

**Laguna Beach Unified School District**  
**Social-Emotional Support Universal Screening K-3**  
**2018-2019**

**Parent/Guardian Information Overview**

**Student Risk Screening Scale (SRSS) Overview**

**Student Risk Screening Scale**

The Student Risk Screening Scale (SRSS) is a universal screening tool used two times per year to identify students who may be at risk for challenging behavior. The SRSS is conducted to better inform instruction. It is not used to exclude students from the instructional environment. Rather, it is used to select appropriate supports for students. The SRSS is not used independently to determine special education eligibility or make other high stakes decisions. The SRSS, like all universal screening tools, is not used to label students. The SRSS is not intended as an assessment of traits or personality. It is used as one of multiple data sources to indicate student risk.

Systems-level data allow educators to assess how well school systems and practices are meeting all students' social, emotional, and behavioral needs. Student-level SRSS scores assists educators to identify students who may need additional support. Schools want the best possible outcomes for all students. To accomplish this, schools provide supports to students early based on each student's need. Collecting information with the SRSS helps schools to allocate resources so students can be successful with social behavior, which improves opportunities for academic success. The screening data can be used in conjunction with other data collected as part of regular school practices to examine the overall level of risk in a building, inform teacher-level interventions to support increased engagement in instruction (e.g., incorporating the use of simple, effective strategies such as instructional choice and increasing students' opportunities to participate in instruction), as well to offer students extra assistance as needed (with parent permission).

The SRSS is a universal screener, which provides an estimated level of risk. The SRSS is completed by teachers for the purpose of providing better support to students. It is not a test for identifying psychological disorders or disorders of any type. As always, parent consent is required for students to participate in supplemental or follow-up interventions.

**Universal Screening and SRSS**

Universal screening is the systematic assessment of all students on academic and social-emotional indicators for the purpose of identifying students who are at-risk, and may require support that varies in terms of level, intensity and duration. Screening is a key

component of prevention efforts. This is similar to universal screening for vision and hearing. Numerous school districts across the country implement universal screening for academic and/or behavior. For example, in the area of reading, we use Curriculum-Based Measures (CBM), such as Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) as an academic screener.

Schools across the country are engaging in universal screening for behavior as a means to support prevention efforts by informing instruction and identifying students who may need additional supports to be successful in school. Early detection of students potentially at risk and connecting students with appropriate resources when needed has increasingly become a standard practice to enhance social-emotional well-being and reduce interfering social, emotional, and behavioral impacts in the school setting.

**SRSS Items**

The SRSS-Externalizing 7 (SRSS-E7 for elementary), the SRSS-Internalizing 5 (SRSS-I5 for elementary schools) consist of items that teachers use to rate their classroom of students based on the teacher’s current knowledge and observation of each individual student’s behavior.

**Table 1 SRSS Items**

SRSS Externalizing 7		SRSS Internalizing 5	
1.	Steal	1.	Emotionally flat
2.	Lie, cheat, sneak	2.	Shy; withdrawn
3.	Behavior problems	3.	Sad; depressed
4.	Peer rejection	4.	Anxious
5.	Low academic achievement	5.	Lonely
6.	Negative attitude		
7.	Aggressive behavior		

**SRSS Scoring**

Teachers rate the frequency with which students display the behaviors described on the SRSS. Scores are calculated to form one of three risk categories: **Low, Moderate, or High Risk.** **The Externalizing 7 and Internalizing 5 scores are used for interpretation of risk, NOT the individual item ratings.** The students and students’ families are not directly involved in the data collection. **Item-level data are not shared with others because overall scores are what predict risk, not individual item scores.**

**Training to Use the SRSS**

The SRSS is intended to be completed by teachers who have known the student for a minimum of 30 school days. A trained SRSS Coordinator is involved in helping school staff to understand the purpose of the SRSS, how to accurately complete student ratings, and interpret the results.

**Storing SRSS Data**

SRSS data is stored securely and kept confidential just like any other universal screening or student educational data. Only the classroom teacher, site administrator, school counselor, school psychologist, and district administrators have access to individual student records.

**SRSS Research**

The SRSS has demonstrated strong technical adequacy and has been shown to predict other student outcomes (attendance, discipline referrals, GPA, reading scores). Research on the SRSS is ongoing and the body of evidence continues to grow with respect to the technical and practical applications of the SRSS.

More information can be found here: [MIBLSI Website](#)

If you have further questions about the SRSS, please contact:

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