

Bussing Survey

BHCW TEAM <team@bhcw.io>

Thu 11/30/2023 3:37 PM

To: apenna@bhpsnj.org <apenna@bhpsnj.org>; dkhanna@bhpsnj.org <dkhanna@bhpsnj.org>; gbradford@bhpsnj.org <gbradford@bhpsnj.org>; jhyman@bhpsnj.org <jhyman@bhpsnj.org>; pstanley@bhpsnj.org <pstanley@bhpsnj.org>; rcianciulli@bhpsnj.org <rcianciulli@bhpsnj.org>; tforegger@bhpsnj.org <tforegger@bhpsnj.org>; jyoung@bhpsnj.org <jyoung@bhpsnj.org>; mvarley@bhpsnj.org <mvarley@bhpsnj.org>
Cc: Sai Bhargavi Akiri <saibhargaviakiri@gmail.com> <saibhargaviakiri@gmail.com>; Natasha Joly <npogrebi@gmail.com> <npogrebi@gmail.com>

Good afternoon!

I hope this email finds you well. The purpose of this communication is to inquire about the recent bussing transportation survey sent to students in the district. It has come to our attention that this survey was;

1. Not announced or made public;
2. Provided only to students;
3. Subject area was regarding bussing.

I have highlighted our district policy regarding surveys and the unethical nature of sending surveys to students in an effort to collect data without parental consent or ensuring every student was aware he or she could opt out of the survey.

Would you please share the survey sent to students with me?

Would you please share how the cohort of students surveyed was selected?

Would you please also share the purpose of the survey and if the plans of the district are to use the skewed data, regarding transportation, collected by minor students, to drive any decision-making regarding bussing.

I would also like to understand the decision making process for student surveys; who is writing, approving and administering them?

If any of the information herein was misunderstood, I welcome clarity on this bussing survey.

P 2415 Every Student Succeeds Act
Student Surveys, Analysis, and/or evaluations

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) applies to school districts that receive Federal funding from the United States Department of Education. The district will comply with the requirements as outlined in Policy 2415.05 - Student Surveys, Analysis and/or Evaluations in accordance with the PPRA.

P 2415.05 Student Surveys, Analysts, Evaluations, Examinations, Testing or Treatment
The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) applies to school districts that receive funding from the United States Department of Education (USDOE). The PPRA requires written consent from parents or the emancipated student the opportunity to opt out of participation in a survey, analysis, evaluation, examination, testing, or treatment funded in whole or in part by a program of the United States Department of Education.

Thank you,
Laura



Juskiewicz, Anthony <ajuskiewicz@bhpsnj.org>



To: BHCW TEAM

Thu 11/30/2023 7:07 PM

Cc: Dr. Melissa Varley <mvarley@bhpsnj.org>; Angela Penna <apenna@bhpsnj.org>

Laura, I investigated the information that was sent below and the District did not send out a bussing survey to students. If there was a bussing survey can you kindly forward the email that the survey was contained in so that we may view the survey and determine the origin and what and the information contained in it.

Thank you and have a good evening.

Re: Bussing Survey

BHCW TEAM <team@bhcw.io>

Thu 11/30/2023 8:28 PM

To: Juszkiewicz, Anthony <ajuszkiewicz@bhpsnj.org>

Cc: dkhanna@bhpsnj.org <dkhanna@bhpsnj.org>; gbradford@bhpsnj.org <gbradford@bhpsnj.org>; jhyman@bhpsnj.org <jhyman@bhpsnj.org>; jyoung@bhpsnj.org <jyoung@bhpsnj.org>; pstanley@bhpsnj.org <pstanley@bhpsnj.org>; Sai Bhargavi Akiri <saibhargaviakiri@gmail.com> <saibhargaviakiri@gmail.com>; tforegger@bhpsnj.org <tforegger@bhpsnj.org>; Natasha Joly <npogrebi@gmail.com> <npogrebi@gmail.com>; rcianciulli@bhpsnj.org <rcianciulli@bhpsnj.org>; Dr. Melissa Varley <mvarley@bhpsnj.org>; Angela Penna <apenna@bhpsnj.org>

Thank you for your response and looking into this.

