

# ROSS A. LURGIO MIDDLE SCHOOL



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Dear Parent or Guardian:

During the week of March 31, Lurgio Middle School will conduct a very important survey on the needs, attitudes and behaviors of students in 7th and 8th grade. The survey is called *Search Institute Profiles of Student Life: Attitudes and Behaviors*, and the purpose of the survey is to gather information about students' attitudes, perceptions, decision-making and behaviors.

The middle school students in Bedford have taken this voluntary, anonymous survey every three or four years for over fifteen years. School personnel use the information gathered through the survey to track students' decision-making and actions in regards to high-risk behaviors such as drug and alcohol use. The survey also provides important information about students' perceptions of their community and their acquisition of positive developmental assets, which are the building blocks of positive relationships, opportunities, skills, and values.

The *Search Institute Profiles of Student Life: Attitudes and Behaviors* will be administered at Lurgio using the following protocols:

- Students will be given one full class period to complete the survey.
- Students will be instructed that their participation is completely voluntary and that they may skip items in the survey if they so choose.
- All completed surveys in a given classroom will be placed in a single envelope, which will then be sealed and sent directly to the Search Institute for processing.
- No Lurgio staff member will review completed surveys.
- The final report will present findings by the total group of students who took the survey, and the data will be disaggregated by grade and gender.
- No individual student data will be reported.

The survey is not a test and will not affect grades in any way. Students who do not participate will be asked to study or read quietly at their desks during the survey administration. The survey results will be available at Lurgio and will also be shared community-wide through the Coalition for Bedford Youth and Lurgio's prevention programming. The results will be used to update current prevention strategies as young teens prepare to enter high school.

A copy of the survey is available for review at the Lurgio Guidance Office during school hours until 3:30PM each school day. We greatly appreciate your child's participation in this survey as the value of a study of this kind depends upon the participation of every student. If you have questions or concerns, please call Donna LaRue in the Lurgio Guidance Office at 310-9101, extension 4428.

If you do not want your child to participate in the survey, please email John Schuttinger, Assistant Principal, at [schuttingerj@sau25.net](mailto:schuttingerj@sau25.net) by Friday, March 28.

Thank you,

John Schuttinger  
Assistant Principal