



## Parent Consent Form

**Title:** Project PISCES

### Introduction

This form will give you information about a research study. The person doing the research will answer your questions. You can ask any questions before making a decision. Signing this form means that you will allow your child to be part of this study.

### Purpose of the Study

Your child is being asked to be in a study about students' experiences in schools. The goal is to learn about how schools influence young people's healthy development. We are interested in the positive aspects of schools, such as academic and emotional support as well as negative aspects such as experiences of discrimination. We are also interested in how support from family can promote positive school outcomes. We will be asking your child about academic outcomes and mental health.

### What will my child be asked to do?

- Your child will be asked to fill out a survey that can take up to 45 minutes to complete.
- You will be asked to give permission for the researchers of this study to get your child's school and academic records. If you give permission, previous data will be collected back to your students' 6<sup>th</sup> grade year, and we will continue to follow your student's academic outcomes through their 12<sup>th</sup> grade year. The following information will be collected from school records: ethnicity, sex, SES, nativity and language status, grade-level, at-risk status, special education and discipline status, school leaver (year and reason if applicable), attendance, grades and state test scores (e.g., STAAR and STAAR End of Course exams), BMI and related information, and student school ID number. Your decision to allow or not allow access to this information will not affect eligibility for or participation in Child Nutrition Programs.
- Your child may be asked to participate in an interview or complete short surveys each night for 14 days (daily diaries). A total of 100 students will complete daily diaries in Years 1-3 (winter 2016, 2017, 2018) and 32 students will complete interviews in Year 2. If selected, your child will complete the diaries on an iTouch device that will be returned at the end of the 14 days; nightly reminders will be sent via email and via the iTouch device. You and your child will not be responsible if the iTouch device is lost, stolen, or damaged.
- Your child will be asked to do follow-ups of this study in the future. You can say no at any time if you don't want your child to do the follow-ups. Your child will be one of approximately 1,000 students in the study.

### What are the risks involved in this study?

- The potential risks associated with this study are temporary feelings of discomfort while answering survey questions. We will provide all students with a list of local services for individual/family counseling. Our research team will follow up any child who indicates high levels of depression or discrimination to see if he/she is in need of additional support.

### What are the possible benefits of this study?

- No direct benefit will be gained for study participation. However, participation in this study is advancing the scientific understanding of students and their schools in order to improve young people's well-being.

### Does your child have to participate?

- No. Your child's participation is voluntary. Your child can agree to be in the study now and change his/her mind later. Not participating now or in the future won't affect your child's relationship with the University of

Texas or their school. Your decision about whether or not to allow your child to be in the study will have no impact on their grades.

### **Will there be any compensation?**

- Your child will enter a drawing to have a chance of winning a \$25 gift card for returning this consent form. Your child may enter the drawing whether or not you agree to let your child participate in the study. At the end of the survey, your child will receive \$20. If your child is selected for the daily diaries, your child will receive \$35 for completing them. If your child is selected for the interview, your child will receive \$20 for completing it. Compensation will also be provided for follow-up surveys (\$25) and for daily diaries (\$35).

### **What are our confidentiality or privacy protections when participating in this research study?**

- This study is confidential. Any reports from this study will not be linked back to your child in any way. Your child will be assigned an ID number, and this number (rather than your child's name) will appear on all study materials.
- Information your child provides in this study may be available to NSF employees only for the purpose of audit or evaluation.
- If it becomes necessary for the Institutional Review Board to review the study records, information that can be linked to your child will be protected to the extent permitted by law. Your child's research records will not be released without your consent unless required by law or a court order. The data resulting from your child's participation may be made available to other researchers in the future for research purposes not detailed within this consent form. In these cases, the data will contain no identifying information that could associate it with your child, or with your child's participation in any study.
- If the research staff should observe or otherwise learn of child or elder abuse while visiting your child, confidentiality will be broken. We are required by law to report child or elder abuse to relevant agencies (Child Protective Services or the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services). If this situation occurs, then confidentiality will be broken.

### **How can I learn more about this project?**

- For more information about the study and to see the student survey, please visit <http://sites.utexas.edu/projectpiscs/>
- The current study does ask questions about risky behaviors, such as general opinions about substance use and school climate for LGBT youth. Example questions include, "Do YOU disapprove of people taking one or two drinks nearly every day?" and "How hard or easy is it for someone to fit in at this school if they were gay or lesbian or someone thought they were?" Students can skip ANY question they do not feel comfortable answering.

### **Whom to contact with questions about the study?**

Before, during or after being in the study, you can contact the person in charge of the study, Dr. Benner at (512) 232.1964 or send an email to [abenner@prc.utexas.edu](mailto:abenner@prc.utexas.edu). This study has been reviewed and approved by The University Institutional Review Board and the study number is 2016-02-0149.

### **Whom to contact with questions concerning our rights as research participants?**

For questions about your child's rights or anything you don't like about this study, you can contact, without giving your name if you want, the Institutional Review Board at (512) 471-8871 or email at [orsc@uts.cc.utexas.edu](mailto:orsc@uts.cc.utexas.edu).

### **Participation**

If my child agrees to participate, I will sign on the line below agreeing to allow him/her to participate.

### **Signature**

I understand the goal of the study and possible benefits and risks. I received a copy of this paper. I was able to ask questions before signing and will be able to ask questions at any time. By signing this paper, I still have my legal rights.

My child may participate in the study:  Yes  No

You may contact my child for future surveys/daily diaries/interviews/related studies?  Yes  No

Student ID Number (from school report card): \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name of child: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name of parent/legal guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent/legal guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of investigator: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_