

## **Parental Opt-Out Form for**

### **Universal Social, Emotional and Behavioral Screening & Youth Risk Behavior Surveys**

All students enrolled in public schools are afforded protection of student records under the Family Education Right to Privacy Act (FERPA). Every public school district is required to implement processes to protect the privacy of personally identifiable student information and restrict sharing of that information. LEAs are only able to share personally identifiable information about students with others as long as the data sharing meets one of the law's limited exceptions as described in the Policy Guidance. In accordance with the legislation, LEAs: (1) are prohibited from requiring the collection of non-academic data about students such as political affiliation and religious practices; (2) are permitted to share personally identifiable information under specific circumstances (e.g. LEA officials with a legitimate educational interest; Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes; to appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies.); (3) are prohibited from allowing anyone to access student information that is stored by schools or LEAs except authorized stakeholders such as parents, teachers, principals, superintendents, or a person authorized by the state to audit student records.

#### **Universal SEL Screenings**

All North Carolina schools have been asked to administer a universal social, emotional and behavioral screener to all students in order to assess the impact, if any, of the COVID-19 pandemic on the well-being of students and to provide appropriate interventions and referral to external services. Parental permission is required, pursuant to the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), to begin the screening process (see attached Permission page). Guardians also have the right to inspect, upon request, the screening instrument and any questionnaires before they are administered or distributed to your child. For the purposes of administering a universal social, emotional and behavioral screener, data collection is defined as questionnaires, interviews with your child's teachers or other educators, and direct observations in the classroom or other school setting.

#### **Youth Risk Behavior Surveys**

North Carolina public schools participate annually in the Youth Risk Behavior Survey. This survey is part of a system of national school-based surveys conducted by the CDC and the state. The survey monitors health-related behaviors among youth including drug use, sexual behavior, dietary behavior, physical activity, and sexual identity.

## Opt-Out notification to remove student participant from SURVEYS & DATA COLLECTION\*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

By my signature below, I am confirming that I acknowledge the information on the accompanying page and I am informed of my rights under PPRA and FERPA.

- I **DO NOT** give permission for my son/daughter/ward to participate in ANY universal social, emotional and behavioral screening process and data collection.
- I **DO NOT** give permission for my son/daughter/ward to participate in the Youth Risk Behavior Survey data collection.

Signature of Mother/Father/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date form received by the school system: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Note: For the purposes of SEL Universal Screening, data collection is defined as questionnaires, interviews with your son's/daughter's/ward's teachers or other educators, and direct observations in the classroom or other school settings.