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**EAST ALLEN  
COUNTY SCHOOLS**

# News Release

New Haven, IN. February 26, 2018

## **EAST ALLEN COUNTY SCHOOLS** **MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN** **'VOLUNTARY' INDIANA YOUTH SURVEY**

From **March 12 through April 30, 2018** all EACS students in Grades 7-12 will be provided an opportunity to participate in a **voluntary** electronic survey that measures the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. The survey, which is conducted by the **Indiana Prevention Resources Center (IPRC)**, is part of a statewide process to collect data.

Participation by EACS in this survey stems from a **collaboration with the Allen County Drug and Alcohol Consortium and various other public and private schools**. The program grant is a "**Drug Free Communities Support Program**." It is funded through a joint effort of the **Office of National Drug Control Policy** and the **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration**.

The survey is being conducted for **three** purposes:

1. To provide local schools and their communities with valid estimates of the prevalence of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use among students; and
2. To provide Indiana with similar estimates of prevalence on a statewide basis.
3. To gather data for use in supporting future grant requests.

### **Important information for parents and students:**

1. This survey is completely anonymous and completed in private, without any personally identifiable information that could be traced to an individual student.
2. Participation by EACS Grades 7-12 students is completely voluntary and students can easily "opt out" of participation by discontinuing the survey.
3. To insure valid data collection, there is a need for non-drug using students to participate so that accurate estimates are obtained.
4. Parents have an opportunity to inspect a sample survey form prior to March 12, 2017 at their student's school or online at: <http://inys.indiana.edu/about-survey>

Specific instructions for administration of the survey will be sent to participating schools as soon as the IPRC provides the information.

**If you have additional questions, please contact Jeff Studebaker, EACS School Safety Manager [jstudebaker@eacs.k12.in.us](mailto:jstudebaker@eacs.k12.in.us) or extension 3206.**