



2021 PANORAMA STUDENT AND FAMILY SURVEY NOTIFICATION AND WITHDRAWAL LETTER

February 15, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians and Adult Students,

We are excited to announce that the **Spring 2021 Panorama Family Survey and Panorama Student Survey** will open on February 22!

View district-level family and student survey results from spring and fall 2020 at bit.ly/dcpsresults.

Each year, we ask students in grades 3 and higher to complete a survey about social emotional learning for DC Public Schools, the Panorama Student Survey, to help DCPS and school administrators better understand what students think about their school experiences and their social and emotional learning. We also ask families to complete the Panorama Family Survey about their experiences with DCPS and students' social and emotional learning. This spring, both surveys will be administered online **between February 22 and March 19**. A link for the student survey will be shared over Canvas, while the family survey will be accessed at bit.ly/dcpsfamily.

These surveys are important to DCPS, now more than ever. With some students returning to school after months of virtual learning and others still learning at home, it is vital for DCPS to understand how students and families feel and how that has changed from last year.

You may opt your child out of the student survey if you do not want your child to take it. If you are a student 18 or older and do not want to take it, you may opt yourself out of the survey. The deadline to opt out is March 1. If you opt out after the survey opens, your child may be expected to take it in class, but their responses will not be counted.

If you do NOT want your child to take the Panorama Student Survey this spring, or if you are a student 18 or older and do not want to take the survey, fill out this form by March 1:

[Spring 2021 Panorama Student Opt-Out.](#)

To fill out the form, you need your child's student ID.

This survey is voluntary and confidential. Your child is not required to participate, but the feedback would be very valuable. This survey asks only for your child's honest experience and opinions. Your child's grades will not be affected by his or her responses. Your child's privacy will be protected to the extent allowed by law. Your child's name will never be used in reports. As in previous years, the survey asks students in grades 6-12 about their gender and sexual identity. These questions help the district promote equitable treatment for all students in accordance with our Transgender and Gender-Nonconforming Policy Guidance. They are entirely voluntary, and students who are not comfortable answering can skip them.

Schools use survey results to better understand your child's needs. DCPS is currently piloting the MTSS Data System (MTSS), which enables teachers and staff to see students' Panorama results side-by-side with academic, attendance, and behavioral data. Using MTSS, teachers can see your child's average scores on different SEL topics on the survey. They cannot see how a student answered individual questions and will NOT see any information from Student Satisfaction questions or questions on gender and sexual identity. MTSS is secure and can be accessed only by teachers or staff at a student's school.

If you have any questions regarding the Panorama Student Survey and the MTSS platform or if you want to see the survey questions students will receive, please visit <https://dcps.dc.gov/surveys>.

Sincerely,
DC Public Schools