

Social-Emotional Universal Screeners, Grades 4-8

St. Ignatius Loyola School

At St. Ignatius, one of our Core Values lists *Focusing on the Whole Child* as something we strive for every day.

The social-emotional health of students is an important focus, recognized by the Ohio Department of Education, which recently adopted statewide social-emotional learning standards. Research has shown that addressing students' social and emotional needs has led to improved classroom behavior, better stress management, and gains in academic performance. One way we can measure student social-emotional needs is to complete a universal screener of students for their knowledge and growth in these skills, much like we do for academic skills.

As in previous years, we will be administering social/emotional screeners with grades 4-8. Information from these screeners will guide schoolwide SEL programming and assist in identifying students, classrooms, and grade levels with areas for intervention. This school year, we will be using the Panorama Social-Emotional Learning Survey. This survey will be completed multiple times throughout our school year to identify students in need of support and measure improvements in students' well-being. The Panorama Social-Emotional Learning Survey measures a student's SEL skills and competencies, supports and the environment, and overall well-being. Our hope is that this screener will provide us with helpful information to better support all students' social/emotional learning and development here at school.

Since this is a universal screener, all 4th-8th grade students will be included, unless you choose to exclude your child from the screener. **Permission/exclusion for the screener will be given while filling out the back-to-school forms through Alma.** If you choose not to participate, the universal SEL screener will not be completed for the student, and your child will not be penalized for not participating.

Your child's results will be shared with members of the school's social-emotional team. Classroom teachers will have access to the results of the students in their classroom for the purpose of intervention planning.

With student self-ratings, it is possible that sometimes children misunderstand questions or may have been having a bad day on the day the screener was completed. If your child's self-ratings identify any red flags on questions, the school's psychologists or counselors may meet with your child briefly for 5-10 minutes to gather additional information. You may not be contacted after these brief meetings unless there is an immediate concern. All parents will be provided with the results of their child's screening. If the results of the screener suggest that your child could benefit from additional support on these skills, we will contact you regarding interventions provided at St. Ignatius.

If you have any questions or concerns about this process, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Angie Heisel, Principal, or Mrs. Kelly Farkas, School Counselor. We are committed to helping each child do his/her best learning!

In Christ's Peace,

Angie Heisel

Principal