

## What is the survey?

- TLC uses the Attitudes and Behavior survey from Search Institute. Search Institute is an expert in youth development. The survey is based upon 40 years of research from Search Institute into what youth need to thrive.
- The survey examines the internal strengths youth have and the supports youth have in their families, schools, and communities.
- It looks at specific behaviors, both positive and negative, that kids engage in.

## Why do we do the survey?

- The Legacy Center conducts this survey every five years to ensure that our community has current and relevant information on the wellbeing of students.
- The data provides insights into what is going well for kids, and also identifies gaps and concerns that need addressing.
- School administrations and community agencies use the results to support youth programming that benefits local youth.
- Ultimately, local kids benefit because our community is better equipped to meet their needs.

## How is the survey conducted?

- Search Institute provides a survey link for students to complete.
- The survey takes approximately 30 minutes for students to complete, but more may be necessary for some students.
- It must be completed in one session.

## How will you protect my child's identity?

- The survey is anonymous, confidential, and secure. Individual responses cannot be traced back to students or families.

## Can I see the survey myself?

- Yes. A copy of the survey will be available to review in your school's main office two weeks before the survey date. It is also available at The Legacy Center for Community Success.

## Can my student get in trouble for any answers they give on the survey?

- There will be no consequences for their answers. Our goal is to get honest feedback from students and the survey is anonymous.

◆ Are there consequences if my student doesn't participate?

- No, the survey is not a test. It is voluntary, and there are no consequences for your student if they do not want to participate.

◆ What do I do if I don't want my child to take it?

- You can fill out the "Opt-Out" form and return it to the school office. Opt out forms were sent out with the email about the survey. Additional forms can be found at your school's office or at <https://www.tlc4cs.org/youth-survey/>.

◆ What if I have concerns about the topics covered in the survey?

- You can opt your child out.
- Keep in mind that uncomfortable topics are important! You can use the survey to talk to your teen about these topics **after** the survey.
- Let your child know you'll be happy to answer any questions they have while taking the survey.

◆ Why do you ask such personal questions?

- Student success involves a lot of factors, inside and outside of the classroom. All of these things influence how well they are doing in school.
- The survey includes personal questions, such as whether students have participated in risk-taking behaviors and a little about their family life (like discipline, family meals, etc.). These questions provide insights into what is going well for students and what challenges they are facing.
- The best way to gather information about these issues is to ask students directly. This removes adult assumptions and biases.
- Research has demonstrated that asking students questions on a survey does not encourage participation in related behaviors.

◆ What if my child feels uncomfortable with a question during the survey?

- If your child feels uncomfortable or does not understand a question, they can skip it.

◆ Why should my child participate in the survey?

- Let your student know this is their chance to make their voice be heard!
- This is a unique opportunity to share their perspective in a safe way.
- The results from the survey are used all around Midland County to support local youth. Your student's answers will help guide our community's youth programs.