November 5, 2019

Dear SD 308 Parents,

Community Unit School District 308 will join the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) in the eighth statewide survey of school climate and learning conditions. The survey provides a unique opportunity for students, teachers, and parents to have a voice in improving their schools.

The Illinois 5Essentials Survey provides a comprehensive picture of a school’s organizational culture in an individualized report measuring five “essentials” critical for school success:

- Effective Leaders
- Collaborative Teachers
- Involved Families
- Supportive Environment
- Ambitious Instruction

Between December 10 through February 7, all students in 4th through 12th grade will be asked to take a brief research-based survey to help identify strengths and weaknesses in their school’s learning environment. 5Essentials Reports will be generated for schools if their teachers and/or students meet the response rate threshold of 50 percent. These reports will be sent to schools and districts in April 2020 and will also be included in the State School Report Card. If you would not wish to have your student participate, this form will need to be completed and returned to the building.

The parent survey will be open from November 4, 2019 through February 14, 2020. Your participation in the parent portion of the survey will help us understand the conditions at your child’s school and guide improvement. Your identity and survey responses will be kept completely confidential and will never be connected to you or your child. These surveys will serve as an opportunity for schools to reflect on progress since the last statewide implementation. If at least twenty percent of parents from each individual school complete this survey, a parent supplement report will also be generated.

To participate as a parent, please visit https://survey.5-essentials.org/Illinois/ and select the appropriate survey to begin.

For more information about the Illinois 5Essentials Survey, or to view previous years’ reports, please visit https://www.5-essentials.org/Illinois. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact 5Essentials Client Services at 1-866-440-1874 for technical support or Danielle Lee at dlee@sd308.org for questions related to our District use.

Sincerely,

Danielle Lee
Assistant Director for School Improvement/Data