

Dear Parents/Guardians/Families,

The West Jefferson Middle School community works together to ensure high levels of learning for all. This includes attentiveness to academic growth while also recognizing the social and emotional growth of students is critically important. Current research indicates a direct connection between students' emotional well-being and their academic performance. We are dedicated to creating academic and social-emotional support linked directly to the assessed needs of our students. We now have the opportunity to systematically screen the social and emotional skills of all our students. We will be using the **Social Skills Improvement System™ Social-Emotional Learning Edition Screening/Progress Monitoring Scales (SSIS SEL)** to screen students' social-emotional competencies.

SSIS-SEL Information: The SSIS-SEL Edition Screening/Progress Monitoring Scales is a strength-based tool for screening and progress monitoring social and emotional competence. Teachers will be asked to score each student in their class in the six following areas: self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, responsible decision making, and motivation to learn.

How will the data be used? The screener and scoring information for individual students will remain at WJMS and all information will be kept confidential. The information acquired through the screener will guide our development of school-wide, small group, and/or individual social-emotional interventions. You will be notified if your child is invited to join a small group or individual intervention.

Need more information? We would be happy to provide a copy of the screener to you. If you have questions or concerns, you are welcome to contact:

- Melissa Shute (Social Emotional Learning Specialist) at Melissa.Shute@jeffco.k12.co.us

Prefer your child not be screened? Please respond by filling out the information below and return this form to Melissa Shute or the main office by September 16, 2022. You **do not** need to fill out and return this form if you are ok with your child being screened. If you opt your child out, this will not affect the relationship between the school and you and your child in any way.

_____ I will **opt out** of the SSIS-SEL screening for my child

Student Name (print first and last) _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Phone Number or Email: _____

NOTE: You do not need to fill out and return this form if you are ok with your child being screened