Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Needham Coalition for Youth Substance Abuse Prevention (NCYSAP) is surveying parents of 6th-12th graders living in Needham to learn more about their personal beliefs and perceptions regarding underage drinking and substance use. The results of this survey will be shared with you during the next academic year through health promotion activities and community-wide messaging.

This survey is anonymous. Your responses cannot be traced to you. The data are being handled by Social Science Research and Evaluation, Inc., a non-profit research firm in Burlington, MA. No one will know how you answered the items in this survey. Please answer the questions based on what you actually think and do. Completing the survey is voluntary. You may skip any question you choose not to answer.

When answering the items in this survey, please think about your oldest child in grades 6-12.

**Current Residence**
This survey is for parents of 6th-12th graders currently living in Needham.

1. Do you currently live in Needham, Massachusetts? (select one)
   - No [Note: these individuals are opted-out of the survey]
   - Yes [Note: these individuals are sent to Question #2]

**Children in Grades 6-12**

2. Do you currently have any children in grades 6-12? (select one)
   - No [Note: these individuals are opted-out of the survey]
   - Yes [Note: these individuals are sent to Question #3]

**Your Oldest Child in Grades 6-12**
Please tell us a little about your oldest child in grades 6-12. Remember, this survey is completely anonymous.

3. In which grade level is your oldest child in grades 6-12? (select one)
   - 6th grade
   - 7th grade
   - 8th grade
   - 9th grade
   - 10th grade
   - 11th grade
   - 12th grade

4. Does your oldest child in grades 6-12 attend public school or private school? (select one)
   - Public School
   - Private School
**Underage Alcohol Use**

The following questions ask about your attitudes and behaviors in regard to underage alcohol use. Remember to think about your oldest child in 6th-12th grade when answering these items.

5. Which of the following statements best represents your own belief about underage alcohol use? (select one)
   - [ ] Student drinking is never a good thing.
   - [ ] Occasional student drinking under supervision of his/her own parents is OK.
   - [ ] Occasional student drinking under supervision of a friend's parents is OK.
   - [ ] Occasional student drinking without adult supervision is OK as long as there is no driving involved.
   - [ ] Any type of student drinking is OK.

6. Estimate the percentage of Needham students in each of the following grade levels who drank at least one drink of alcohol (not including religious ceremonies) during the last 30 days. (choose a percentage between 0% and 100%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6th-8th Graders</th>
<th>9th-12th Graders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[drop-down]</td>
<td>[drop-down]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Estimate the percentage of Needham students in each of the following grade levels who drank 5 or more drinks of alcohol in a row, that is, within a couple of hours during the last 30 days. (choose a percentage between 0% and 100%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6th-8th Graders</th>
<th>9th-12th Graders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[drop-down]</td>
<td>[drop-down]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Among 6th-8th grade Needham students who drank alcohol in the last 30 days (not including religious ceremonies), I believe they usually acquired the alcohol: (select one)
   - [ ] From a party
   - [ ] From a friend (not at a party)
   - [ ] From home with parental knowledge
   - [ ] From home without parental knowledge
   - [ ] By him/herself from a store, tavern, bar, or public event (like a concert or sporting event)
   - [ ] From someone s/he knows buying it
   - [ ] From asking a stranger to buy it
   - [ ] Some other way

9. Among 9th-12th grade Needham students who drank alcohol in the last 30 days (not including religious ceremonies), I believe they usually acquired the alcohol: (select one)
   - [ ] From a party
   - [ ] From a friend (not at a party)
   - [ ] From home with parental knowledge
   - [ ] From home without parental knowledge
   - [ ] By him/herself from a store, tavern, bar, or public event (like a concert or sporting event)
   - [ ] From someone s/he knows buying it
   - [ ] From asking a stranger to buy it
   - [ ] Some other way

10. Do you actively monitor or take stock of any alcohol present in your home? (select one)
    - [ ] N/A – there is no alcohol in my home
    - [ ] Yes
    - [ ] No

