

PIEDMONT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Dr. Donald Evans, Interim Superintendent
Dr. Cheryl Wozniak, Assistant Superintendent

DATE: October 26, 2022

RE: **SOCIAL EMOTIONAL HEALTH SCREENER**

PURPOSE: To present the fall social-emotional health screener data and report on the interventions being provided for students at risk

BACKGROUND:

Goal 1 in the District's Strategic Plan (LCAP) states: *All students and staff will feel physically safe and emotionally supported as part of a caring and inclusive community.* As one means of measuring this goal, PUSD administers the BASC-3 Behavioral and Emotional Screening System (BASC-3 BESS) as its universal screener for social-emotional health. A universal screener is an educational assessment tool used to determine the level of risk related to various challenges faced by students in K-12 settings and are administered between one and three times per year.

The BESS is research-based (valid and reliable), easy to administer (given online with instant results), and quick (average time per student is 15 minutes). It provides a systematic way to determine students' behavioral and emotional strengths and weaknesses. The student self-assessment form is available to students in grades 3-12. Parent and teacher forms are available for students in grades K-12 and will be used to collect additional information on an as-needed basis. Students are given an overall score (BERI T) that indicates how far their score is from the average of the norm group. Average BERI T score for the BESS is 50 with a standard deviation of 8--so the average range is 42-58 Classification ranges for the BERI score are as follows: Normal is 60 or lower, Elevated is 61-70, Highly Elevated is 71 or higher.

Students in grades 3-12 completed the BESS student self-assessment between September 12 and September 23, 2022. A breakdown of the data by grade level will be presented along with next steps being taken to support students who were in the at-risk categories.

FISCAL IMPACT

Cost of the BESS screener: \$2,160

ATTACHMENTS

[California's Multi-Tiered System of Support \(MTSS\)](#)- an integrated, comprehensive framework that aligns academic, behavioral, and social-emotional learning in a fully integrated system of support for the benefit of all students.

[CASEL Framework](#)- a set of guiding principles that addresses five broad and interrelated areas of competence and highlights examples for each: self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making