

## Parent Notification of Scoliosis Screening

Dear Parent,

During the next few weeks a scoliosis screening program will be conducted to screen children for scoliosis in \_\_\_\_\_ school.

Scoliosis is a sideways curving of the spine, resembling an S – curve or C – curve. Eighty-five percent of the time scoliosis has no known cause and tends to run in families. This type of scoliosis first develops between the ages of 10 –15 years and occurs more often in girls than boys. If scoliosis is detected early, treatment can be started and almost all of the curving can be prevented.

The procedure for screening is a simple one in which the child's back is observed as he/she stands upright and as he/she bends forward. To observe this condition, each child will be asked to remove their shirt or blouse (girls may wear bra or bathing suit top with an open back). The screening will be conducted in privacy with only student and examiner present.

Any curvature or "back hump" that is noticed during the screening may indicate the need for further studies. If a problem is found, you will be notified. We will recommend that you take your child to a physician of your choice for an evaluation.

We encourage all students to participate in this program. If you do not want your child screened please let us know in writing by three days before the screening date. Phone calls will not be accepted. If your child is currently under treatment for a back problem, please let us know in writing.

Sincerely,