11. Do you secure or lock-up any alcohol present in your home? (select one)
    - [ ] N/A – there is no alcohol in my home
    - [ ] Yes
    - [ ] No
12. Estimate the percentage of Needham students in each of the following grade levels who rode in a car or other vehicle driven by someone who has been drinking alcohol during the past 30 days. (choose a percentage between 0% and 100%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Level</th>
<th>6th-8th Graders</th>
<th>9th-12th Graders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rode with a Drinking Driver</td>
<td>[drop-down]</td>
<td>[drop-down]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13. How often do you knowingly allow your child to attend parties where underage drinking occurs? (select one)
- Never
- Rarely
- Sometimes
- Most of the time
- All of the time

14. What percentage of the parents at your child’s school do you believe knowingly allow their children to attend parties where underage drinking occurs? (select a percentage between 0% and 100%): ______

15. If you became aware that another parent of a student at your child’s school was allowing teens (other than your own child) to drink alcohol at their home, what action would you take? (select all that apply)
- I wouldn’t take any action
- I would call the police
- I would call someone at my child’s school
- I would call and talk to the parent
- I would prohibit my child from going to that house
- Other (type-in): ___________________________

16. If the police became aware that Needham teens were drinking alcohol, what action would you support regarding the teens? (select all that apply)
- There should be no action against the teens
- Police should issue a verbal warning to the teens
- Police should call or contact the teens’ parents
- Police should issue a ticket/notice to appear in court
- Police should arrest the offending teens
- Police should inform school personnel
- If on a Needham sports team, the school should enforce MIAA sanctions
- Police should refer the teens to a mandated substance abuse education class

17. Too many parents in Needham either provide alcohol for their children or turn a blind eye to underage alcohol use. (select one)
- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- No Opinion
- Agree
- Strongly Agree

18. What is the main reason you think some parents may allow their and other children to drink alcohol in their home? (select one)
- So the youth don’t drink and drive
- So the drinking is supervised
- So the youth don’t get arrested
- To teach youth to drink responsibly
- Other (type-in): ______________

19. Many Needham parents set a bad example for their children by their own excessive alcohol use. (select one)
- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- No Opinion
- Agree
- Strongly Agree
Other Illegal Drug Use
The following questions ask about your attitudes and behaviors in regard to other illegal drug use. Remember to think about your oldest child in 6th-12th grade when answering these items.

20. Which of the following statements best represents your own belief about youth marijuana use? (select one)
   - Student marijuana use is never a good thing.
   - Occasional student marijuana use under supervision of his/her own parents is OK.
   - Occasional student marijuana use under supervision of a friend's parents is OK.
   - Occasional student marijuana use without adult supervision is OK as long as there is no driving involved.
   - Any type of student marijuana use is OK.

21. Estimate the percentage of Needham students in each of the following grade levels who used marijuana during the last 30 days. (choose a percentage between 0% and 100%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Used Marijuana in the Last 30 Days</th>
<th>6th-8th Graders</th>
<th>9th-12th Graders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[drop-down]</td>
<td>[drop-down]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

22. Too many parents in Needham turn a blind eye to youth marijuana use. (select one)
   - Strongly Disagree
   - Disagree
   - No Opinion
   - Agree
   - Strongly Agree

23. I believe the illegal use of prescription medications among youth is a problem in Needham. (select one)
   - Strongly Disagree
   - Disagree
   - No Opinion
   - Agree
   - Strongly Agree

24. Do you actively monitor or take stock of any prescription medications in your home? (select one)
   - N/A – there are no prescription medications in my home
   - Yes
   - No

25. Do you secure or lock-up prescription medications in your home? (select one)
   - N/A – there are no prescription medications in my home
   - Yes
   - No

Social Gatherings
The next questions ask about social gatherings.

