

Information: Fulton Mental Health Screening 2016-2017

The Fulton Public School's District School Mental Health Team will be conducting a voluntary district-wide mental health screening this fall. **The purpose of the screening is to identify social-emotional supports to help all Fulton students be successful.** This screening is being supported by the Shared Services for School Mental Health (S3MH) Project funded by the Missouri Foundation for Health. All information collected through the screening will be kept confidential. Screening tools are not diagnostic. Rather, screening data will be used to identify students who may benefit from additional assessment or supports for emotional or behavioral problems. As part of the screening process, teachers in all buildings will complete a brief assessment of students' social, academic, and emotional behavior. Students in the middle and high school will also complete a brief behavioral self-assessment. Participation in the screening is completely voluntary: parents or guardians may notify their building administrator if they do not want their child to participate, and middle/ high school students can also opt out themselves.

Why screen? Fulton School District is committed to helping all students be successful at school. The district already provides a variety of emotional and behavioral supports. Conducting a social-emotional screening gives Fulton School District one more tool to best serve young people in this community. Screening data can help identify students who may need additional help and allows for earlier identification of possible problems. The screening also provides a snapshot of current social-emotional needs in the district to inform ongoing improvement efforts.

What screeners will be used? Teachers in all buildings will complete the Social, Academic, and Emotional Behavior Risk Screener (SAEBERS) for students in their classroom. Teachers at Fulton Education Center will complete the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA) for FPS preschool students in their classroom. Students in 5th – 12th grades may complete a self-report measure called the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ).

Is the screening mandatory? No. Parents/guardians can request for their child not to participate in the screening process. Middle and high school students can also opt out of completing the self-report tool.

When and where will the screening take place? Teachers will complete the screeners during regularly-scheduled, district professional development in October. Middle and high school students will complete the screener during a school day in October. Screeners will be completed online.

How long does the screening take? It is estimated that teachers will spend about 20-35 minutes completing the screening tool for students in their classroom. The self-report measure takes about 5 minutes for young people to complete.

How much does it cost? The screening will be completed at no cost to the Fulton School District with the support of the Shared Services for School Mental Health (S3MH) Project.

Where will the data be stored? Teachers and youth will complete the screeners online, so data from the screeners will also be saved in a secure file.

Who will have access to the results? Screening results will be used to identify Fulton students who may benefit from further assessment or supports. Technical assistance will be provided by trained staff supported through the S3MH Grant. School personnel, including teachers, school counselors, teachers, and/or staff, will have access to student data. Results will be de-identified and shared more broadly at the district level to inform ongoing planning and improvement efforts.