

Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT)

The Salem Public Schools will be conducting an annual screening program aimed at helping students make healthy choices. The Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) program focuses on screening related to the use of alcohol, marijuana and other substances. Our goal is to let students know that we are available to reinforce healthy decisions and to assist them in obtaining support if needed for substance use related issues.

This screening will take place annually with students in grades 7 and 9. School nurses and/or adjustment counselors who have received training in SBIRT will conduct brief, confidential, private one-on-one sessions using the CRAFFT-II screening tool.

Students who are not using substances will have their healthy choices reinforced by the screener. The screener will provide brief feedback to any student who reports using substances, or who is at risk for future substance use. If needed, students will be referred to our counseling staff for further evaluation.

This program focuses on harm prevention and does not generate disciplinary action. Results of the screening will not be included in any student's school record. Every student will be given educational materials on substance use that includes resource information.

As with any school screening, you have the right to opt your child out of this screening. Please notify the school in writing. Additionally, screening is voluntary and students may choose not to answer any or all of the screening questions.

We encourage all parents/guardians to talk with their child(ren) about substance use. Together, schools and parents/guardians CAN make a difference for our youth.

For questions on the program, please contact your child's school nurse or the Salem Public Schools Director of Nursing.

Health Services Department Information

Jennifer L Spina MSN RN NCSN
Director of Nursing and Health Services

Phone: 781-825-5500

Legislation Mandating SBIRT in Schools

<https://malegislature.gov/Laws/SessionLaws/Acts/2016/Chapter52>

Screening Brief Information and Referral to Treatment in Schools

<http://www.masbirt.org/schools>

CRAFFT-II Screening Tool

English:

http://www.masbirt.org/sites/www.masbirt.org/files/School%20SBIRT/CRAFFT/CRAFFT-II_Questionnaire_English.pdf

Spanish:

http://www.masbirt.org/sites/www.masbirt.org/files/School%20SBIRT/CRAFFT/CRAFFT-II_Questionnaire_Spanish_Lat%20Amer.pdf

Salem Overdose and Substance Use Prevention Coalition Resources

<http://www.salem.com/health/pages/salem-overdose-and-substance-use-prevention-coalition-resources>

Helpful Links for Parents and Guardians

Talking to your Middle School-Aged Child about Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs: 10 Step Guide for Parents:

English <http://files.hria.org/files/SA1020.pdf>

Spanish <http://files.hria.org/files/SA1025.pdf>

Preventing Substance Abuse Starts at Home-Safeguarding Your Children:

English <http://files.hria.org/files/SA1037.pdf>

Spanish <http://files.hria.org/files/SA1039.pdf>

Youth & Young Adult Substance Abuse Services Directory:

English: <http://files.hria.org/files/SA3533.pdf>

Spanish: <http://files.hria.org/files/SA3555.pdf>

Helpful Links for Youth

Choose to Keep Your Freedom:

English: <http://files.hria.org/files/SA1006.pdf>

Spanish: <http://files.hria.org/files/SA1007.pdf>

Even if You Know About Drinking or Drugs:

<http://files.hria.org/files/SA1094.pdf>