

# Canon City Schools Behavioral Health

## **BIMAS-2 (Behavioral Intervention Monitoring & Assessment System, 2nd Edition) FAQs**

### **What is the BIMAS?**

The Behavioral Intervention Monitoring Assessment System, 2nd Edition (BIMAS-2) measures social, emotional, and behavioral functioning in children and adolescents ages 5 to 18 years. It includes 34 change-sensitive items used for universal screening and progress monitoring.

### **Why screen social, emotional & behavioral health?**

Research has established a clear link between a student's behavioral health and academic success. The BIMAS-2 screener can be employed as a brief screening tool to detect students needing further support and identify their strengths and needs. It also provides valuable information for instructional planning and educator professional development. The BIMAS-2 is also used to guide building-level teams in implementing a comprehensive, safe and positive school culture and climate.

### **Who completes the BIMAS-2?**

The BIMAS-2 can be completed by students (age 12 and up), teachers, parents/guardians, or other educators who support a student.

CCSD primarily utilizes the teacher ratings in elementary school and the student ratings in middle and high school. At the elementary level, the classroom teacher completes the BIMAS-2. At middle and high school levels, the school generally will have the homeroom or advisory teacher complete the screener.

### **How often is the BIMAS-2 completed?**

The BIMAS-2 is administered two times each year (fall and spring). The BIMAS-2 takes about 2-4 minutes per student to complete.

### **Do parents/guardians need to give permission for their child to be screened?**

Because the BIMAS-2 is a universal tool, much like a quick reading or vision screener, written parental/guardian permission is not required. Canon City Schools provides a parent/guardian with the option to opt out by notifying the building administrator or school counseling teams. The information is also included in the school handbook and is a routine part of the school assessment calendar.

### **How are parents/families informed about the BIMAS-2 screening?**

A parent/guardian informational and opt-out letter is sent home with the student in addition to an Infinite Campus call and email.

### **What happens once the student is screened?**

The screening results are reviewed with the school-based team dedicated to looking at whole-school data. Individual students are reviewed by the school counseling team and/or grade-level team. A problem-solving format is a mechanism to look at areas of concern, formulate hypotheses related to the area of concern, and design interventions. If a student is identified as needing intervention, parents are notified. This process is informed with an equity lens, ensuring that teams are culturally sensitive and developmentally appropriate.

### **Throughout the process, there must be a reflection on the cultural proficiency of solutions generated by asking:**

- Do the strategies address students most in need of attention?
- Are they likely to result in closing achievement gaps?
- Do the strategies harm or neglect any group of students?

- Would the students and their parents/caregivers in our school agree?

**What are the scales of the BIMAS-2, and what do they measure?**

Three Behavioral Concern Scales measure risk factors. For these scales, we want the score to be low, indicating a low level of risk.

Conduct	Externalizing concerns such as anger management, bully, substance use
Negative Affect	Internalizing concerns such as anxiety, depression, withdrawal, and thoughts of hurting self
Cognitive/Attention	Concerns around attention, focus, organization, planning, and memory

Two Adaptive Scales measure preventative factors. For these scales, we want the score to be high, indicating highly developed social, emotional, and behavioral skills.

Social	Maintaining friendships, communication skills, self-advocacy
Academic Functioning	Academic performance, attendance, and following directions

The BIMAS-2 also provides the FIVE scores aligned with each of the [CASEL Competencies](#).

**Who provides the interventions?**

The interventions can be provided by a number of service providers, including teachers, school counselors, school social workers, private mental health providers, and other staff members trained in behavioral and mental health interventions.

**Who has access to the results of the BIMAS-2?**

The privacy of the students screened is of utmost importance. The building administrator(s) and school counseling team will have access to school-wide results, while classroom teachers will only access the results for the students in their classroom. Additional access can be provided at the discretion of the school leader.