



doug.brown@lawtonps.org



580-357-6900 ext. 2003

January 30, 2024

Re: Passive Parental Consent for OPNA Study

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you well. As part of our commitment to the well-being and academic success of our students, Lawton Public Schools is participating in the Oklahoma Prevention Needs Assessment (OPNA) study, in accordance with State of Oklahoma Statute §70-24-158. This statute mandates that all public schools administer either the OPNA or an Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS)-approved alternative survey.

Your child's class is set to take this survey between February 20 - 23. The purpose of the survey is to gather information needed to plan prevention and intervention programs in our community and schools. These programs will address problems of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use, school dropout, delinquency, violence, mental health, and other issues in our schools and communities.

Information will also help judge the effectiveness of current prevention and intervention efforts. The survey is entirely anonymous and confidential. Students will not include their names or any other identifying information. All results from the survey will be presented only in group summary form.

For the survey, students will be asked to respond to questions such as "How wrong do you think it is for someone your age to pick a fight with someone at school?" "Which of the following activities for people your age are available in your community?"

In order to include your child in the OPNA study, we are seeking your passive consent. This means that unless you expressly notify us otherwise, your child will be included in the study. If, for any reason, you do not wish for your child to participate in the OPNA study, please contact the principal's office at your student's school by February 2, 2024.

Thank you for your cooperation and support in enhancing the well-being of our students. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the OPNA study, please do not hesitate to reach out to your student's building administration.

Sincerely,

Doug Brown
Assistant Superintendent