FRANK WARD STRONG MIDDLE SCHOOL P.O. Box 435, 191 MAIN STREET DURHAM, CT 06422 Office 349-7222 Guidance 349-7255 Fax 349-7225

"Strong Students Shape Tomorrow"

October 8, 2015

Dear Parent or Guardian:

On October 29, 2015, our school will conduct a follow-up study on the needs, attitudes and behaviors of our students. The survey has been completed every two years since 2007 and is being sponsored by the Durham Middlefield Local Wellness Coalition and RSD13.

The survey is *Search Institute Profiles of Student Life: Attitudes and Behaviors.* It will provide our schools and community with a wide range of information, such as how students spend their time, their perceptions of school and community life and their participation in a wide range of risky behaviors; including, drug and alcohol use, sexual activity, and suicide. The survey will tell us the extent to which our students are experiencing Developmental Assets. Developmental Assets are the building blocks of positive relationships, opportunities, skills and values that young people need to grow into healthy caring and responsible adults. The survey results will help us identify gaps in programs and will zone in on what we need to provide students with to ultimately help them become successful adults.

Additional Information:

- > Students will complete the survey during their respective social studies classes.
- > The surveys are completed anonymously and will be taken on-line.
- > No one at our school will review any of the completed surveys.
- The final report will present findings by the total group, by grade and by gender. No individual student data are reported.
- > Students are told that their participation is voluntary and that they may skip items if they so choose.
- The survey is not a test they take for school grades, and their grades will not be affected if they choose not to participate. Non-participating students will be asked to study quietly at their desk.

Please give serious consideration for your child to participate in this study. A copy of the survey is available for your review in the main office between 8:00AM and 3:00PM. The value of a study of this kind depends upon the participation of every student.

If you do not want your child to participate, you must return the form at the bottom of this letter by Friday, October 23, 2015 to Mrs. Toth in the Strong School main office. If no form is received, your child will be asked to participate in the study.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Stephanie Moran at DMLWC at (860) 349-0258.

Sincerely,

Scott Sadinsky, Principal

Please withdraw my child from participation in the Attitudes and Behaviors survey.

Child's Name (please print):

Grade: _____

Parent's Signature:

Date: