



# Mid-Carolina High School

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Mr. Ray Cooper  
Principal

Mrs. Tiffani G. Lyles  
Assistant Principal

Mr. Zeb Reid  
Assistant Principal

March 4, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians:

On May 18, 2018, Governor Henry McMaster signed into law Act 213, which directed districts to implement MTSS beginning in the 2019-20 school year. MTSS addresses the needs of the whole child – academically, behaviorally, socially, and emotionally – through a holistic and personalized system of learning that incorporates academics and social-emotional behavior into one framework.

The School District of Newberry County (SDNC) is committed to supporting all students' mental wellness and social and emotional learning (SEL). The SDNC uses a screener to review students' skills and experiences in these areas. Our staff will use the screener to identify strengths and needs for students in grades 3-12. The screener provides information regarding students' experiences and how staff can support their needs. SEL skills include self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision making. These factors are critical to positive academic, social, and emotional success.

Students are screened in the fall, winter, and spring. Students will reflect and report on their own skills and experiences in the areas of challenging feelings, growth mindset, social awareness, and supportive relationships. Screener data will only be accessible to administrators and staff with legitimate educational interests. Results will be maintained in secure files and databases accessible only to these individuals. Screener results will be used with other data to inform practices for SEL skill development and mental wellness. Screener data will also help staff plan interventions for students with identified needs.

Schools will set specific dates for testing in each class. If you do not want your student to take part in the mid-year SEL screener that will take place in the coming weeks, please return the opt-out form below to the school.

More information about SEL can be found on the SC Department of Education's SEL portal using this link: <https://sel.ed.sc.gov/>. Please contact your student's principal if you have additional questions.

## School District of Newberry County Social Emotional Learning Screener

### OPT-OUT REQUEST FORM

If you wish to opt your child out of participating in the SEL Screener, please complete this form and return it to the main office by **Wednesday, March 9, 2022**.

**PLEASE NOTE: You do not need to return this form unless you do not want your child to participate in the SEL screener this year.**

CHILD'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TEACHER \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_