



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
*Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Services*

Jeffrey A. Meyers  
Commissioner

Katja S. Fox  
Director of the Division  
of Behavioral Health

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September 27, 2018

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 2019 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 2019 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.

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.

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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Rogers".

Michael Rogers  
Assistant Administrator, BDAS

# American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



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April 28, 2018

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, MS-E75  
Atlanta, GA 30329

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Pitt Island, FL

Dear Dr Ethier:

On behalf of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2019 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 2019 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.

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 62,000 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.

I hope that health care providers and schools across the country see the importance of completing these surveys, the results of which will provide many opportunities for implementing so many programs at all levels.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "V. Fan Tait, MD".

V. Fan Tait, MD, FAAP  
Chief Medical Officer  
American Academy of Pediatrics

February 12, 2018

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, MS-E75  
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Ethier:

On behalf of AASA, the School Superintendents Association, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2019 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which will gather nationally representative data for students in grades 9-12 on priority health risk behaviors. The information generated from the 2019 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 specifically 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 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, PhD.  
Executive Director

cc: Sharon Adams-Taylor  
Associate Executive Director  
Children's Initiative and Program Development

National Headquarters  
2231 Crystal Drive, Suite 450  
Arlington, VA 22202  
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@ASTHO

April 12, 2018

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, MS-E75  
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Ethier:

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) is pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2019 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 2019 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. These behaviors contribute to the leading causes of mortality and morbidity during both youth and adulthood and include: behaviors that result in unintentional injuries and violence; tobacco use; alcohol and other drug use; sexual behaviors that contribute to HIV infection, other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), and unintended pregnancies; unhealthy dietary behaviors; and physical inactivity. This information is critical for program planning and policy development at the state, local, and national levels.

ASTHO 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,



Michael Fraser, PhD, MS, CAE, FCPP  
Executive Director, ASTHO

February 21, 2018

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, MS-E75  
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Ethier:

On behalf of the Council of Chief State School Officers I am pleased to provide this letter to express the continuing support for the 2019 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which will gather nationally representative data for students in grades 9-12 on priority health risk behaviors. The information generated from the 2019 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 information gathered a) helps determine the health status of youth throughout the country; and b) assists educators in planning and implementing effective coordinated school health programs including prevention of HIV infection and AIDS.

It is our understanding that the rights and anonymity of 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  
Interim Executive Director



February 14, 2018

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, 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 2019 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 2019 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.

NASSP is involved in the efforts of the Healthy Schools Campaign through a partnership with Food Research and Action Center (FRAC), as well as the Let's Move in Schools Campaign. In the past, NASSP has supported the efforts for the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, Action for Healthy Kids, and the American School Health Association. We look forward to the survey results that will provide States with a helpful tool in developing tobacco prevention and control programs for youth.

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 that reads "JoAnn Bartoletti". The signature is written in a cursive style.

JoAnn Bartoletti  
Executive Director  
National Association of Secondary School Principals

# NASBE

National Association of  
State Boards of Education

April 10, 2018

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, MS-E75  
Atlanta, GA 30329

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 2019 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,



Kristen J. Amundson  
President and Chief Executive Officer



Great Public Schools  
for Every Student

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

Lily Eskelsen García  
*President*

Rebecca S. Pringle  
*Vice President*

Princess R. Moss  
*Secretary-Treasurer*

John C. Stocks  
*Executive Director*

April 19, 2018

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, MS-E75  
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Ethier:

On behalf of the National Education Association I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2019 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 2019 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.

I understand that the rights and anonymity of all students are protected and that data will not be reported by school, district, or state, 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 that reads "John C. Stocks". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

John C. Stocks  
Executive Director  
National Education Association





February 23, 2018

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, MS-E75  
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Ethier:

The National Catholic Educational Association is pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2019 National Youth Risk Behaviors Study (2019 YRBS), sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This will gather nationally representative data for students in grades 9 through 12 on priority health risk behaviors.

Since the important information generated from YRBS 2019 is essential for measuring the effectiveness of prevention and education programs nationwide, including the private schools, the Association welcomes the opportunity for Catholic schools to contribute to this comprehensive assessment.

NCEA 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. To reduce the burden in any one school, only a small number of students will be selected randomly from among classes in the required course subjects. The survey will take one regular 45-minute class period to complete and will be administered by specially trained field staff.

Therefore, NCEA encourages and recommends that our Catholic schools participate voluntarily in this important activity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas W. Burnford".

Thomas Burnford  
President/CEO

**James Accomando**  
National PTA President

April 4, 2018

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, 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 2019 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 2019 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 on the nation as a whole. Therefore, National PTA encourages and recommends that schools participate voluntarily in this important activity.

Sincerely,



James Accomando  
President  
National PTA



National **School Boards** Association

[www.nsba.org](http://www.nsba.org)

Phone: 703.838.NSBA Fax: 703.683.7590  
1680 Duke Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314 -3493

February 23, 2018

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, MS-E75  
Atlanta, GA 30333

Dear Dr. Ethier:

On behalf of the National School Boards Association (NSBA), we are pleased to provide this letter of support for the 2019 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 2019 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.

NSBA represents the nation's 13,800 local school boards that strive to ensure that no child is left behind from the opportunities to be successful in school and in life. In its beliefs and policies, NSBA recognized the critical link between health and learning and the role of schools in promoting life-long health and preventing health risk behaviors.

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,

Thomas J. Gentzel  
Executive Director and CEO