Dear Parent:

This semester our school will participate in an important research study about student health and risk-related attitudes and behaviors. Randomly chosen students here and across Colorado will be invited to participate in a short written survey. This project has been approved by your school district and the Colorado Multiple Institutional Review Board (COMIRB). The research is commissioned by the University of Colorado Denver with funds from the three state agencies (the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, the Colorado Department of Education, and the Colorado Department of Human Services – Office of Behavioral Health). As many as 40,000 students around the state are expected to fill out the survey. Answers will help policy-makers and researchers improve children’s health programs in Colorado.

The paper and pencil survey is voluntary and takes about 45 minutes to complete in a chosen classroom. No information is collected that can identify individual students. Only your child will know how he or she answers the questions. Students do not get school credit for completing the survey, and there is no penalty for not participating. Students who take part in the survey may choose not to answer any question.

Although the survey is voluntary, we hope that students who are randomly selected will complete it. This way, the results will be the most useful for finding out how health behaviors affect Colorado’s youth.

If your child will participate in the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey, you do not need to sign or return anything. Students will receive the survey in class and are instructed to answer the questions or leave the survey blank. Students who are not completing the survey will do other schoolwork at their desk during the survey period. We encourage you to discuss the matter with your child and share your views on their choice to participate.

For more information about the study, please visit our website at www.hkcs2013.org or call the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey Director, Dr. Jenna Patnaik, at 303-724-7761. For questions regarding IRB approval, please contact COMIRB at 303-724-1055.

If your child will participate in the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey, you do not need to return this form. If your child will not participate in the survey, complete this form and have your child return it to the school in the next three days.

Student’s name: __________________________  Grade: __________________

I have read this form and understand what the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey is about.

☐ I do not want my child to complete the survey.

Parent’s Name (printed): __________________________

Parent’s signature: __________________________  Date:________________