

# Shawsheen Valley Technical High School

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Internet Address: [www.shawsheentech.org](http://www.shawsheentech.org)

TONY MCINTOSH  
*Superintendent-Director*

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Dear Families,

In our continuing efforts to support the well-being of all our students, we will be administering a universal screener of social, emotional & behavioral health to our 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. Shawsheen will use the Behavior Intervention Monitoring Assessment System-2 (BIMAS-2) which is a research-based screening tool. We believe this will help all our students thrive academically and vocationally by identifying students who may benefit from additional social and emotional supports and interventions, much like some students benefit from additional academic supports and interventions. The BIMAS-2 is **not** a diagnostic tool.

Our universal mental health screening is tentatively scheduled to begin on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Students will access the screening tool through an online platform, and it should take no longer than 10 minutes to complete.

Examples of some of the questions include:

During the past week I had trouble organizing and planning.

During the past week I felt sleepy and tired.

During the past week I was depressed.

During the past week I shared my thoughts with others.

For each question, the student will answer "never," "rarely," "sometimes," "often," or "very often."

This information helps us to understand the needs of our 9<sup>th</sup> grade students and how we can best serve and support them. This will also provide us with data to help determine school-wide programs, interventions, and training needs for staff.

If you do not want your child screened, please complete the Opt-Out Form by clicking [here](#).

If you want your child included in the universal screening, no further action is required.

If you have questions or concerns and would like to discuss this letter further, please contact Jim Carlson, Director of Guidance, at (978) 671-3612.

Sincerely,



James Carlson

Director of Guidance