

Dear Parents,

The West Chester Area School District is committed to working with you not only to educate your children but also to ensure that they reach their full potential outside of the classroom. To this end, we are pleased to offer Behavioral Health Screening (BHS), a social/emotional wellness check-up, to 7th grade students at Peirce Middle School.

BHS focuses on awareness and intervention to better identify and support at-risk youth. During the screening, your child will use an online tool to answer a series of questions about feelings, behaviors, relationships, school, and safety. Children's Hospital of Philadelphia developed this evidence-based screening, which is voluntary and offered at no cost to you. Parental permission is required. All results will be kept confidential and stored separately from academic records. The results will not be posted on the District's website nor shared with your child's teachers.

The Middle School counselors, mental health therapist and an administrative team will be in charge of the process. Screenings will take place in-person, during school hours. Students who are learning remotely or participating in the cyber program must arrange to be at school during their scheduled screening time. We believe that BHS will help provide reassurance that your child is experiencing typical adolescent development. However, should the screening reveal any concerns, you will have the ability to obtain assistance for your child in the early stages of a developing issue.

There will be an information session for parents on Wednesday March 24th at 7:00 pm to share more about this screening tool. Interested parents can register at [Meeting Registration](#) to receive the Zoom link. If you would like your child to participate in this screening, please contact Stacy Myers, Mental Health Specialist at [smyers@wcasd.net](mailto:smyers@wcasd.net) or 484-266-2581 by Friday April 9, 2021. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Mr. Joseph DiAntonio

Principal