Survey was titled "Travel to School"

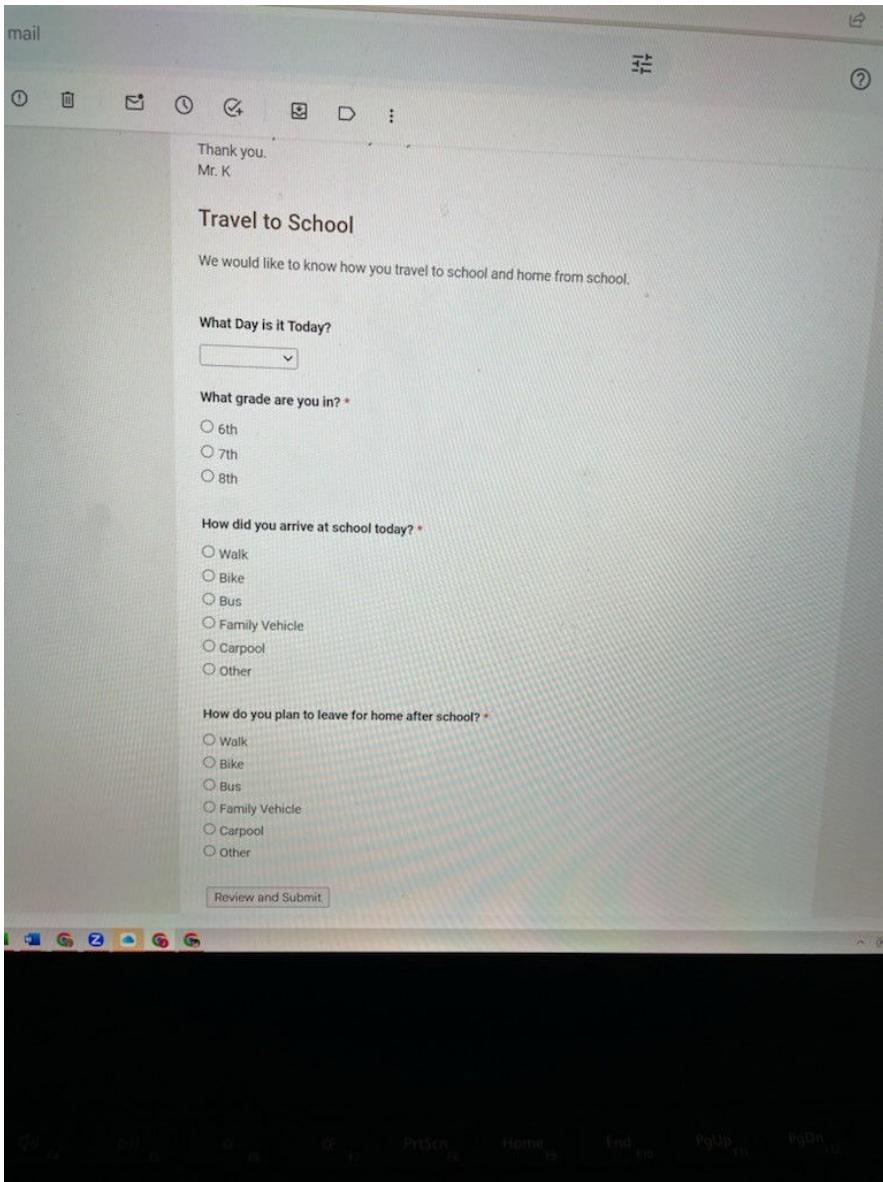
Survey was sent from pkobliska@bhpsnj.org

