

## Screenings

Each year your student will receive the following screenings:

**Height, Weight, and BMI** - The Pa Department of Health introduced a new state mandate to try to combat the problem of growing obesity. BMIs (Body Mass Index) will be required screening for all school age children and teens. A BMI-for-age percentile will be calculated based on the height and weight measurement of your student and this “index” or number will indicate whether your student is underweight, growing in a normal pattern, at risk for becoming overweight, or overweight.

The BMI is a screening tool only and does have its limitations. For example, athletes may have a higher BMI due to increased muscle mass. Parents will be given the results of this screening and it is recommended that they share these results with their student’s health care provider.

**Vision** – Vision screening is performed every year on all students. Again, this is only a screening and should not take the place of a complete eye exam by an eye care professional. If your student wears glasses or contacts, please remind them to wear them the day of the screening.

**Hearing** – Hearing screening is performed every year on students in grades K- 3 and in grades 7 and 11. This is only a screening and should not take the place of a complete ear/hearing exam.

**Scoliosis** - If a scoliosis screening is not recorded in the private 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> grade physical or school physical, a letter notifying parents of the school screening will be sent home. A parent refusal must be in writing.