

Dear Parents:

As part of a required school health examination, a student is weighed and his/her height is measured. These numbers are used to figure out the student's body mass index or 'BMI'. The BMI helps the doctor know if the student's weight is in a healthy range or is too high or too low. Recent changes to the New York State Education Law require that BMI and weight status group be included as part of the student's school health examination. A sample of school districts will be selected to take part in a survey by the New York State Department of Health. If our school is selected to be part of the survey, we will be reporting to the NYS Department of Health information about our students' weight status groups. Only summary information is sent. No names and no information about individual students are sent. Although the information sent to the NYS Department of Health will help health officials develop programs that make it easier for children to be healthier, you may choose to have your child's information excluded from this survey report.

If you do not wish to have your child's weight status group information included as part of the Health Department's survey for the current school year, please sign your name below and return this form to the Wheeler Health Office.

You child's pediatrician or family practice physician has been informed by the NYS Department of Health regarding this new mandate. The necessary BMI information is included on the Onondaga Central Schools Health Certificate/Appraisal Form, which is enclosed for your convenience. Please have the physician complete this form when your child has his/her physical exam.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please feel free to call Robin Larkin, Wheeler School Nurse @ 552-5052.

Detach and return to the Wheeler Health Office

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Please DO NOT include my child's weight status information in the BMI School Survey.

Child's Name _____

Parent Signature _____