

"IT PAYS TO ASK...IT PAYS BACK"

Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS)

Throughout Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS) provides many benefits to school districts. As a low-cost solution to gathering information on student needs, the PAYS provides information critical to formulating plans administratively—increasing dollars entering school districts in the Commonwealth.

It PAYS to Ask:

- Premier survey tool: history of success since 1989 and utilized in over 500 PA secondary schools
- PAYS results provide critical student information regarding truancy, health areas, conflict and violence, bullying and cyber-bullying, and other areas for student assistance
- PAYS results include protective factors that highlight school and community strengths
- PAYS results are based on youth responses—giving youth voice a place in the school-community environment and eliciting community support
- Informs program planning based on risk factors—making the case for evidence-based prevention programs
- Easy to administer, cost effective, and timely reporting!

It PAYS Back:

Research suggests that implementing evidence-based prevention programs positively affects academic achievement.

- Increases potential for funding opportunities
- Increases competitive edge in funding applications
- Provides ongoing tracking of positive school-wide/climate change
- Builds consensus
- Helps administrators make informed decisions through a data driven approach to proactive planning/resource development

It PAYS to Act: next steps to access PAYS information

- Visit www.pays.state.pa.us for more information and to view the survey
- Contact the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention: Geoff Kolchin (717) 265-8483 or gkolchin@state.pa.us