



HUNTINGTON BEACH CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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The Early Development Index (EDI) Project *Tracking Children's Early Development in Your Community* **PARENT INFORMATION SHEET**

January 2019

The Huntington Beach City School District, in partnership with the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities, is participating in the Early Development Index (EDI) Project in your child's school to collect information about children's healthy development. This information will be used in your school district and community to improve services for young children and their families.

What will take place? This academic year, your child's teacher will complete a questionnaire called the Early Development Index (EDI) on each child in his/her class to describe five key areas of development: 1) physical health and well-being; 2) social knowledge and competence; 3) emotional health and maturity; 4) language and cognitive development; and 5) general knowledge and communication skills.

Confidentiality. EDI results will not be interpreted to identify an individual child. Rather, EDI results will only report on groups of children for the purposes of improving community conditions. For instance, results may describe children's developmental strengths and needs within a neighborhood or a school. Children's names are not collected. Information such as student's identification number, gender, date of birth, zip code and academic scores from later standardized tests may be linked with the EDI to help researchers understand the factors that affect children's success in school over time.

Information from the EDI will be sent to researchers at the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities who have been contracted to analyze the results. UCLA will share the information with the school district and with the publisher of the EDI at McMaster University in order to compare EDI results on groups of children in the US to other countries. All information related to the EDI will be locked in confidential storage and will only be available to authorized researchers.

Are there any benefits or risks to you or your child? Although there will be no direct benefit to your child, we feel that this research may answer questions about why children in some areas are doing better or worse than others in terms of their early development. We hope that the results of the study will bring about changes in communities where there is a need to improve conditions for families with young children. Teachers will be compensated for the time they are working on this project. There will be no other benefit to UCLA or the school beyond the professional benefit from academic achievement or presentation of the results.

Who do I contact if I have questions or concerns about the EDI project? Your decision whether or not to participate is completely voluntary and will not adversely affect your relationship with your child's teacher or school. If you have questions for your school district or would like to request that an EDI not be completed on your child, please contact your child's teacher or call Carolyn Wertheim, Director of Early Childhood Education at (714) 962-3348 x2335 or cwertheim@hbcusd.us.

If you wish to contact UCLA for questions or concerns, please call the Office of the Human Research Protection Program at (310) 825-7122 or write to Office of the Human Research Protection Program, UCLA, 11000 Kinross Avenue, Suite 102, Box 951694, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1694.