Dear Parents / Guardians,

RUSD students in grades 5-12 will participate in the annual Gallup Student Poll again this year starting from October 21st through November 8th, 2019. The poll measures student academic and life success – Hope, Engagement, Entrepreneurial Aspirations and Career / Financial Literacy – through a short 10-15 minute, 24 question, online survey.

Below is a summary of how the Gallup Poll’s four concepts of Hope, Engagement, Entrepreneurial Aspirations and Career / Financial Literacy have been shown to affect student outcomes:

- **Hope** – the ideas and energy we have for the future.
  
  *Hope drives attendance, credits earned, and GPA of high school students. Hope scores are more robust predictors of college success than are high school GPA, SAT and ACT scores.*

- **Engagement** – the involvement in and enthusiasm for school.
  
  *Engagement distinguishes between high-performing and low-performing schools.*

- **Entrepreneurial Aspirations** – the talent and energy for building business that survive, thrive and employ others.
  
  *Entrepreneurial aspirations that are identified and nurtured in students can empower the next generation of innovators to spur and sustain long-term economic energy.*

- **Career / Financial Literacy** – The information, attitudes and behaviors that students need to practice for healthy participation in the economy.
  
  *Career / Financial Literacy helps students make wise economic choices which can then contribute to a thriving life.*

The survey results will provide staff information that addresses school climate and student well-being. This information will be used to inform our Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) leadership about our actions and services provided to student groups by ethnicity as well as socio-economic status, English Learners, Special Education, homeless and foster youth.

This year, grade 5-12 students will sign in to the electronic Gallup Student Poll survey using their student IDs. Once the students have completed the survey, Gallup will create district and school level reports that include results by the student groups listed above. No student will ever be mentioned by name or by ID in any report of results. Students may choose to skip any question or to not participate. If you, as the parent/guardian, do not want your child to participate, please see the attached “Opt Out” Form.

You may find more information including a full report on the nationwide results and a list of questions asked in the survey, at [http://www.riversideunified.org/parents/gallup_poll_information](http://www.riversideunified.org/parents/gallup_poll_information).

If you have any questions about the survey please contact the Department of Research, Assessment and Evaluation at 951-788-7135 extension 80800 or your child’s principal.

Daniel Sosa
Director of Research, Assessment and Evaluation

Riverside Unified School District does not discriminate on the basis of actual or perceived ancestry, age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, parental or marital status, pregnancy, or association with a person or a group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.
As part of the Riverside Unified School District (RUSD) Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP), all RUSD schools are taking part in the Gallup Student Poll. Students taking the survey will be asked questions that relate to their hopes, aspirations, attitudes and enthusiasm for school.

The survey will be administered online in a school-based computer laboratory on a date selected by the principal of your child’s school. The survey will take about 10 to 15 minutes for the students to complete.

Completing the online survey will cause little or no risk to your child. The only potential risk is that some students might find the topic of some survey questions to be sensitive. The survey has been designed to protect your child’s privacy. Students will be asked to log in to the survey with their student IDs so the Gallup reports may include results by student groups. No student will ever be mentioned by name or by ID in any report of the results.

The results of this survey will be used to adjust the actions and services in our Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) to ensure a positive climate for learning in our schools. While your child may get no immediate benefit from taking part in the survey, the adjustments made at the school may help your child and other children in the future. We would like all selected students to take part in the survey, but the survey is voluntary.

There is no downside to you, your child or the school if you don’t take part in completing the survey. In addition, students may stop participating in the survey at any point without penalty. You may contact your child’s school if you have questions. You also may request to see a copy of the survey at the school office.

If you do not wish for your child to participate, please read the section below and check the box to indicate that you do not give permission for your child to take part in the survey. Please return this opt out form to your child’s school by Monday, October 14th, 2019.

Thank you.

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**GALLUP Student Survey “OPT – OUT” Form**

*(return to your child’s school only if you DO NOT want your 5th – 12th grade student to participate)*

Student’s name *(Please Print)*: ___________________________  Grade: _____

Student’s School: ___________________________  Student ID: ___________

I have read this form and understand the survey’s purpose.

☐ NO, I do not give permission and my child MAY NOT take part in the 2019-2020 administration of the Gallup Student Poll.

Parent / Guardian’s signature: ___________________________  Date: ___/___/_____