



Dear Parents, Families, and Caregivers,

You might remember that in the past, you probably completed surveys that asked about your satisfaction with your child's experience in school. This information, in addition to standardized test scores, helped our District understand how we could help our students and schools succeed.

This year, SFUSD is working with seven other California public school districts to develop a better way to measure how students and schools are doing, because we know that how students learn depends on more than just academics. What this means is that in addition to looking at academic performance through standardized tests and grades, we will be looking at other factors that we know matter in college, career, and life, as part of a broader School Quality Improvement Index (the Index).

Between mid-February and March 27, 2015, schools will begin giving surveys to students and teachers as part of their school day. Family and caregiver surveys will take place between mid-March and May 2015. Some key things to know:

- The survey is **completely voluntary**. Students, teachers and families who participate only have to answer the questions they want to answer and they can stop taking it at any time. However, the survey is very important because it helps us know how our schools are doing to best support students;
- The **student survey is a confidential, 30-minute, self-reflection** set of questions that asks about social-emotional skills, and how they feel about their school's culture and environment;
- The **teacher survey is a confidential, one-hour** survey about student behavior, specifically around social-emotional skills;
- Survey results will have **no impact on student grades** or teacher evaluations.

If you **DO NOT** want your child to participate, please complete and return the withdrawal slip (below) to your classroom teacher no later than February 6, 2015.

These new surveys are part of our new School Quality Improvement System (SQIS), which is one component of our District's request for more flexibility from the current requirements of No Child Left Behind (NCLB), the law that requires us to test student's academic skills in order to receive federal money. For more information about the School Quality Improvement System or the Index, please contact Jill Hoogendyk, (415) 379-7618, or visit: <http://coredistricts.org/school-quality-improvement-system/>.

IF YOU **DO NOT** WANT YOUR CHILD TO PARTICIPATE, PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS
WITHDRAWAL SLIP TO THE CLASSROOM TEACHER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

School: _____ Classroom Teacher: _____

My son/daughter: _____

(please print first and last names)

May **NOT** participate in the School Quality Improvement Index student survey

Signature of Parent/Caregiver

Date