



# Ware Junior Senior High School

237 West Street, Ware, Massachusetts 01082  
Tel. 413-967-6234—Fax. 413-967-9053

A member of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges

Mr. Darren C. Elwell, M.S.Ed.  
Principal

Mr. Erik A. Liljegren, M.Ed.  
Assistant Principal

February 10, 2015

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Strategic Planning Initiative for Families and Youth (SPIFFY), a Hampshire County coalition focused on youth and family well-being, is conducting the Prevention Needs Assessment (PNA) Survey at Ware Junior Senior High School on March 10th. Eighth, tenth, and twelfth graders are surveyed every two years in school districts across Hampshire County. The PNA survey measures alcohol, tobacco, and drug use; a variety of factors that place students at-risk for problematic behaviors, as well as factors that protect students from problem behaviors. High school students will be administered the survey during advisory, and eighth grade students will be administered the survey during specials.

The purpose of the survey is to gather the information needed to plan important prevention and intervention programs to combat such problems as alcohol, drug use, and violence in our schools and communities. It will also help us judge the effectiveness of our current prevention and intervention efforts. The school has a copy of the survey instrument in the main office, if you wish to stop by and review it.

The survey is entirely anonymous. Students will not put their names or any other identifying information on the survey booklet. All results from the survey will be presented only in a school-wide summary report.

Additionally, your child's participation in the survey is completely voluntary. Each child will be given the option of leaving blank any question that he or she prefers not to answer. You may decline to have your child participate, if you wish.

The survey is being conducted by SPIFFY under contract with Bach Harrison L.L.C., 116 S 500 E, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84102, a nationally known research firm. If you have any questions regarding the study, please contact Catherine Brooks at SPIFFY at (413) 586-4900, extension 118 or [cbrooks@collaborative.org](mailto:cbrooks@collaborative.org).

Please let me know in writing by February 27th only if you do not wish your son or daughter to participate in the survey. Please feel free to contact the school should you have any other questions about this important study.

Sincerely,

Darren C. Elwell, M.S.Ed.  
Principal

Ware Junior / Senior High School Mission Statement

**Ware Junior / Senior High School strives to provide a safe, supportive environment of mutual respect where students can achieve academic success and develop into responsible, self-sufficient, open-minded participants in a global society.**

Adopted October 20, 2004