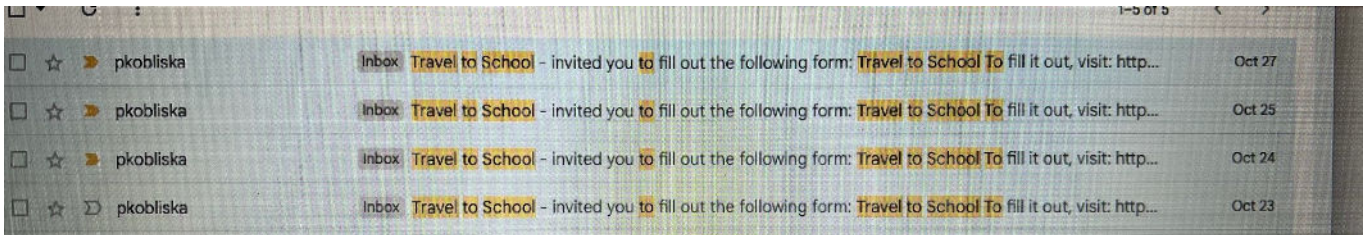
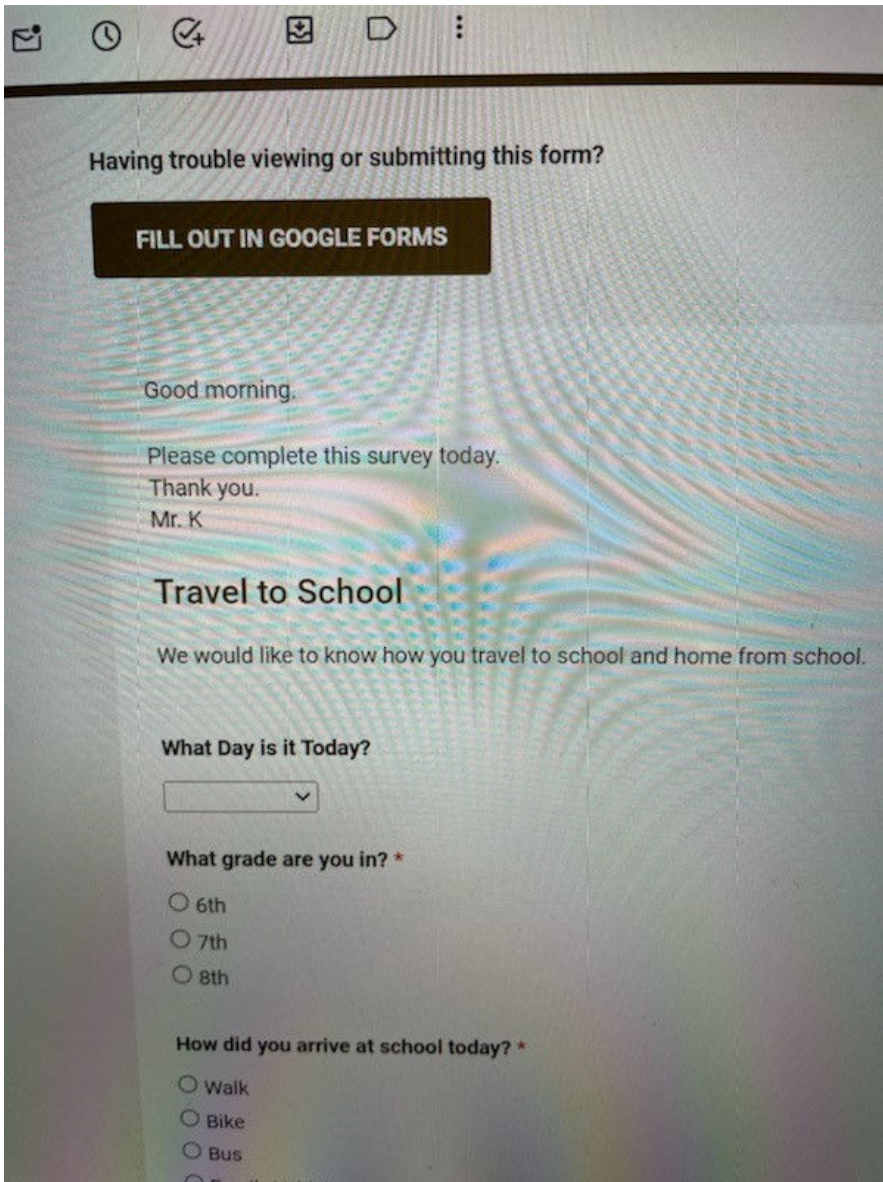
Survey was sent to students on 10/24, 10/25, 10/26 and 10/27

Through my own investigating and talking to multiple parents, I learned that this survey was not specific to bussing, but travel in general. I am somewhat surprised to hear that not a single administrator had any idea about this survey that was sent to students at CMS and what I can only certain was data collected as a result of it being sent to students.

While I do not know the specific reasoning behind the survey being sent (I can, however, speculate it was at the request of the township to fulfill needed data to submit a grant for a Mountain Avenue sidewalk project, as the timeline matches up), it doesn't change the fact that our students were surveyed and data as collected from this survey and submitted to...??? This is not a practice that is acceptable to parents, the NJ DOE or the US DOE.

Please let me know why this data was collected and who it was provided to.





Laura

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[Berkeley Heights Community Watch](#)



Varley, Dr. Melissa <mvarley@bhpsnj.org>



To: BHCW TEAM

Fri 12/1/2023 7:27 AM

Cc: Juskiewicz, Anthony <ajuskiewicz@bhpsnj.org>; dkhanna@bhpsnj.org; gbradford@bhpsnj.org; jhyman@bhpsnj.org; jyoung@bhpsnj.org; pstanley@bhpsnj.org; **+5 others**

This survey is sent each year with our partnership with the town and their quest to receive a Safe Routes To School Grant. I do believe, Ms. Kapusinski, that you are on that committee for the PTO.

