Hampshire students grade 9 through 12 on priority health risk behaviors. Information gathered from the 2023 YRBS is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs in the State of New Hampshire, ensuring accountability, and providing an index and trend data against which states may compare their own local YRBS results.

The data produced by the New Hampshire YRBS allow for multiple initiatives that include: assessing trends in priority health risk behaviors among middle and high school aged youth, enabling schools and communities to understand risks and health behaviors of area youth, evaluations to the impact of broad school and community interventions, development of programs or policies to reduce risk and promote health, and to monitor whether health outcomes among youth are improving or deteriorating.

The State of New Hampshire benefits through numerous uses of the YRBS data that include; measurement and planning through schools, life of an athlete, student assistance, and drug free communities; funding of an array State of New Hampshire city, county, and public health region grants; emerging issues that can be identified from the YRBS data that directly affect the youth of the State of New Hampshire; Outcome data that can provide information on the success or failure of programs and policies targeted toward the YRBS audience; and Education and awareness can be garnered through YRBS data and distributed throughout the State of New Hampshire.

In New Hampshire, the YRBS is jointly administered by the Departments of Health & Human Services and Education. High schools are given the opportunity to participate in the random state survey, a comprehensive school-level census survey, or both. The data from the YRBS are used extensively by health departments, schools, and local area agencies to define areas of high health risk and to secure the resources necessary to address any identified issues. We encourage and recommend voluntary participation from the schools located throughout the State of New Hampshire.

Sincerely,

Michael Rogers

Michael Rogers
Assistant Administrator,
Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Services (BDAS)
State of New Hampshire



National School Boards Association
1680 Duke St. FL2, Alexandria, VA 22314-3493
Phone: (703) 838.6722 • Fax: (703) 683.7590
www.nsba.org

July 11, 2022

Kathleen A. Ethier, PhD
Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health
National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, NE, MS-E75
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Ethier:

On behalf of the National School Boards Association (NSBA), we are pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which will gather nationally representative data for students in grades 9 through 12 on priority health risk behaviors. The information generated from the 2023 YRBS is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs, ensuring accountability, and providing an index against which states may compare their own local YRBS results.

To reduce the burden in any one school, only a small number of classes (one or two per grade) will be selected randomly within each selected school from required courses. The survey will take one regular 45-minute class period to complete and will be administered by specially trained field staff.

Serving school boards across the country, the NSBA focuses on supporting all students to have high-quality public education, and believes that accurate, objective information is essential to building support for public schools and creating effective programs to prepare all students for success. The NSBA's Center for Safety Schools provides resources, information, and best practices on how to accurately identify and support an individual's physical, mental, emotional, and overall well-being for success in academics, life, and career. Using federal data, including YRBS data, the NSBA's Center for Public Education informs school leaders, educators, and parents of issues related to students' mental health and explores ways to improve student achievement and engage support for public schools.

We understand that the rights and anonymity of all students are protected, and that data will not be reported by school, district, or state, but rather it will be presented as representative data of the nation as a whole. Therefore, we encourage and recommend that states, school districts, and schools participate voluntarily in this important activity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Heim", is written over a light blue circular background.

John Heim
Executive Director & CEO



The leading advocate for public education



July 21, 2022

Kathleen A. Ethier, PhD
Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health
National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, NE, MS-E75
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Ethier:

On behalf of the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which will gather nationally representative data for students in grades 9 through 12 on priority health risk behaviors. The information generated from the 2023 YRBS is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs, ensuring accountability, and providing an index against which states may compare their own local YRBS results.

To reduce the burden in any one school, only a small number of classes (one or two per grade) will be selected randomly within each selected school from required courses. The survey will take one regular 45-minute class period to complete and will be administered by specially trained field staff.

As the leading organization of principals and other school leaders across the United States, the vision of NASSP is great leaders in every school committed to the success of each student. We also promote the intellectual growth, academic achievement, character and leadership development, and physical well-being of youth. NASSP is proud to partner with organizations like the Human Rights Campaign and GLSEN to create supportive and inclusive schools for all LGBTQ+ students, and the data provided by the YRBS survey is integral to our efforts.

We understand that the rights and anonymity of all students are protected and that data will not be reported by school, district, or state, but rather it will be presented as representative data of the nation as a whole. Therefore, we encourage and recommend that states, school districts, and schools participate voluntarily in this important activity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jen Silva".

