## FAIRFIELD LUDLOWE HIGH SCHOOL

## Office for Pupil Services and Counseling

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Vanessa Montorsi, Director of Pupil Services and Counseling Julie Delmonico, Administrative Assistant

October 12, 2018

## Dear Parent or Guardian:

At various grade levels, Fairfield Public Schools assesses student progress in the areas of reading, writing, math and science. Along with identifying academic needs, we realize there are occasions when social-emotional issues negatively impact academic performance. To address this issue, Fairfield Ludlowe High School utilizes a universal screening tool that will assess students' emotional functioning. The Behavioral and Emotional Screening System (BESS) is a 30-item, self-rating scale that can be used with high school aged students and takes approximately 10 minutes to complete. We have used this tool for the last several years and found the results to be very beneficial.

The BESS will be administered to all students on Thursday, October 25. In instances where a concern is identified, a member of the counseling center or a school counselor will meet with the student, and contact parent(s) as necessary, to discuss appropriate follow-up. We will use the results to guide decision-making and appropriate intervention strategies to offer students and parents. If you prefer that your child not participate in the screening process, please contact me directly through the email listed below by Monday, October 22.

If you have any questions or concerns about this program, please do not hesitate to contact me at (203) 255-7232 or via e-mail: <a href="mailto:vmontorsi@fairfieldschools.org">vmontorsi@fairfieldschools.org</a>.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Montorsi

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Director of Pupil Services and Counseling