



Dear 8th Grade Dake Parents/Guardians:

Internet use and the popularity of smartphones and social media have become important topics in recent years. In health classes and in community presentations we strive to educate both students and parents to keep our young people safe and to promote positive online behavior.

We have an opportunity for families of students in grades 8-12 to assist us in learning more about online activities by participating in the **Teen Cyber Census**. The census is administered by the Siena College Research Institute in collaboration with AT&T and the Tyler Clementi Foundation.

Attached you will find a Fact Sheet with the details of the survey.

- If you have a child in grade 8-12 in West Irondequoit, register yourself and them for the survey by clicking the link on our district website or access the link at <https://www.siena.edu/sri/westirondequoit>. Please register by **Friday, October 7, 2016**. You and your child will be sent an e-mail to click on another link to complete the survey by **October 18, 2016**.
- Review the attached Fact Sheet that has information about the research project.
- Talk to your friends and other parents of students in 8 – 12th grade in West Irondequoit; see if they've signed up yet and encourage them to participate.
- If we reach a minimum of 15% participation of our 8th grade students, the 8th grade class will receive \$200.00 towards the 8th grade dinner dance.

Our hope is to have all of our students participate so that we, as a community, can come together to more effectively address issues that arise from Internet-based activities.

If you have any questions about this study, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michelle A. Cramer".

Mrs. Michelle A. Cramer
Principal

What is the Teen Cyber Census?

The Siena College Research Institute (SRI) has partnered with AT&T and the Tyler Clementi Foundation to gather primary data from students in grades 8-12 and from their parents/guardians to assess problems, threats, effects, and attitudes towards interventions as they relate to teen internet and smartphone behavior.

In partnership with AT&T and the Tyler Clementi Foundation, the Siena Research Institute will administer two online surveys:

1. **Student Survey** – To be completed by students in grades 8-12 at West Irondequoit Central School District. This survey will be sent via e-mail in October to students who have been signed up to participate by their parents in their e-mail.
2. **Parent/Guardian Survey** – To be completed by the parent or guardian of a student in grades 8-12 at West Irondequoit Central School District. This survey will be sent to before the end of September to parents/guardians who have signed up to participate in your e-mail.

Questions such as these will be included in the surveys:

- how much time teens and parents spend online
- who teens and parents interact with online
- what restrictions, if any, are placed on technology usage for teens
- specific behaviors related to social media and how teens interact with one another through social media

Participants may benefit indirectly by knowing they have made a contribution to research that will help others in the future. In addition, after the conclusion of this study, AT&T and the Tyler Clementi Foundation will work with your school to produce an assembly to address issues pertaining to online behavior.