Jen Silva
Director, External Relations
National Association of Secondary School Principals



Promoting Sexual Health
Through STD Prevention

NCSDDC.ORG

1029 Vermont Ave NW
Ste 500
Washington, DC 20005

202.842.4660
202.842.4542 (Fax)

July 11, 2022

Kathleen A. Ethier, PhD
Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health
National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, NE, MS-E75
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Ethier:

On behalf of the National Coalition of STD Directors (NCSDDC), I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which will gather nationally representative data for students in grades 9 through 12 on priority health risk behaviors. The information generated from the 2023 YRBS is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs, ensuring accountability, and providing an index against which states may compare their own YRBS results.

To reduce the burden in any one school, only a small number of classes (one or two per grade) will be selected randomly within each selected school from required courses. The survey will take one regular 45-minute class period to complete and will be administered by specially trained field staff.

NCSDDC works in collaboration with other national organizations to support state leadership teams in assessing, developing, monitoring, evaluating, and implementing adolescent health policy and practice. We build the capacity of these state teams by strengthening state leaders' knowledge and understanding of adolescent health issues. YRBS data is critical in this work, as it allows us to facilitate important conversations about adolescent health and health education that can ensure informed decision-making.

I understand that the rights and anonymity of all students are protected and that data will not be reported by school, district, or state, but rather it will be presented as representative data of the nation as a whole. Therefore, we encourage and recommend that states, school districts, and schools participate voluntarily in this important activity.

Sincerely,

David C. Harvey
Executive Director



AMERICAN
PSYCHOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

July 27, 2022

Kathleen A. Ethier, PhD
Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health
National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road NE, US8-1
Atlanta, GA 30329-4027

Dear Dr. Ethier:

On behalf of the American Psychological Association (APA), I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS). The Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System – sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Adolescent and School Health – is the primary source of information on the most important health risk behaviors of high school students in this country. Information generated from the survey is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs, ensuring accountability, and providing an index against which states can compare their own local YRBS results.

The national YRBS provides researchers and policymakers with rich information that helps us better understand and address the causes of, and detect disparities in, the occurrence of unhealthy behaviors among youth. APA members use this data in many aspects of psychological research, practice, and policy. We have hosted webinars to disseminate YRBS findings to state psychological associations, and APA's Chief Science Officer, Mitch Prinstein, co-authored an [opinion piece](#) with you in *Scientific American* describing the value of science and data in blunting the burgeoning mental health crisis confronting young Americans.

Many state and local jurisdictions conduct their own school-based surveys of youth behaviors. However, sampling procedures and questionnaires vary, thereby making it impossible to compare or combine results. APA conducts robust advocacy with Congress to sustain the federal investment in the YRBS and encourages full voluntary state and local participation to achieve reliable national estimates.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arthur C. Evans, Jr.", written over a white background.

Arthur C. Evans, PhD
Chief Executive Officer

750 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002-4242
(202) 336-6080
(202) 336-6069 (Fax)
aevans@apa.org

Arthur C. Evans, Jr., PhD
*Chief Executive Officer and
Executive Vice President*

July 18, 2022

Kathleen A. Ethier, PhD
Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health
National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, NE, MS-E75
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Ethier:

On behalf of the Council of Chief State School Officers I am providing this letter of support for the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which will gather nationally representative data for students in grades 9 through 12 on priority health risk behaviors. The information generated from the 2023 YRBS is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs, ensuring accountability, and providing an index against which states may compare their own local YRBS results.

To reduce the burden in any one school, only a small number of classes (one or two per grade) will be selected randomly within each selected school from required courses. The survey will take one regular 45-minute class period to complete and will be administered by specially trained field staff.

CCSSO believes that tending to students' mental and physical wellbeing and connection is important in our efforts to support them to be successful in college, career, and life. Amid the pandemic, states can especially benefit from having access to national data on students' wellbeing to compare to their own state-level data.

I understand that the rights and anonymity of all students are protected, and that data will not be reported by school, district, or state, but rather it will be presented as representative data of the nation as a whole. Therefore, we encourage and recommend that states, school districts, and schools participate voluntarily in this important activity.

