



# WAUSAU SCHOOL DISTRICT

Longfellow Administration Center

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415 Seymour Street • P.O. Box 359 • Wausau, Wisconsin 54402-0359 • 715-261-0500 • [www.wausauschools.org](http://www.wausauschools.org)  
*Dr. Keith W. Hiltz, Superintendent of Schools*

October 4th, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Wausau School District continues to create academic and social-emotional support systems linked directly to the needs of our students. This system, known as the Equitable Multi-Level Systems of Support (EMLSS), provides students with timely and targeted interventions based on the data-driven universal screening results.

Universal screening helps school staff to determine which students may need additional support. Some students may be identified as possibly needing more social-emotional or behavioral intervention. The primary purpose of universal screening is to refine and strengthen our efforts to help each student be successful by allowing us to take positive and preventative measures as early as possible.

The behavior health screening tool used by the District is the Behavioral Emotional Social Traits (b.e.s.t.) Universal Screener. This screener focuses on identifying externalizing and internalizing behaviors of students and matching universal screening interventions to each student's needs. The b.e.s.t. Universal Screener will be completed by all 4K-5th grade teachers in the fall and spring each year. After each screening window, your child's results will be available at school for your review.

Thank you for assisting the Wausau School District in building a system of student support. Family support will ensure that each student has the opportunity to receive the assistance they may need to achieve social-emotional success.

**If you prefer that your child not participate in the universal screening process, you may opt-out by contacting your building principal prior to October 14, 2022.**

Sincerely,

Cale Bushman  
Director of Pupil Services

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**It is the mission of the Wausau School District to advance student learning, achievement, and success.**