



Hiawatha Community Unit School District #426

410 South First Street Kirkland, Illinois 60146

<http://www.hiawatha426.org>

District Office

815-522-6676 Fax: 815-522-6619

Hiawatha Jr/Sr High School

815-522-3335 Fax: 815-522-9918

Hiawatha Elementary School

815-522-3336 Fax: 815-522-3185

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Teachers, parents and students across Illinois have an opportunity to participate in the Illinois 5Essentials Survey: Organizing Schools for Improvement. This survey was designed to generate a detailed picture of the inner workings of your child's school. As a parent, this opportunity will allow you to share your thoughts on the important elements of school effectiveness in a survey about our school. We are very excited to have this information to consider when developing our school improvement plans.

The Illinois 5Essentials Survey is being administered online by UChicago Impact at the University of Chicago, on behalf of the Illinois State Board of Education. This survey identifies five indicators that predict important student outcomes, including improved attendance and larger test school gains. The five indicators that affect school success are:

- Effective Leaders
- Collaborative Teachers
- Involved Families
- Supportive Environments
- Ambitious Instruction

Research has shown that schools strong on these indicators, the "5Essentials", are **10 times more likely** to improve student learning!

School-level reports will be generated if at least 20 percent of parents respond to the survey, will be sent to schools and districts at the end of March 2019 and will be included in each school report card, released by ISBE in the fall of 2019. 5Essentials Reports will display summary information, such as the percent of parents agreeing that they feel comfortable raising concerns to their child's teacher. Parent and student identities will be kept completely confidential and responses will not be linked to any individual. Only parent or guardians should take the survey, non-parents or guardians should not participate.

Your participation in the Illinois 5Essentials Survey will help us understand the conditions at our school and guide improvement. Your identity and survey responses will be kept **completely confidential and will never be connected to you and your child.**

The Illinois 5Essential Survey is available now through February 15th, 2019. Students will be completing the survey here at school during the week of January 22nd. Parents have the right, in accordance with Board Policy, to not allow their child to take the survey. A copy of the survey is available upon request for your review. If you do not want your child to participate, please contact the school office. If we do not hear from you by January 18th, we will assume that your child has permission to participate.

Here are the detailed steps to follow in completing the survey:

Go to <http://survey.5-essentials.org/illinois/survey/parent/>

1. Click on Illinois, Take the 5Essentials Survey
2. Select your preferred Language
3. Enter Dekalb in the County Field
4. Enter Hiawatha in the School Field
5. Confirm School Choice
6. Begin

For more information about the Illinois 5Essentials Survey, or to view sample school reports, please visit <https://www.5-essentials.org/illinois/>. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact 5Essentials Client Services at 1 866-440-1874 or 5essentials@uchicago.edu.

Please complete the survey as soon as possible so we can get an idea of how high our response rate is and send reminder notices prior to the end of the survey. We highly value your feedback and are looking forward to seeing the results and reviewing them as an administrative team. They will become a valuable component of our continuous improvement process.

Sincerely,



Jared Poynter
Superintendent
Hiawatha CUSD #426

The mission of the Hiawatha CUSD #426 is to empower all students to become productive, responsible, caring citizens and independent lifelong learners through a quality education within a safe and respectful environment.