Sincerely,



Carissa Miller
Chief Executive Officer
Council of Chief State School Officers



June 16, 2022

Kathleen A. Ethier, PhD
Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health
National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, NE, MS-E75
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Ethier:

On behalf of the AASA, The School Superintendents Association, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which will gather nationally representative data for students in grades 9 through 12 on priority health risk behaviors. The information generated from the 2023 YRBS is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs, ensuring accountability, and providing an index against which states may compare their own local YRBS results.

To reduce the burden in any one school, only a small number of classes (one or two per grade) will be selected randomly within each selected school from required courses. The survey will take one regular 45 minute class period to complete and will be administered by specially trained field staff.

AASA has been a long-time partner with CDC in several health education efforts, including collecting data for the YRBS. This information is vital to the creation of effective and appropriate health education content, tools, and training to protect the health and well-being of the next generation.

I understand that the rights and anonymity of all students are protected, and that data will not be reported by school, district, or state, but rather it will be presented as representative data of the nation as a whole. Therefore, we encourage and recommend that states, school districts, and schools participate voluntarily in this important activity.

Sincerely,



Daniel A. Domenech
Executive Director

cc: Mort Sherman
Associate Executive Director, Leadership Network

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



July 9, 2022

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Itasca, IL 60143
Phone: 630/626-6000
Fax: 847/434-8000
www.aap.org

Kathleen A. Ethier, PhD
Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health
National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, US8-1
Atlanta, GA 30329

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At Large

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At Large

Joseph L. Wright, MD, FAAP

Dear Dr Ethier:

On behalf of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which will gather nationally representative data for students in grades 9 through 12 on priority health risk behaviors. The information generated from the 2023 YRBS is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs, ensuring accountability, and providing an index against which states may compare their own local YRBS results.

To reduce the burden in any one school, only a small number of classes (one or two per grade) will be selected randomly within each selected school from required courses. The survey will take one regular 45-minute class period to complete and will be administered by specially trained field staff.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) is once again pleased to support the CDC's efforts in conducting the Youth Risk Behavior Surveys (YRBS). The AAP is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization of 67,000 pediatricians, pediatric medical subspecialists, and pediatric surgical subspecialists dedicated to the health, safety and well-being of infants, children, adolescents, and young adults. The data that the YRBS collects are critical to the adolescent health care work of the AAP, particularly as it relates to policy development and advocacy. Identification of risk behaviors among youth is critical in helping guide our efforts to reduce these behaviors and improve health outcomes of the nation's adolescents and young adults.

CDC's dedication to maintaining the YRBS system at all levels (local, state and national) is important in raising awareness of the kinds of risky behaviors in which adolescents engage, and the role of pediatricians and other health care providers in reducing these unhealthy and risky behaviors. The issues identified in the YRBS impact many facets of adolescents' lives that can result in long-term consequences, ranging for example from unintended pregnancies, sexually transmitted infections, poorer school performance, and unhealthy lifestyle choices.

We understand that the rights and anonymity of all students are protected, and that data will not be reported by school, district, or state, but rather it will be presented as representative data of the nation as a whole. Therefore, we encourage and recommend that states, school districts, and schools participate voluntarily in this important activity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debra B. Waldron".

Debra B. Waldron, MD, MPH, FAAP

SVP-Healthy and Resilient Children Youth and Families

July 5, 2022

Kathleen A. Ethier, PhD
Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health
National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, NE, MS-E75
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Ethier:

On behalf of Advocates for Youth (Advocates), I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which will gather nationally representative data for students in grades 9 through 12 on priority health risk behaviors. The information generated from the 2023 YRBS is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs, ensuring accountability, and providing an index against which states, territory, tribal government, and local school districts may compare their own local YRBS results.

To reduce the burden in any one school, only a small number of classes (one or two per grade) will be selected randomly within each selected school from required courses. The survey will take one regular 45-minute class period to complete and will be administered by specially trained field staff.

Advocates envisions a society in which all young people are valued, respected, and treated with dignity; sexuality is accepted as a healthy part of being human; and youth sexual development is normalized and embraced. In such a world, all youth and young adults are celebrated for who they are and afforded honest, affirming, inclusive sex education; access to confidential, universal sexual health services; and the economic, educational, and social power to exercise their bodily autonomy and make informed decisions regarding their health and well-being.

