



January 28, 2010

Dear Parent;

Deer Path Middle School has been chosen to participate in the Illinois Youth Survey for 2010. The survey will be administered to all 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders the week of February 15. This survey is being offered to our school at no cost through the Illinois Department of Human Services. The purpose of this survey is to gather information to plan important prevention and intervention programs to reduce youth drug use and associated risk behaviors. The Illinois Youth Survey was taken in February of 2008 by all 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> students at Deer Path, along with sophomores and seniors at Lake Forest High School. The results of the 2010 survey will be compared against the data from 2008.

The survey is entirely anonymous and voluntary. Students will not put their names or any other identifying information on the survey booklet. Our school will receive a report of overall results, but will not know which students gave which responses. Please discuss the upcoming survey with your child and encourage them to answer the questions as honestly as possible. All results from the survey will be presented in a group summary format only, similar to many opinion polls.

The survey is voluntary, so your child will participate only if you and your child agree to do so. If you wish to exclude your child from taking the survey, please submit a request in writing to Tony Palbicke, Dean of Students, DPM-W no later than **Monday, February 8, 2010**. There is no penalty for you or your child choosing not to participate in the survey. The survey will be administered during one class period in your child's Health class during the week of February 15. Students who choose not to take the survey will be assigned an alternate activity.

A blank copy of the survey is available for your review in the DPM-E and DPM-W offices. If you have any questions about the Illinois Youth Survey, please contact me, at (847) 604-7407.

It is our desire that most or all students (6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade) will participate in the survey in order to obtain the most valid results and ultimately assist our school community as we address this important topic.

Cordially,

Tony Palbicke  
Deer Path Middle School  
Dean of Students

## Deer Path Middle School

155 W. Deerpath Rd.  
Lake Forest, IL 60045  
(847) 604-7400

*Striving for Excellence; Seeking a Balance*