# Confidentiality and Participant Rights

**Assurance of Confidentiality and Your Rights as a Research Participant:**

RAND will keep your personal information confidential. RAND will not, under any circumstances, release your name or email address to anyone.

De-identified data (information has been removed or altered to prevent disclosure of your identity) may be shared with qualified researchers at RAND and outside of RAND for purposes of research and reporting.

Your survey responses with your school’s federal identification (school ID) will be shared with our research partners and qualified researchers. Many researchers are interested in using ASLP data to understand the experiences of principals in different types of schools (such as urban and rural schools). To look at these patterns, responses must be linked to school ID. Although providing the school ID does not directly identify you, sharing your survey responses with your school’s ID number increases the risk that you could be personally identified in the data. Because of this risk, we take several steps to keep your personal information confidential. Users who receive school ID must complete a Data Use Agreement. This is a formal contract between the researcher and RAND that requires recipients to keep survey responses confidential and prohibits researchers from attempting to identify any principal. We also keep your personal information separate from your survey responses, restrict access to your personal information to only the RAND staff who need this information, and transfer data using secure methods.

We take your privacy seriously. RAND will keep all your personal information confidential.

You will never be personally identifiable in any reports. Your answers will be combined with answers from other survey participants and reported as aggregated statistics, totals, and averages.

Your participation in the RAND American School Leader Panel is voluntary.

You may skip any question you do not want to answer.

You do not have to participate in every survey you are invited to take. You may decide not to complete a survey and remain in the panel to complete future surveys; however, persistent survey non-participation may lead to removal from the panel.

The introduction to each survey will let you know what the survey is about, approximately how long it will take to complete, and the amount you will receive for completing the survey.