For more than a decade, Advocates has amplified YRBS data by leading an LGBTQ+ YRBS data coalition known as the [All Students Count Coalition](#), conducting groundbreaking research on transgender and gender-expansive youth, and expanding education, awareness, and advocacy opportunities for state and local education agencies and/or health departments (sites), and youth-serving organizations. Our findings from YRBS data have allowed us to impact many lives and paved the way for increased LGBTQ+ inclusivity, safety, and equity in schools. Our advocacy and partnership work, with sites, led to the inclusion of both the sexual identity and sex of sexual contacts questions on the 2015 national YRBS and the increase of sites asking the gender expression question and recommended transgender identity question as an optional question in 2017. We have educated these sites on question availability, heard from job-alikes on the use of

the data in their state or districts, and outlined the importance of asking the YRBS through technical assistance. We continue to publish research and host educational opportunities to inform various audiences about the YRBS and the gender expression and transgender identity questions.

The YRBS is the only federal survey collecting data on gender-expansive and transgender youth. Through these data, sites have understood the linkage between health disparities and academic performance. In response, these entities continue to identify and implement programs to redress the disparities and improve academic success among students. Programs that address harassment and discrimination, promote inclusive education, and foster school safety can continue to impact young people's health and wellbeing positively.

I understand that the rights and anonymity of all students are protected, and that data will not be reported by school, district, or state, but rather it will be presented as representative data of the nation as a whole. Therefore, we encourage and recommend that states, school districts, and schools participate voluntarily in this important activity.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Augustine, MPH
Executive Vice President



June 15, 2022

Kathleen A. Ethier, PhD
Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health
National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, NE, MS-E75
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Ethier:

The American School Counselor Association is pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which will gather nationally representative data for students in grades 9 through 12 on priority health risk behaviors. The information generated from the 2023 YRBS is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs, ensuring accountability, and providing an index against which states may compare their own local YRBS results.

We understand that to reduce the burden in any one school, only a small number of classes (one or two per grade) will be selected randomly within each selected school from required courses. The survey will take one regular 45-minute class period to complete and will be administered by specially trained field staff.

As the national organization for school counselors, school counselors in training and school counseling faculty, ASCA has a significant interest in the YRBS data. School counselors work on the front lines to help our nation's students be successful in school and life. The YRBS provides an important barometer of student health and wellness.

We understand that the rights and anonymity of all students are protected and that data will not be reported by school, district, or state, but rather presented as representative data of the nation as a whole. We encourage states, school districts, and schools to participate voluntarily in this important activity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jill Cook".

Jill Cook
ASCA Executive Director

THE HOME FOR SCHOOL COUNSELORS SINCE 1952

1101 King St., Suite 310
Alexandria, VA 22314
703 683 ASCA (2722) fax 703 997 7572
www.schoolcounselor.org



June 21, 2022

Kathleen A. Ethier, PhD
Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health
National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, NE, MS-E75
Atlanta, GA 30329

**Association of State and
Territorial Health Officials**

National Headquarters

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(202) 371-9090

Regional Office

600 Peachtree Street NE
Suite 1000
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@ASTHO

Dear Dr. Ethier:

On behalf of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which will gather nationally representative data for students in grades 9 through 12 on priority health risk behaviors. The information generated from the 2023 YRBS is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs, ensuring accountability, and providing an index against which states may compare their own local YRBS results.

To reduce the burden in any one school, only a small number of classes (one or two per grade) will be selected randomly within each selected school from required courses. The survey will take one regular 45-minute class period to complete and will be administered by specially trained field staff.

ASTHO's mission is to support, equip, and advocate for state and territorial health officials in their work of advancing the public's health and well-being. The YRBS is an integral tool for collecting information about the health behaviors of high school youth, including risk taking and risk avoidance, and this data is critical for key public health decision makers and influencers to identify public health issues affecting youth. The information is supportive of the development of policies, interventions and evaluation at the state, local, and national levels.

ASTHO understands the rights and anonymity of all students are protected and that data will not be reported by school, district, or state, but rather it will be presented as representative data of the nation as a whole. Therefore, we encourage and recommend that states, school districts, and schools participate voluntarily in this important activity.