26. How often do you call other parents to make sure they will be home before you allow your child to go to their house for a social gathering? (select one)
   - I do not allow my child to go to social gatherings
   - Never
   - Rarely
   - Sometimes
   - Most of the time
   - All of the time

27. What percentage of the parents at your child’s school do you think call to make sure that a parent is home before they allow their child to go to another parent’s home for a social gathering? (select a percentage between 0% and 100%): ________
28. I would like other Needham parents to call me to see if I will be home if their child is coming to my home for a social gathering. (select one)
   - Strongly Disagree
   - Disagree
   - No Opinion
   - Agree
   - Strongly Agree

29. What percentage of parents (at your child’s school) who are hosting a gathering of students do you believe want to receive a phone call from other parents who are calling to check if a parent will be home and if the child has permission for the gathering? (select a percentage between 0% and 100%): ______

**Parenting**

This last series of questions ask about parenting behaviors.

30. What I say has little influence on whether my child uses alcohol or drugs. (select one)
   - Strongly Disagree
   - Disagree
   - No Opinion
   - Agree
   - Strongly Agree

31. Have you communicated your family's guidelines and expectations around youth alcohol and drug use to your child? (select one)
   - No
   - Yes

32. Have you talked to your child about the potential negative consequences associated with underage alcohol use since the beginning of the current school year? (select one)
   - No
   - Yes

33. Have you and your child developed strategies to protect them if they find themselves in an unsafe situation? (select one)
   - No
   - Yes

34. Which of the following strategies, if any, have you and your child discussed about how to protect themselves in an unsafe situation? (select all that apply)
   - We have not discussed any strategies
   - A verbal or written contract with your child not to ride in any vehicle driven by someone who has been drinking
   - A verbal or written contract with your child to limit the use of alcohol or drugs
   - A verbal or written contract with your child that prohibits any alcohol or drug use
   - Call or text message
   - Code word/way to get picked up without having to explain
   - Ways to “say no”
   - A Different Strategy (type-in):________________________

35. Have you ever talked with parents of your child’s close friends to share and compare parental philosophies and standards regarding alcohol and drugs? (select one)
   - No
   - Yes
36. If my child has friends over to my house, I... (select all that apply)
- make my expectations about substance use clear to my child and his/her friends
- allow alcohol or marijuana use in my home as long as it is responsible and not excessive
- walk through the area in which my child and his/her friend are congregating more than once
- don’t intrude on my child and his/her friends
- allow my child to have friends over if I am not at home
- visually assess my child and his/her friends for substance use
- I don’t do any of these things

37. If my child is out with friends, I... (select all that apply)
- don’t do anything to check on them
- require my child to tell me with whom and where they will be
- check in with my child by phone more than once during their time out with friends
- physically check on my child to be sure they are where they said they would be
- take some other action (type-in) ____________________

38. When my child comes home from being out with friends... (select all that apply)
- I am often asleep
- I have my child wake me up
- I am purposefully awake when my child returns home
- I engage my child in conversation to learn about their activities while out with friends
- I check my child for signs of substance use (visually; bloodshot eyes; pupil dilation; coherence of speech; physical coordination; odor)
- I don’t do any of these things

39. I believe schools should provide education programs for students my child's age that are designed to help prevent and reduce underage drinking and substance abuse. (select one)
- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- No Opinion
- Agree
- Strongly Agree

40. What are some effective ways/places to reach Needham parents like you with prevention messages? (select all that apply)
- Bank, grocery store, or convenience store
- Cable television
- Church, mosque, or synagogue
- Doctor’s Office
- Civic clubs/organizations
- Facebook or Twitter
- Commuter Rail
- MBTA Bus
- Newspaper (online)
- Newspaper (print)
- The Needham Patch
- Parent Newsletter from the school
- PTC Email/Newsletter
- Radio
- School Website
- Take-out restaurants

End of Survey

Thank you for your participation. If you have any questions about this survey, please contact:

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