

September 14, 2007

Dear BHS Community Member:

Thanks to your outstanding support over the years, Bloomfield Hills Schools has been pleased to offer students in preschool through high school comprehensive education at its finest. Our academic, athletic, and fine and performing arts programs are among the best in the nation, and we are proud that our graduates build successful lives based on a foundation of scholarship, citizenship, service and integrity.

As you may be aware, an historic change to the way Michigan's public school districts are funded occurred when voters approved 1994's Proposal A. Since that time, our operating revenue has been dependent on enrollment rather than a locally-voted millage. Our student count determines our per pupil funding from Lansing, which in turn determines the level of services that we provide in the classroom and beyond.

Considering this and Michigan's unsettled employment climate, it is imperative for future District-wide planning that we take additional steps to accurately predict our future enrollment. Our plan is to conduct a census of every District household during September and October via an online survey, mailed survey, and neighborhood visits by trained school district volunteers. Census-takers will record only children's ages and future enrollment intentions, not other personal data. The volunteers will visit households after we have been unable to get this important information by other means.

Please take a few moments to complete our online survey at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=2boGRnD21KKVxjqo7q7Y0xg_3d_3d

In addition, please forward this e-mail to your friends and neighbors who live in the District to invite them to complete the survey. If you are interested in volunteering as a census-taker, please share your contact information where indicated on the survey.

Thank you for your time. We appreciate your effort to support our District and our greater community in this most important endeavor.

Sincerely,

Mary Ellen Miller
President
Bloomfield Hills Schools Board of Education