Sincerely,

Michael Fraser, PhD, MS, CAE, FCPP
Chief Executive Officer



LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE 2023 YRBS TO BE USED AS A GUIDE

June 17, 2022

Kathleen A. Ethier, PhD
Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health
National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, NE, MS-E75
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dr. Ethier,

On behalf of Boys & Girls Clubs of America we are pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which will gather nationally representative data for students in grades 9 through 12 on priority health risk behaviors. The information generated from the 2023 YRBS is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs, ensuring accountability, and providing an index against which states may compare their own local YRBS results.

To reduce the burden in any one school, only a small number of classes (one or two per grade) will be selected randomly within each selected school from required courses. The survey will take one regular 45-minute class period to complete and will be administered by specially trained field staff.

The mission of Boys & Girls Clubs of America is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. Our vision is to provide a world-class Club Experience that assures success is within reach of every young person who enters our doors, with all members on track to graduate from high school with a plan for the future, demonstrating good character and citizenship, and living a healthy lifestyle.

Our Health and Wellness programming develop young people's capacity to engage in positive behaviors to nurture their well-being, set personal goals and grow into self-sufficient adults. Our Clubs develop a healthier generation through programs, practices and experiences that support overall wellness and enable youth to:

- **Build Foundational Social-Emotional Skills:** Youth practice and build social-emotional skills through participation in Club programming and interactions with caring adult staff. Essential skills include healthy decision-making, stress management and perseverance.
- **Make Healthy Choices:** Youth make healthy choices such as participating in a healthy cooking competition, learning positive ways to manage stress, or preparing campaigns encouraging their peers to avoid unhealthy behaviors such as substance use.
- **Engage in Physical Activity:** Youth have opportunities throughout the Club Day to engage in physical activity during check-in, transition times between activities, in the gym or outdoors, and within varied program sessions that encourage movement.



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF AMERICA**

Every year we collect data on the experience of youth in our Clubs via our National Youth Outcomes Initiative (NYOI). This is a system grounded in our theory of change that is built to measure the impact of Clubs using a common set of research-informed indicators of outcomes in our three priority outcome areas (Academic Success, Character & Leadership and Healthy Lifestyles). We use the YRBS data as a comparative data set when we look at trends across Club youth and youth Nationally.

Over the past decade we have been able to use our NYOI data and the YRBS data to continue to evolve our theory of change and create a much stronger, more nuanced Boys & Girls Club approach to positive youth development.

We understand that the rights and anonymity of all students are protected, and that data will not be reported by school, district, or state, but rather it will be presented as representative data of the nation as a whole. Therefore, we encourage and recommend that states, school districts, and schools participate voluntarily in this important activity.

Sincerely,

James L. Clark
President and CEO

NACCHO

National Association of County & City Health Officials

The National Connection for Local Public Health

July 8, 2022

Kathleen A. Ethier, PhD
Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health
National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, NE, MS-E75
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Ethier:

On behalf of the National Association of County and City Health Officials, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which will gather nationally representative data for students in grades 9 through 12 on priority health risk behaviors. The information generated from the 2023 YRBS is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs, ensuring accountability, and providing an index against which states may compare their own local YRBS results.

To reduce the burden in any one school, only a small number of classes (one or two per grade) will be selected randomly within each selected school from required courses. The survey will take one regular 45-minute class period to complete and will be administered by specially trained field staff.

NACCHO is the voice of the nearly 3,000 local health departments (LHDs) across the country which work to protect and improve the health of all people and all communities. NACCHO's vision is to improve the public health system at the local level to create the conditions for optimal health, equity, and security for all people. NACCHO supports LHDs in developing and implementing public health policies and practices that afford communities access to vital programs and services that protect them from disease and disaster. The YRBS is an important resource for both NACCHO and its members to identify trends and highlighting health behaviors of high school students.

NACCHO understands that the rights and anonymity of all students are protected and that data will not be reported by school, district, or state, but rather it will be presented as representative data of the nation as a whole. Therefore, we encourage and recommend that states, school districts, and schools participate voluntarily in this important activity.

