



May 20, 2005

## Time to plan for the 2005-06 School Year

As the 2004-05 school year comes to a close, many educators are preparing for the start of school again next fall. As many of you are aware, Congress is also debating whether to continue the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities program (see below).

The Office of Management and Budget, which rated the SDFSC program ineffective, stated, "Existing program indicators use national surveys that don't measure youth crime and drug abuse at **State** and **local** levels."

The *No Child Left Behind Act*, Sec. 4115, requires that Local Education Agencies provide "an assessment of objective data regarding the incidence of violence and illegal drug use in the elementary schools and secondary schools and communities to be served."

Our Family of Surveys for grades 4-6, grades 6-12, faculty/staff, and parents allow LEA's to meet this requirement.

As you consider how you will meet the requirements of Sec. 4115, using survey instruments, here are some questions to consider:

1. Have the survey instruments you will use been tested for reliability and validity?
2. Do the instruments provide the information required by law?
3. Are the surveys easy to administer in less than one class period?
4. Will you receive your survey results in two weeks or less?
5. Will your results be delivered in an easy-to-read, easy-to-use format?
6. Will your data be comparable to national findings?
7. Does the survey process provide for student anonymity and non-discrimination?
8. Does the survey provider protect and archive your data?
9. Can you use your data to demonstrate that alcohol and drug use occurs mostly at night and on weekends, and not during school hours?
10. Does your survey provider have more than two decades of experience assisting more than 31,000 schools in the nation?

For more detailed information please review the [Pride Surveys Information Package](#).

**Tip:** Place your [order](#) today for surveys that you will administer during the next school year.

## SDFSC funding update

Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) has issued an update on efforts to keep alive the funding for SDFSC. You can read their update by [clicking here](#).