

Hoosac Valley Regional School District

49 PARK STREET
ADAMS, MA 01220
(413) 743-2939

Perseverance Respect Integrity Diversity Empathy

Mandated Health Screenings

Vision and Hearing Screening - is done yearly in **grades Pre-K through 5, and in grades 7 and 10**. Parents will be notified of any problems that necessitate a medical follow-up. Early detection of vision and hearing issues is essential because many vision and hearing deficits can be corrected if they are identified in a timely fashion. Vision and hearing issues can impact a child's ability to learn in many ways. Poor vision can affect a child's gross motor development and hearing issues can affect speech.

BMI - Screenings will begin each fall. BMI is calculated using an individual's height and weight. It can be a useful tool in identifying possible health risks. BMI screenings are mandated by Massachusetts Laws and will be collected for students in **grades 1, 4, 7, & 10**

Please visit the MDPH website at www.mass.gov for Frequently Asked Questions about BMI and Mass in Motion.

Postural Screening - The purpose of postural screening is to identify early signs of spinal problems. Most scoliosis and other spinal issues can be easily treated if they are detected early. Parents are notified before screening so that children are dressed appropriately. Girls and boys are screened separately, and privacy is respected at all times. Boys are screened by a male nurse and girls are screened by a female nurse. Postural Screenings are done in **grades 5 - 9**

SBIRT - Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment for Substance Use - SBIRT screening, required by MA Law (chapter 52, Acts of 2016), An Act Relative to Substance Use, Treatment, Education and Prevention is an acronym for Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment. It is a public health model aimed at preventing the use of alcohol, marijuana and/or other substances. **Students in grades 7 and 9 will take part in this screening.**

For more information visit the SBIRT website at <http://www.masbirt.org>.

Parents may choose not to have their child participate in any or all screenings. **Please notify your school nurse in writing within the first two weeks of school if you wish for your child to opt out of a screening. This must be done annually.**

Should you have any questions regarding the above, please contact your school nurse:

Ashley Allard, R.N.

Phil Grover, R.N.

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