

POSTURAL SCREENING PROGRAM
Notification Letter

Dear Parent/Guardian:

One of the health services provided by the School Health Program is postural (scoliosis) screening to check for deviation of the normal curve of the spine. We have scheduled this for all sixth grade students on **November 16, 2018**.

The American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons suggests school screenings for early detection of curvature of the spine in children. Approximately 4% of the students will have some spinal deformity and 2% will require observation or active treatment. Progressive spinal curves occur eight times more frequently in girls than in boys during adolescence. Early diagnosis and timely treatment prevent disease progression and potentially serious damage to underlying organs.

The procedure for screenings is a simple one. The student will stand and bend forward while the school nurse examines the student's back for abnormality. Only the shirt and shoes have to be removed. Female students may wear a swimsuit or halter-top. It is recommended that the swimsuit have a narrow back closure or, in the case of a one-piece suit, have a deeply cut back. It is necessary for the nurse to visualize the student's entire back for effective screening. Every measure possible to assure privacy will be taken.

You will receive a referral letter if an abnormality is seen, asking you to take your child to your physician of choice for a more detailed examination. If you receive a referral letter, a school nurse will contact you in a few weeks to follow up with your child's situation.

All 6th grade students will be screened unless we receive written parental authorization to be excluded. To exclude your child from the screening, please supply the information below and return it to the school nurse.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Kristie Vangel, RN
School Nurse

___ 1. Please do not screen my child (name) _____ because
he/she is under the treatment by Dr. _____.

___ 2. Please do not screen my child (name) _____ because
_____.

Date

Parent Signature