

August, 2005

Dear Parents,

During the months of September and October 2005, the Petaluma City School Districts will be conducting the California Healthy Kids Survey in 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> grades. This survey is a comprehensive youth health-risk behavior and data collection service sponsored by the California Department of Education. Its purpose is to support us in assessing our needs and improving the prevention and health programs for the youth of our community. The topics covered include use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs; violence and school safety; and youth resilience.

We administered this survey in the spring of 2001 and the fall of 2003 with high percentages of participation by students in the targeted grades. The information gathered from the students was vital in assessing their needs and supported us in developing and expanding youth development opportunities throughout the Petaluma community. The information was also a critical element in revising and redesigning our prevention efforts. We look forward to an even greater percentage of participation this year.

We value the health and well being of the young people of this community. The information collected is confidential and not reported by individual student. We endeavor to support wellness in mind and body and encourage each individual to reach his/her highest potential. As educators, health providers, youth leader advocates, and community builders, we encourage you to read, sign, and return the attached consent letter with your son or daughter within the next 3 days. **Your support is critical to the survey's success, and is very much appreciated!**

**A copy of the survey is located at your child's school for your review.** If you have any questions you may contact Tammy Cotter, Substance Abuse Prevention Specialist for Petaluma City Schools, at 778-4800. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Sincerely,

Greta Viguie, Superintendent  
Petaluma City Schools

Daymon Doss, CEO  
Petaluma Healthcare District

Ellen Lewis, Community Entrepreneur  
Community and Schools for Career Success

Pat Landrum, Executive Director  
Petaluma Healthy Community Consortium