May 2019

Dear Sewanhaka Central High School District Community:

Our highest priority as a school district and school community is to ensure the safety and well-being of our students and staff. This year the District will be partnering with Nassau BOCES to conduct a School Climate Survey to be completed by teachers, staff, parents/guardians of students in Grades 7-12. Seeking insight from all constituent groups provides us with an opportunity to work together in contributing to a shared school vision.

School climate refers to the quality and character of school life, and research has shown that it has a very sizable impact on student learning. The School Climate Survey serves as a tool to help administrators gain an in-depth understanding of our school climate and how the District can best meet the needs of our students, families, faculty and staff. Participants will be asked about their perceptions on topics such as student engagement, school environment, and school safety.

The research-based survey was developed by the U.S. Department of Education’s National Center for Education Statistics. Nassau BOCES is hosting the survey on their digital platform which can be accessed online for a two-week window, May 20 – June 4. The results will solely be shared with the District.

Survey link: http://170.24.254.47

- **Students** in grades 7-12 will take the survey during the school day in their classrooms.
- **Parents/Guardians** will receive a letter next week containing a username to access the survey online.
- **Instructional and Non-Instructional Staff** will receive a username from their building’s main office to access the survey online.
- **Please note:** while the survey link is the same for all groups, the unique usernames will direct participants to the appropriate survey.

The survey results, which will not identify any person or their responses, will help the District improve student relationships, learning conditions, and the school’s overall environment. As always, our ultimate goal is to continually foster student growth and achievement, along with ensuring our student, faculty and staff’s sense of well-being.

Your participation is completely voluntary. However, we hope you will take the time to fill out the survey. For your preview, we have posted the survey questions on the District homepage, under Site Shortcuts. Please keep in mind that the survey must be completed online via the link listed above. If you have any questions, please contact your child’s principal or Nassau BOCES School Climate Survey Services at schoolclimatesurvey@nasboces.org or (516) 832-2801.

Sincerely,

Ralph P. Ferrie, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

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