

Ann Roy Moore, Ed.D.
Superintendent



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Dear Parent/Guardian:

The School Health Nurse, Health/Physical Education teacher and/or possibly nursing students with assistance, will screen for spinal deformities (scoliosis, kyphosis, lordosis, a side-to-side curve in the spine) and may screen for vision and/or BMI in the next few months. For specific dates and times contact your School Health Nurse.

Spinal screening is required annually by law for school children in the state of Alabama in Grades 5-9.

A. The purpose: to recognize, at the earliest stage, any deviation from normal so that the need for treatment can be determined.

B. The procedure: the trained screener observes the student's posture while standing and bending forward. It is suggested that girls wear a halter top or bra during screening, and that boys remove their shirts. Boys and Girls will be screened separately.

C. If scoliosis is suspected: your student will be rescreened and then referred. A referral letter will be sent home. Please, follow-up with your own physician for further evaluation. Return the completed referral letter to your School Health Nurse. Any student already under treatment will receive a referral letter to be taken to his/her physician for initial documentation or update.

Because there was some confusion with this section of the NEW State 'Health Assessment Record', *please note:* If you DO NOT wish for your child to participate in the school's spinal screening, please bring or send a signed, written statement to the school prior to the initial screening date.

Please call the school if you have questions. (Parent Link will also have updated information concerning spinal screenings.)

Sincerely,

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