



# Deer Park Community City Schools

Deer Park Schools - "Inspiring and Empowering Lifelong Success"

Jim Stoll, Superintendent

Mindy Robertson, Assistant Superintendent

---

## PARENT/GUARDIAN NOTIFICATION OF CONSENT

### DEER PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT'S RESILIENCY AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Deer Park Community School District is proud to provide an innovative assessment service to students and their families to guide our support of students' social/emotional needs. All students in grades 6 to 12 will be given the opportunity to complete a brief assessment that assesses social/emotional strengths and needs. This assessment, provided by Terrace Metrics, will begin this fall and will be completed once each school year.

The results of the assessment are confidential; no teacher will have access to your child's results. Only members of the school's response team (e.g., counselors, school psychologists) will see student's results, which are available immediately after the assessment is completed. This allows us to understand the strengths and needs of every student, including those who would benefit from additional strategies.

If your child has endorsed high distress, a member of the school's response team will contact you by phone to discuss next steps. One of these steps may include a "Clarity" assessment, provided by Clarigent Health. Clarity involves a private, ten-minute interview where the student is asked about their thoughts and feelings by a trained member of the response team. The interview is securely recorded and the speech patterns (rather than the answers themselves) are analyzed to assist the response team in determining the appropriate course of action for the student.

#### Why is Deer Park Providing This Service?

Research shows that schools play an important role in raising healthy children through the measurement and teaching of social emotional skills. Data from this comprehensive assessment tool would help us identify students with strong social-emotional development, and gives us the ability to identify students who may be in need of intervention. In addition, the data will help us design, implement and evaluate small group interventions that address specific student needs, as well as opportunities for students to enhance their personal strengths. Most importantly, this



# Deer Park Community City Schools

Deer Park Schools - "Inspiring and Empowering Lifelong Success"

Jim Stoll, Superintendent

Mindy Robertson, Assistant Superintendent

---

tool allows us to examine the needs of the WHOLE STUDENT, in combination with academic and other non-cognitive data.

For students reporting high distress, research shows that the language students use and the way they form sentences can reflect how acute the distress may be. Clarity analyzes voice recordings to help the response team make decisions about the next steps and level of response a student may need.

## What are the Potential Concerns?

As with any cloud technology, there is a small risk of data security breaches. To safeguard against this, both Terrace Metrics and Clairity are fully compliant with state and federal laws including HIPAA, FERPA and other health and mental health information privacy laws. Neither Terrace Metrics nor Clarigent Health has access to identified student data and all information is encrypted and stored on several secured servers. Further, the information is not saved on the school's local network and is not attached to any school record. Finally, as noted above, only members of a school's response team have access to the system. The entire system is constantly monitored for security breaches.

## What Should I Know as a Parent or Guardian?

- Only students who have parent permission are allowed to participate in the assessment. To ensure that we get the highest participation rate possible, passive consent will be used. What this means is that if you do not wish to have your child participate, you must sign this form and have your child return it to his/her homeroom teacher within one week. There is no requirement to have your child participate and your child will not endure any penalty or loss of benefits to which he or she is entitled should you choose to not have your child participate.
- All students will be offered the Terrace Metrics survey. As a parent/guardian, you will receive customized, easy to follow report of your child's survey results, along with specific recommendations that correspond with the findings. This report will be sent by the school response team.
- Only a subset of students will be offered the Clarity assessment, based on their high level of distress (as determined by the Terrace Metrics assessment) or when a member of the response team feels a further evaluation will be helpful.



