



Acknowledgement of 2022-23 Student Support Screenings and Surveys

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Student Support Services Department has the primary mission of providing resources to support the development of the whole child. Our efforts focus on meeting the physical, social, emotional, and social needs of our students throughout Coke County Schools.

Student Support Services consist of a multi-disciplinary team that manages the health and wellbeing of students in our school community. Each year the Tennessee Department of Education requires local school systems to screen and survey certain grade levels and document student perceptions of their school environment. Information gathered is compiled into district data, giving an overall view of student health and wellbeing. Below are descriptions of screenings and surveys that will be used to obtain this important data. Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with these.

Comprehensive Health Screenings: The screening process helps to identify problems that may affect a student's performance in the classroom. Health screenings may be conducted for blood pressure, height and weight in Kindergarten, 2nd, 4th, 6th, 8th, and one grade in high school. Please note that individual student health data is confidential and will NOT be seen or shared with others. These screenings do not qualify as an examination and parents are encouraged to ensure that each child has an annual medical checkup; it simply allows the District a picture of our student's overall health. **If you do not wish for your student to participate, please send a written note to your child's teacher within 14 days of receiving this form stating that you do not wish your child to participate in the health screenings. If you have any questions regarding the screenings, please contact Dottie Ford at 423-623-1528.**

School Climate Survey: The survey is sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Education as part of a larger initiative to enhance school support for students, increase school safety, and provide a positive learning environment. Monitoring student perceptions of their school environment and documenting needs and improvement in that environment are an important part of ensuring that school climate is improving. The hope is that this survey will become a valuable tool for improving the climate in Tennessee schools. Taking part in the survey is very important because the answers will help us learn what makes school a good place to be, and how we can make it better. It includes questions about student relationships with teachers, school principals, and other students; school safety, bullying, and substance use; and school rules and the school environment. The online survey will take about 15 minutes for the student to complete. Students may skip any question they do not want to answer or may stop taking the survey at any time. No individual-level data will be tracked. The survey is anonymous. A copy of the survey will be on file at the school beginning 2 weeks prior to administration. **If you do not wish for your student to participate, please send a written note to your child's teacher within 14 days of receiving this form stating that you do not wish your child to participate in the survey.**

Student Risk Screening Scale (SRSS): The SRSS is a behavior screening tool for identifying students with externalizing behaviors such as physical or verbal aggression, self-injury or disruptive behavior in the classroom; and internalizing behaviors such as anxiety, withdrawal or isolation that require additional supports. It is a brief, one page screening tool, which teachers use to rate students on a 0-3 Likert scale based on how often they display a target behavior and is given to all students to help identify which students are at risk for behavioral difficulties who may need intervention and support. It is a tool to ensure that all students have equal access to additional supports and interventions. **If you do not wish for your student to participate, please send a written note to your child's teacher within 14 days of receiving this form stating that you do not wish your child to participate in the SRSS.**

Core Measures Survey (CMS): The CMS is a survey assessing risk and protective factors related to substance use. It is a brief survey given to all students to help identify population-level data to effectively target prevention efforts. It is a tool designed to ensure anonymity of all students. **If you do not wish for your student to participate, please send a written note to your child's teacher within 14 days of receiving this form stating that you do not wish your child to participate in the CMS.**

We appreciate the opportunity to serve your child in the Coke County School System. If you have any questions about the screening or the surveys, please contact the Student Support Services Supervisor, Bryan Douglas, at 423-625-9768