

Kimberly Odom  
Principal

Robert Hamm  
Assistant  
Principal

## Independence Elementary School

*Independence students possess a solid foundation for the next  
steps in their journey through life.*



May 2, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In our continuing efforts to support the well-being of all our students, teachers will be completing a universal assessment of behavioral health for all third through fifth grade students. The assessment consists of a brief rating scale that will be completed by each child's teachers. The universal assessment will help our teachers to understand the needs of all our students and to make effective plans at the grade level, class level, and individual level.

It is important that your child feels that academic learning is their focus at school and that the adults they work with each day are doing all they can to create a safe and supportive environment.

If you would like more information about the universal assessment, please call Dr. Nancy Turner, Director of Mental Health at 803-981-1397.

This assessment is optional, but we hope you will allow your child's teacher to complete it to help us gain additional insight into their needs. If you do not want an assessment completed on your child, please complete the Opt Out Form and return to your child's teacher.

Thank you,

Dr. Kimberly C. Odom, Ph.D

Independence Elementary

## **BIMAS Opt Out Form (Deadline to return: May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023)**

I understand that my child's school, Independence Elementary, will be completing a universal assessment of behavioral health to all students. I wish to not have an assessment completed for my child. I understand that by signing this form, my student will not be included in the school-wide assessments.

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name of parent / guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent / guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_