Thanks,

Melissa Varley

1/1

Re: Bussing Survey

BHCW TEAM <team@bhcw.io>

Fri 12/1/2023 8:36 AM

To: Varley, Dr. Melissa <mvarley@bhpsnj.org>

Cc: Juskiwicz, Anthony <ajuskiwicz@bhpsnj.org>; dkhanna@bhpsnj.org <dkhanna@bhpsnj.org>; gbradford@bhpsnj.org <gbradford@bhpsnj.org>; jhyman@bhpsnj.org <jhyman@bhpsnj.org>; jyoung@bhpsnj.org <jyoung@bhpsnj.org>; pstanley@bhpsnj.org <pstanley@bhpsnj.org>; Sai Bhargavi Akiri <saibhargaviakiri@gmail.com> <saibhargaviakiri@gmail.com>; tforegger@bhpsnj.org <tforegger@bhpsnj.org>; Natasha Joly <npogrebi@gmail.com> <npogrebi@gmail.com>; rcianciulli@bhpsnj.org <rcianciulli@bhpsnj.org>; Angela Penna <apenna@bhpsnj.org>

Good Morning Dr. Varley,

Thank you for your reply. I was not on the Committee- I was the District Representative. Even if I were on the committee "You should have known" is not a response to my question - isn't the fact that I didn't know more concerning?

Let me repeat the questions I asked again:

Would you please share the survey sent to students with me?

Would you please share how the cohort of students surveyed was selected?

Would you please also share the purpose of the survey and if the plans of the district are to use the skewed data, regarding transportation, collected by minor students, to drive any decision-making regarding bussing.

I would also like to understand the decision making process for student surveys; who is writing, approving and administering them?

And lastly,

Please let me know why this data was collected and who it was provided to, specifically- this year.

And again, for your reference:

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Thank You.

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Varley, Dr. Melissa <mvarley@bhpsnj.org>



To: BHCW TEAM

Fri 12/1/2023 8:41 AM

Cc: Juskievicz, Anthony <ajuskievicz@bhpsnj.org>; dkhanna@bhpsnj.org; gbradford@bhpsnj.org; jhyman@bhpsnj.org; jyoung@bhpsnj.org; pstanley@bhpsnj.org; **+7 others**

Due to the fact that _____ work closely with the PTO and the Town to create this survey, I will direct your questions to them. This is not a new survey, this is a survey we send out each year to work with the town on the Safe Routes to School Grant.

I've attached them both to this email.



Re: Bussing Survey

BHCW TEAM <team@bhcw.io>

Fri 12/1/2023 9:33 AM

To: Varley, Dr. Melissa <mvarley@bhpsnj.org>

Cc: Juskiwicz, Anthony <ajuskiwicz@bhpsnj.org>; dkhanna@bhpsnj.org <dkhanna@bhpsnj.org>; gbradford@bhpsnj.org <gbradford@bhpsnj.org>; jhyman@bhpsnj.org <jhyman@bhpsnj.org>; jyoung@bhpsnj.org <jyoung@bhpsnj.org>; pstanley@bhpsnj.org <pstanley@bhpsnj.org>; Sai Bhargavi Akiri <saibhargaviakiri@gmail.com> <saibhargaviakiri@gmail.com>; tforegger@bhpsnj.org <tforegger@bhpsnj.org>; Natasha Joly <npogrebi@gmail.com> <npogrebi@gmail.com>; rcianciulli@bhpsnj.org <rcianciulli@bhpsnj.org>; Angela Penna <apenna@bhpsnj.org>;

Dr. Varley,

This conversation is again going in circles.

I did not ask who created the survey - my questions connect to aspects of its distribution. As this was, to my knowledge, distributed in CMS I am not clear as to how or would know the answers.

The question is why the District sent this without parental consent per our district policy and the guidelines set forth by the New Jersey Department of Education and the United States Department of Education.

This is a question for you to answer. It is not my job to ensure that the District complies with laws on essential matters connected to how it obtains students' personal information. This is something I assume you would be aware of as Superintendent. Can you please provide me answers to my questions.

Would you please share the survey sent to students with me?

Would you please share how the cohort of students surveyed was selected?

Would you please also share the purpose of the survey and if the plans of the district are to use the skewed data, regarding transportation, collected by minor students, to drive any decision-making regarding bussing.

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