Sincerely,



Lori Tremmel Freeman, MBA
Chief Executive Officer





*National
Association of
School Nurses*

1100 Wayne Avenue, Suite 925
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
866-627-6767 (phone)
301-585-1791 (fax)
nasn@nasn.org (email)
www.nasn.org

June 21, 2022

Kathleen A. Ethier, PhD
Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health
National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, NE, MS-E75
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Ethier:

On behalf of the National Association of School Nurses, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which will gather nationally representative data for students in grades 9 through 12 on priority health risk behaviors. The information generated from the 2023 YRBS is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs, ensuring accountability, and providing an index against which states may compare their own local YRBS results.

To reduce the burden in any one school, only a small number of classes (one or two per grade) will be selected randomly within each selected school from required courses. The survey will take one regular 45-minute class period to complete and will be administered by specially trained field staff.

The behaviors the YRBS measures contribute to the leading causes of mortality and morbidity during both youth and adulthood. School nurses use these youth risk data to advocate for and improve school health policies and programs. NASN's work to help school nurses reduce youth vaping and avoid opioid overdose are just two examples of our efforts in this regard.

NASN understands that the rights and anonymity of all students are protected and that data will not be reported by school, district, or state, but rather it will be presented as representative data of the nation as a whole. Therefore, we encourage and recommend that states, school districts, and schools participate voluntarily in this important activity.

Sincerely,

Donna Mazyck, MS, RN, NCSN, CAE
Executive Director



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
School Psychologists

4340 East West Highway, Suite 402, Bethesda, MD 20814

PHONE: 301-657-0270

FAX: 301-657-0275

July 8, 2022

Kathleen A. Ethier, PhD
Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health
National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road NE, US8-1
Atlanta, GA 30329-4027

Dear Dr. Ethier:

On behalf of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which will gather nationally representative data for students in grades 9 through 12 on priority health risk behaviors. The information generated from the YRBS is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs, ensuring accountability, and providing an index against which States may compare their own local YRBS results.

To reduce the burden in any one school, only a small number of classes (one or two per grade) will be selected randomly within each selected school from required courses. The survey will take one regular 45-minute class period to complete and will be administered by specially trained field staff.

NASP is a non-profit professional association representing around 24,000 school psychologists. School psychologists are specially trained to link mental health to learning and behavior. We work with parents, educators, and other mental health service providers to help each child develop resilience, competence, and self-esteem and to support students' families in meeting the educational and mental health needs of their children. Our members include practitioners, researchers, and graduate students. The YRBS provides essential information to researchers in planning, implementing, and evaluating prevention and intervention programs for youth. Without these data, the task of identifying effective interventions and benchmarking our progress will be much more difficult.

I understand that the rights and anonymity of all students are protected and that data will not be reported by school, district, or state, but rather it will be presented as representative data of the nation as a whole. Therefore, we encourage and recommend that States, school districts, and schools participate voluntarily in this important activity.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Minke, PhD, NCSP
NASP Executive Director



July 12, 2022

Kathleen A. Ethier, PhD
Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health
National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral
Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road NE, US8-1
Atlanta, GA 30329-4027

Dear Dr. Ethier:

The National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) is a national nonprofit that exists to serve and strengthen State Boards of Education in their pursuit of high levels of academic achievement for all students. NASBE relies heavily on current, unbiased, well-researched data to support our members in making informed policy decisions to best address their state's needs. As such, NASBE is pleased to offer this letter of support for the implementation of the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS).

Over the years, YRBS has proven to be a valuable and unique source of crucial state and national level information about the behaviors affecting the healthy growth and full development of our nation's children and youth. NASBE utilizes YRBS data to inform and assist education policy makers and practitioners in their efforts to develop policies and programs that foster health-promoting schools by providing nationally representative data on the priority health risk behaviors among adolescents. The continuation of YRBS will help ensure that state boards and other education decision makers will have access to important, credible research needed to develop sound policies and programs.

NASBE strongly supports the protection of the rights and anonymity of all students under the execution of the YRBS. NASBE understands that participation in the YRBS is entirely voluntary, that data is not reported by school, district, or state, and that a high participation rate in the survey leads to more accurate, nationally representative data. Thus, NASBE supports the implementation of the YRBS nationally, in every state, and in as many localities as possible.

Thank you for your efforts to provide state boards with the critical data they need to make informed policy decisions by conducting the YRBS. Please do not hesitate to contact me if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paolo DeMaria".