# Deer Park Community City Schools

Deer Park Schools - "Inspiring and Empowering Lifelong Success"

Jim Stoll, Superintendent

Mindy Robertson, Assistant Superintendent

---

- If a follow-up interview and voice analysis is conducted, the interview will be conducted in a private location with a trained member of staff. All data will be deidentified, encrypted, and protected by applicable state and federal laws including applicable privacy laws such as HIPAA, 42 CFR Part 2 and/or FERPA.
- Deidentified data may be retained in an anonymous database to help inform future research and development activities including building and improving AI models. The student and/or parent can request access or deletion of this data at any time.
- During the assessment, data are de-identified, that is, all scoring, analysis, coding of data, and storage of data is done using student ID numbers. Only members of the response team will have access to see a student's name and results. Professionals not on the response team, including teachers will not have access to individual data. Clarigent Health and Terrace Metrics will not have access to see a student's name except when necessary and by permission of the response team, to provide technical assistance.
- The assessment is not a diagnosis, and no information from this assessment will be placed into your child's education file. The purpose of this service is to inform us of how each student is functioning within specific resiliency/risk indicators, and to help us identify students that may benefit from additional services.
- The school will not allow the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information.
- Finally, the survey tool itself is brief (approximately 10-15 minutes). If required, the Clarity interview will also require an additional 10-15 minutes.

## What are the Indicators that Could be Assessed?

The following areas may be assessed in the survey, as determined by your child's grade and wishes of the school and school district:

### **Grades 6-12**

- **Global Life Satisfaction:** Overall assessment of feelings and attitudes about one's life at a particular point in time, ranging from negative to positive.
- **Positive School Experiences:** Assessment of a student's experiences with their learning, as well as their overall interactions with school personnel.
- **School Victimization Scale:** First presents a definition of bullying so that students understand what does/what does not meet criteria. The student is then asked if they have been victimized or



# Deer Park Community City Schools

Deer Park Schools - "Inspiring and Empowering Lifelong Success"

Jim Stoll, Superintendent

Mindy Robertson, Assistant Superintendent

---

have victimized others during the current school year. The scale assesses frequency of different types of victimization (e.g., physical, social).

- **Social Ostracism Scale:** Items reflect the degree of perceived social isolation by others. The scale measures two forms of ostracism: ignoring (paying no attention to the student) or excluding (acknowledging the student but choosing not to interact with them).
- **Grit Scale:** Assesses the level of commitment (and tenacity) to achieve a long-term goal.
- **Stress Level Scale:** 7 item, self-reported questionnaire for screening and severity of stress.
- **Children's Hope Scale:** Assesses goal-directed thinking in which the student has the perceived capacity to find routes to goals (pathways thinking), and the motivation to use those routes (agency thinking).
- **Depression:** The scale is a multipurpose instrument for screening and assessing the severity of depression symptoms. The scale also includes an item that assesses thoughts of self-harm.
- **Resiliency:** This scale assesses the degree to which individuals possessed both the intrapersonal and interpersonal resources needed to overcome adversity.
- **Child and Adolescent Leadership Scale:** This scale assesses students' perceptions of their ability to influence others.
- **Personal Standards:** This scale assesses the expectations that a student has about their personal abilities.
- **Self-Criticism:** This scale assesses difficulties accepting mistakes and overly focusing on one's perceived faults.

## ***Supplemental Scales (per request of school district)***

- **Traumatic Event Screener:** This brief screener provides a list of potentially traumatic events (such as a car accident). If a student endorses yes, follow-up questions assess how well the student has adjusted to the experience.
- **Drug/Alcohol Screener.** This screener first asks the student if they have engaged in alcohol or drug use in the past year, or whether they have ridden in a car with someone who has. Follow-up questions assess the frequency of use and whether this use has caused problems for them.
- **School Violence Screener:** This screener assesses a student's tendency to use aggression as a means to resolve problems at school.



# Deer Park Community City Schools

Deer Park Schools - "Inspiring and Empowering Lifelong Success"

Jim Stoll, Superintendent

Mindy Robertson, Assistant Superintendent

---

## PARENT/GUARDIAN NOTIFICATION OF REFUSAL TO CONSENT

If you do NOT wish to have your student participate in part or all of this service, you must sign and return this form indicating your refusal to grant permission.

If you have any questions regarding the assessments discussed in this permission form, please contact your child's building administrator.

STUDENT NAME:

\_\_\_\_\_ ("Student")

I \_\_\_\_\_ am the parent/guardian of Student and **refuse** permission for Student to participate in this assessment.

My consent shall be refused until such time as I provide written consent for my student to participate.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian of minor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Consent Refusal