

## **BIMAS-2 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **What is the BiMAS-2/Behavioral Health Universal Screener?**

We're using the research-based screening tool **Behavior Intervention Monitoring Assessment System-2, or BIMAS-2** (pronounced BYE-mahs two).

It is a tool used to help identify students who are at risk of future academic, behavioral, or emotional difficulties. Just like some students benefit from additional academic supports and interventions, we know some students would benefit from additional support to strengthen their behavioral, social, and emotional skills.

### **Who completes the Screener?**

Depending on the age/grade of the student, there is a "teacher report" and a "student report". Grades K-7 will have a Teacher Report, grades 8-12 will have a student report.

### **How does it work?**

Students or their homeroom teachers complete a 1-page questionnaire about students' actions and emotions observed in class during a one-week time period.

School staff will use the screening results and data to identify students who may benefit from additional social and emotional support.

The data will also be used to look at patterns of needs and strengths to analyze and evaluate which school initiatives and programs are effective and identify opportunities for improvement.

### **Why are we using a screener?**

This screener can help us identify students who are at risk of future academic, behavioral, or emotional difficulties so that we can provide them additional support to strengthen their behavioral, social, and emotional skills. Doing this allows teachers and students to spend more of their time and energy focused on classroom instruction and academic performance, offering students support as needed. The tool also allows us to monitor and track students' behavioral health over time, looking for any changes that could be a concern.

### **How and where is the data stored?**

The confidential screening results are stored on a secure server designated only for RHS universal screener data.

### **What type of questions are on the screener?**

- During the past week, this student shared what they were thinking about.
- During the past week, this student had trouble paying attention.
- During the past week, this student followed directions.
- During the past week, this student acted sad or withdrawn.

For each question, the rater will answer "never," "rarely," "sometimes," "often," or "very often."

BIMAS2 Questions: <https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:be26f3ff-bfa8-399b-a5ed-0f5c5190c3af>

**Do all students have to participate in the BIMAS -2 screener?**

No. Participation in the behavior universal screener is voluntary and parents are given at least one week notification to opt their student out of the universal screening.

**Can parents receive the results of their student(s) BIMAS Screening?**

Yes. Although the District does not send the reports home, any parent can call the school and make an appointment with the School Counselor, Dean of Students or administration to review the results of the BIMAS for their student. This can be accomplished virtually or face to face.

For further information, please contact Dr. Nancy Turner, Director of Behavioral & Mental Health Services -803-981-1397

**Can I delete a student rating after I have submitted it in the screening window?**

**YES.** To correct some of the responses for teachers who wish to rescore you will need to:

1. reopen the screening window for a few days
2. Open each of the student records you want rescored...scroll all the way to the end of the form and press discard.
3. Then ask the teachers to log in again, these students will show as unscored.

Here is how to do it.. [https://youtu.be/V\\_smOxLF5gM](https://youtu.be/V_smOxLF5gM)