

SCHOOL POSTURAL SCREENING PROGRAM

Student: _____ Grade: _____

Dear Parents:

A Postural Screening Program to detect a possible curvature of the spine will be conducted for students in grades _____. **Postural screening is required for girls in grades five and seven and boys in grade nine according to Connecticut State Law.** The purpose of this program is to recognize signs of abnormal spinal development at its earliest stages so that the need for treatment can be determined. Many cases of curvature of the spine are mild and require only on-going observation by a doctor after first diagnosis. Others get progressively more severe as the child grows and require active treatment. Early treatment can prevent the development of a severe deformity which can affect appearance and health. **Please note that if your child has a health assessment on record at school which was done during this school year, i.e., on or after July 1st, and indicates that your child was examined for postural deformity by his/her health care provider, your child will not be screened in school.**

_____ Your child will be screened in school.

_____ Your child will not be screened in school.

The school nurse will conduct the postural screening by examining the child's spine as he/she stands and then bends forward. The entire spine must be examined from the shoulder area to the hip area. To allow proper visualization of the spine by the nurse, proper attire must be worn by students. Boys must remove shirts and lower their pants to their hips or wear gym shorts, boxer shorts, or underpants. Girls must wear a **two-piece** bathing suit, or halter top or bra and lower their pants to their hips (or wear gym shorts, boxer shorts, or underpants). Screening is done individually and each child is afforded privacy during the screening. When a postural problem is suspected at the first screening, the child will receive a second screening either the same day or at a later date. The second screening may be done by the school nurse or by the School Medical Advisor.

Screening will be done on _____. If your child wishes to be screened wearing a two-piece bathing suit or gym/boxer shorts, please be sure he/she comes to school prepared on the screening day.

If further consultation is recommended, parents will be notified of the findings and will be asked to seek further evaluation with their own physician. If you have any questions, please contact the school nurse.

School Nurse