



PENNSYLVANIA YOUTH SURVEY (PAYS)

METHACTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
OCTOBER 2021



PAYS Overview:

- The Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS) is administered anonymously to students in grades 6, 8,10, and 12 to learn about their behaviors, attitudes and knowledge concerning topics such as alcohol, tobacco, other drugs use, violence, and mental health.
- PAYS is provided at no charge to schools and districts through funding provided by:
 - Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD)
 - Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP)
 - Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE).
- PAYS was founded in 1989. It is conducted every other year (cohort data).
- PAYS serves to gather local data and information needed to select appropriate prevention and intervention programs to address issues facing our youth in the community.
- PAYS gathers youth input on protective factors or supports in their communities, family lives, and interpersonal relationships that help them to succeed in life.

PAYS - METHACTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

- Methacton School District has been participating in PAYS since 2013.
- Benefits to the district include county resources/services such as SAP liaison support, assemblies, and evidence-based interventions & programs.
- PAYS results are used for safety/risk assessments and to support grant applications.
- 2019 PAYS Participation Rates:

GRADE	# of Surveys	# Enrolled	Percentage
6 th	317	388	81.7%
8 th	369	378	97.6%
10 th	373	381	97.9%
12 th	276	408	67.6%

- Participation is voluntary
 - Parents have the right to preview the survey in advance and choose whether or not their child can participate.
 - Students are informed that they may also skip any questions that they do not feel comfortable answering or that they do not understand. They are also informed that if they have any questions or concerns after taking the survey, they can talk with their school counselor or a trusted adult.