Paolo DeMaria
President and CEO



July 8, 2022

Kathleen A. Ethier, PhD
Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health
National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, NE, MS-E75
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Ethier:


On behalf of the National Catholic Educational Association, we are pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which will gather nationally representative data for students in grades 9 through 12 on priority health risk behaviors. The information generated from the 2023 YRBS is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs, ensuring accountability, and providing an index against which states may compare their own local YRBS results.

To reduce the burden in any one school, only a small number of classes (one or two per grade) will be selected randomly within each selected school from required courses. The survey will take one regular 45-minute class period to complete and will be administered by specially trained field staff.

Since the important information generated from YRBS 2023 is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs nationwide, including private schools, NCEA welcomes the opportunity for Catholic schools to contribute to this comprehensive assessment.

We understand that the rights and anonymity of all students are protected and that data will not be reported by school, district, or state, but rather it will be presented as representative data of the nation as a whole. Therefore, we encourage and recommend that states, school districts, and schools participate voluntarily in this important activity.

Sincerely,


Lincoln Snyder
President/CEO



1201 16th St, N.W. | Washington, DC 20036 | Phone: (202) 833-4000

Rebecca S. Pringle
President

Princess R. Moss
Vice President

Noel Candelaria
Secretary-Treasurer

Kim A. Anderson
Executive Director

June 27, 2022

Kathleen A. Ethier, PhD
Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health
National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road NE, US8-1
Atlanta, GA 30329-4027

Dear Dr. Ethier:

On behalf of the National Education Association, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which will gather nationally representative data for students in grades 9 through 12 on priority health risk behaviors. The information generated from the 2023 YRBS is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs, ensuring accountability, and providing an index against which states may compare their own local YRBS results.

To reduce the burden in any one school, only a small number of classes (one or two per grade) will be selected randomly within each selected school from required courses. The survey will take one regular 45-minute class period to complete and will be administered by specially trained field staff.

As the nation's largest educator organization, the National Education Association understands the importance of student health in ensuring that children come to school ready to learn. Having high-quality data on teen risk behaviors helps NEA and its affiliates advocate for effective physical and mental health programs and provide teachers, education support professionals, and other school staff with the tools they need when working with students engaging in or considering health risk behaviors. The YRBS is more important than ever given the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on student health and wellbeing.

I understand that the rights and anonymity of all students are protected and that data will not be reported by school, district, or state, but rather it will be presented as representative data of the nation as a whole. Therefore, we encourage and recommend that states, school districts, and schools participate voluntarily in this important activity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stacey Pelika", is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Stacey Pelika, Ph.D.
Director of Research
National Education Association

July 8, 2022

Kathleen A. Ethier, PhD
Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health
National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, NE, MS-E75
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Ethier:

On behalf of the National PTA, we are pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which will gather nationally representative data for students in grades 9 through 12 on priority health risk behaviors. The information generated from the 2023 YRBS is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs, ensuring accountability, and providing an index against which states may compare their own local YRBS results.

To reduce the burden in any one school, only a small number of classes (one or two per grade) will be selected randomly within each selected school from required courses. The survey will take one regular 45-minute class period to complete and will be administered by specially trained field staff.

These results are critical to understand the health status and needs of our youth. The results of this comprehensive survey add great insight into the world of our youth and the environment in which our young people spend the majority of their time. National PTA continues to be a relevant voice for all children by supporting and advocating for key education and health issues that have a significant impact on students and families.

National PTA understands that the rights and anonymity of all students are protected and that data will not be reported by school, district, or state, but rather it will be presented as representative data of the nation as a whole. Therefore, we encourage and recommend that states, school districts, and schools participate voluntarily in this important activity.

Sincerely,



Nathan R. Monell, CAE
Executive Director
National PTA



June 21, 2022

Kathleen A. Ethier, PhD
Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health
National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, NE, MS-E75
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Ethier,

On behalf of the National Rural Health Association (NRHA), I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which will gather nationally representative data for students in grades 9 through 12 on priority health risk behaviors. The information generated from the 2023 YRBS is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs, ensuring accountability, and providing an index against which states may compare their own local YRBS results.

To reduce the burden in any one school, only a small number of classes (one or two per grade) will be selected randomly within each selected school from required courses. The survey will take one regular 45-minute class period to complete and will be administered by specially trained field staff.

