

# UNIVERSAL SCREENING 2022

## PARENT OPT-OUT LETTER



Date: September 20, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Duval County Public Schools are committed to improving the culture and climate of our schools and supporting the whole child. One way we are addressing the whole child is by looking at student strengths and areas of concern for academic, social, and behavioral well-being.

As mandated by the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act - your child will participate in universal screening (Behavioral Intervention Monitoring Assessment System: BIMAS-2) to identify student needs, provide prevention and/or positive supports and intervention. The survey will be administered in the **Fall** (October) to help support students. The students in grades 6 and 9 will complete a brief (34-item) survey that will help schools identify students who may be at risk to develop academic or other school-related concerns. This survey will also help promote well-being for all students.

**If you would prefer that your child not participate in the universal screening, please complete and sign the portion below, and return this form to the school by Friday, September 30, 2022.**

If you have any questions please contact our Director of School Behavioral Health, Katrina Taylor, at [eunicek@duvalschools.org](mailto:eunicek@duvalschools.org) or at (904) 390-2926. A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) about the BIMAS is included on the back of this letter.

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I have read the above statement and request that my child **OPT-OUT** of the universal screening.

Child's Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this form to your child's teacher only if you do not want your child to participate in this universal screening.**

## Why implement a universal screener?


Research studies show a strong link between a child's academic and behavioral wellness and his or her academic performance (Gutman, Sameroff, & Cole, 2003). A universal screening tool will help to identify student's academic and behavioral strengths and weaknesses. Identifying these areas of functioning through screening can allow for early prevention and intervention thereby promoting student success.

## Who will complete the forms and how long does it take?

The BIMAS (Behavior Intervention Monitoring Assessment System) will be completed by students in 6th & 9th grade. Student self-report forms are estimated to take 10-15 minutes to complete.

## What kinds of questions are asked?

The BIMAS (Behavior Intervention Monitoring Assessment System) is an instrument designed to assist school personnel in determining the academic and behavioral strengths and weaknesses of students. The measure consists of items relating to four domains of academic and behavioral functioning including adaptive skills, externalizing problems, internalizing problems, and school problems. Below is a copy of the student self-report BIMAS instrument form:



**Self-Report**  
**(Ages 12 - 18)**

Shade choice like this:

Not like this:

James L. McDougal, Psy.D., Achilles N. Bardos, Ph.D., & Scott T. Meier, Ph.D.

**Rating:**  
During the past week, I...

= Never (0 times)  
 = Rarely (Occurred 1-2 times or to a minimal extent)  
 = Sometimes (Occurred 3-4 times or to a moderate extent)  
 = Often (Occurred 5-6 times or to a significant extent)  
 = Very Often (Occurred 7 or more times or to an extreme extent)

During the past week, I...	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Very Often
1. shared my thoughts with others.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. felt angry.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. had trouble paying attention.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. followed directions.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. felt sleepy or tired.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. was impulsive.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. communicated clearly with others.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. was depressed.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. did something risky.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. had problems staying on task.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11. maintained friendships.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12. was sad or withdrawn.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
13. fought with others (verbally, physically, or both).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
14. acted without thinking.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
15. felt relaxed interacting with others.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
16. was easily embarrassed or felt ashamed.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
17. lied or cheated.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
18. had trouble remembering things.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
19. was friendly with others.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
20. was anxious (worried or nervous).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
21. lost my temper when I was upset.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
22. had trouble with organizing and planning.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
23. worked out problems with others.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
24. had thoughts of hurting myself.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
25. threatened or bullied others.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
26. received failing grades at school.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
27. felt emotional or upset.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
28. fidgeted.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
29. used alcohol and/or drugs.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
30. tried my hardest when it came to school/work.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
31. was sent to an authority for discipline.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
32. smoked or chewed tobacco.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
33. went prepared to class.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
34. was absent from school.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Thank you for completing this questionnaire. Please make sure you have answered every item.

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If you have further questions please contact School Behavioral Health Director, Katrina Taylor, at [unicek@duvalschools.org](mailto:unicek@duvalschools.org) or 904-390-2926