# Superintendent’s Memo #270-19


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: November 15, 2019

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction

## SUBJECT: 2020 Virginia Secondary School Climate Survey

The 2020 Virginia Secondary School Climate Survey will be administered in grades 9-12 between February 3, 2020, and March 27, 2020, by the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety (VCSCS) at the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). In accordance with [§22.1-279.8.B](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title22.1/chapter14/section22.1-279.8/) of the *Virginia Code*, the Secondary School Climate Survey is a required component of the School Safety Audit. The survey measures student and staff perceptions of school rules and discipline, teacher-student relationships, student engagement in school, and the extent of bullying and teasing at school.

The principal of schools required to participate in the 2020 Secondary School Climate Survey process will receive an email with further instructions from the DCJS in November. After the 2020 process is complete, participating schools will receive a detailed report of survey results and will be able to compare their results to regional and state averages.

Technical information on survey results and interpretation will be made available with the assistance of researchers from the University of Virginia (UVA). The results of past Secondary School Climate Reports may be accessed at the [DCJS](https://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/virginia-center-school-and-campus-safety/school-safety-survey/secondary-school-climate-survey/results) web page.

Questions may be directed to the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety contacts, Nikki Wilcox, by email at Nikki.Wilcox@dcjs.virginia.gov, or by telephone at (804) 786-3923 or Shellie Evers, by email at Shellie.Evers@dcjs.virginia.gov, or by telephone at (804) 629-7042.

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