



Dear School Nurse:

September 9, 2014

The Maine Department of Education, in collaboration with the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the Office of Substance Abuse in the Department of Health and Human Services, is pleased to announce the fourth administration of the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey (MIYHS). **<School name> has been chosen as part of the Kindergarten/3<sup>rd</sup> grade and 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade samples.**

**The benefits of your school's participation in this effort include:**

- Each school that participates is contributing to on-going data that gives us information on the health status of Maine's children and helps in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of public health interventions.
- For the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade module, if your school (and/or SAU) has at least 20 students taking the survey, we can provide information on your school's (and/or SAU's) results, as long as we are able to maintain student confidentiality and minimum participation rates for your school (and/or SAU) are met. Having local data can help with: advocating for healthy policies and resources; combatting any health challenges you may face; and implementing or modifying existing health programs.
- **Only state level data will be available for the K/3<sup>rd</sup> grade survey due to the small sample size that is selected for that module.**
- Schools receive a stipend to offset some of the costs involved in the survey administration.

**Here are some quick facts about the 2015 MIYHS:**

- The K/3<sup>rd</sup> grade survey module can be administered anytime between December, 2014 and April, 2015. The 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade survey module will be administered between February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015.
- Your principal has been contacted regarding your school being selected to participate in this survey.
- School nurses will not have to participate in a regional oral health screening training session; rather, there will be assistance provided for that part of the survey.
- You and your school administration are encouraged to participate in the survey. If you and your school administration agree, you will receive a 'MIYHS Administration Manual for School Nurses' which will tell you everything you need to know about your role in administering the survey.

We understand the importance of having the proper equipment to administer the K/3 module of the MIYHS survey. We are able to offer one of the following tools to help complete the screening as a thank you for participating: stadiometer, digital scale, or privacy screen as supplies last. In addition, schools participating in the K/3 module will receive a participation stipend of \$100.

**There will be a one hour informational meeting about the 2015 MIYHS at the School Oral Health Program Fall meetings. You can RSVP to this information meeting on the page that follows.**

If you have any questions please feel free to contact one of the following people:

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**Nancy Dube**, Maine Department of Education, [Nancy.Dube@maine.gov](mailto:Nancy.Dube@maine.gov), 207-624-6688

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We look forward to working with you throughout this project and appreciate your cooperative efforts.

Sincerely,

Jessie Meisner Francis, MS  
MIYHS Project Coordinator  
Maine Center for Disease Control & Prevention