NRHA is a national nonprofit membership organization with more than 21,000 members. Our mission is to provide leadership to rural health issues through advocacy, communications, education, and research. NRHA membership consists of individuals and organizations in rural health. The health education of our nation's youth plays an integral part in the overall health of rural communities. The YRBS data will create a clearer understanding of the health risk behaviors that should be addressed within rural communities through advocacy and education.

NRHA understands that the rights and anonymity of all students are protected, and that data will not be reported by school, district, or state, but it will be presented as representative data of the nation as a whole. Therefore, we encourage and recommend that states, school districts, and schools participate voluntarily in this important activity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan Morgan", is written over a light gray circular stamp that contains the text "National Rural Health Association".

Alan Morgan, MPA
Chief Executive Officer
National Rural Health Association

RuralHealth.US
50 F St. NW, Suite 520
Washington, DC 20001 |
202-639-0550



**National
Urban League**

*Empowering Communities.
Changing Lives.
For An Equitable Future.*

Marc H. Morial
President & CEO

80 Pine Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10005
Phone 212 558 5336

www.nul.org
presidentoffice@nul.org

July 7, 2022

Kathleen A. Ethier, PhD
Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health
National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, NE, MS-E75
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Ethier:

On behalf of the National Urban League, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which will gather nationally representative data for students in grades 9 through 12 on priority health risk behaviors. The information generated from the 2023 YRBS is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs, ensuring accountability, and providing an index against which states may compare their own local YRBS results.

To reduce the burden in any one school, only a small number of classes (one or two per grade) will be selected randomly within each selected school from required courses. The survey will take one regular 45-minute class period to complete and will be administered by specially trained field staff.

The National Urban League (NUL) is an historic civil rights organization dedicated to providing economic empowerment and opportunity, and the guarantee of civil rights for the systemically marginalized in America. Founded in 1910 and headquartered in New York City, the National Urban League has 92 affiliates serving 300 communities in 36 states and the District of Columbia, providing direct services that impact and improve the lives of more than two million people nationwide each year. Core to our mission is assuring that the communities we serve are healthy and have access to the health resources that they need. We serve thousands of young people in our education, youth mentoring and job training programs. The YRBS survey provides necessary and valuable data about the needs of the young people we serve and how we can more accurately provide them support. Having communities of color participate in this endeavor allows for us to better understand the challenges and barriers that our youth face and can lead to improved services and programming.

I understand that the rights and anonymity of all students are protected, and that data will not be reported by school, district, or state, but rather it will be presented as representative data of the nation as a whole. Therefore, we encourage and recommend that states, school districts, and schools participate voluntarily in this important activity.

Sincerely,

Marc H. Morial
President and Chief Executive Officer
National Urban League



June 24, 2022

Kathleen A. Ethier, PhD
Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health
National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, NE, MS-E75
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Ethier:

On behalf of SIECUS: Sex Ed for Social Change we are pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which will gather nationally representative data for students in grades 9 through 12 on priority health risk behaviors. The information generated from the 2023 YRBS is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs, ensuring accountability, and providing an index against which states may compare their own local YRBS results.

At SIECUS we are committed to promoting lifelong sexual health and well-being and advocating for the rights of all people to access accurate and comprehensive sex education and sexual and reproductive health services. By identifying and tracking factors that may affect the health of high school students, the YRBS is indispensable to improving our schools' health education policies and programs, including sex education. The data collected will provide crucial information on the prevalence of health risk behaviors among high school students and how these change over time, as well as evaluate the impact of national, state, and local initiatives targeting these risks. As such, we believe that the YRBS will help support our goal of fostering the lifelong sexual health and well-being of young people across America.

We understand that the rights and anonymity of all students are protected and that data will not be reported by school, district, or state, but rather it will be presented as representative data of the nation as a whole. Furthermore, to reduce the burden in any one school, only a small number of classes (one or two per grade) will be selected randomly within each selected school from required courses. The survey will take one regular 45-minute class period to complete and will be administered by specially trained field staff. SIECUS encourages and recommends that states, school districts, and schools participate voluntarily in this important activity.

Sincerely,
Chris Harley

CEO & President
SIECUS: Sex Ed for Social Change