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MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Superintendents

FROM: Dr. Paul O. Burns

DATE: April 17, 2023

SUBJECT: 2023 Florida-Specific Youth Survey Information

Contact Information:

Andrew Weatherill

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DPS: 2023-54

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) is administering the Florida-Specific Youth Survey (FSYS) in spring 2023. The FSYS is aligned to the required instruction for Health Education, including Resiliency Education, Civic and Character Education, and Life Skills Education, which will inform enhanced alignment of services, support, and instruction to better meet the needs of our students. It is critical to state and local program planning and evaluation that selected schools and students participate in these important surveys. For clarification, the CDC Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) is no longer being administered by any of Florida's state agencies.

The FSYS is being administered alongside the Florida Department of Health's Florida Youth Tobacco Survey (FYTS) and the Florida Department of Children and Families' Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey (FYSAS) under the umbrella of the 2023 Florida Youth Survey (FYS). The FYS is designed to reduce the burden on Florida's public schools by combining three survey instruments into a single survey administration. The purpose of this single survey administration is to meet the program planning and evaluation needs of various entities such as the FDOE's Office of Student Services, Office of Safe Schools, Office of Healthy Schools, FDCF's Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, and FDOH's Tobacco Free Florida Program.

The specific date for conducting the survey will be determined locally but must occur during the specified survey period. The specified survey period for the 2023 administration is April 17, 2023, through May 12, 2023. Not all school districts are included in the sample and not all high schools in selected school districts will be surveyed. Selected districts and schools have been notified separately.

This is the first year the FSYS, developed by FDOE, will be administered. Results from the survey will be used to inform the required instruction being provided in the school system, including instruction on Health Education as outlined in [section 1003.42\(2\)\(n\), Florida Statutes](#), and instruction on the characteristics of resiliency as defined in [Rule 6A-1.094124, Florida](#)

DR. PAUL O. BURNS
CHANCELLOR OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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[Administrative Code](#). The FSYS surveys students in grades 9 through 12 in a sample of schools across the state. The sample includes both non-charter and charter schools.

The collaboration of school district and county health department personnel encourages maximum participation by the schools selected to participate throughout the state. Actual administration of the survey to individual schools and classes included in the sample should be arranged at the local level.

Technical assistance, communication resources, and details about the administration of the survey have been provided to the designated school district survey coordinator, as identified by FDOH. If you have any questions about the designated school district survey coordinator, please contact Justine Gunderson with FDOH at Justine.Gunderson@flhealth.gov or 850-558-9659.

If you have any questions about the FSYS process, please contact Senior Director of Student Support Services Andrew Weatherill at 850-245-7851 or via email at Andrew.Weatherill@fldoe.org.

PB/aw

cc: School District Student Services Directors