



# Halton District School Board

Wayne Joudrie, *Director of Education*

Bruce Jones, *Chair of the Board*

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## Halton Youth Survey Parental Information

January 2010

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the Halton Youth Survey. Research has shown that young people who can cope with the challenges of normal development have a better chance of doing well in school and beyond. To better understand how well Halton youth are doing, the Halton District School Board is working with the Our Kids Network, the Halton Catholic District School Board and the Region of Halton to complete the Halton Youth Survey. This survey represents part of our on-going effort to monitor student learning and the factors that influence learning and to make improvements in order to ensure all students are given the opportunity to succeed in our schools.

The Halton Youth Survey will be available to schools from February 2<sup>nd</sup> to March 12<sup>th</sup> 2010. Students will complete a voluntary web-based survey during school hours. Only students in Grades 7 and 10 will be invited to complete the survey. The survey will take approximately 25 minutes to complete. Individual students cannot be identified. The findings will be reported in a way that ensures complete confidentiality. Information on the survey will never appear in any school records. The survey covers topics such as school engagement, participation in community activities, physical health, mental well being, and participation in non-risk and risk related activities.

The results of the survey will be used to help identify key issues related to healthy adolescent development, to inform school board programs and Our Kid Network and Ministry of Education initiatives, and to develop health and education programs for our young people. Both provincially and within the HDSB, there is ongoing interest to ensure we are developing an education system that supports the success of all students. Data gathered through this survey will enhance our understanding of the diverse needs of our students, will be used to support school improvement planning, and will play an important role in our ongoing efforts to improve the culture and climate of schools.

We sincerely appreciate your co-operation. Information about the Halton Youth Survey, including a copy of the survey, is available on the HDSB website (<http://www.hdsb.ca>). Please direct any questions about the survey or requests for English language support to the HDSB Information Centre at 1.888.432.4372 or via e-mail at [informationcentre@hdsb.ca](mailto:informationcentre@hdsb.ca). The Information Centre is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Thank you,

Wayne Joudrie  
Director of Education  
Halton District School Board