

January 23, 2024

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The State of Michigan passed a law [*Public Health Code Act 368 Section 333.9316*] to ensure that children have an opportunity to receive an oral health assessment (dental screening) before they enter kindergarten.

We do not require that your child have a dental screening in order to attend school, but we strongly encourage it. Tooth decay is the most common chronic illness in children. Dental problems can cause pain and make it difficult for children to eat, speak, and sleep, all of which may prevent them from reaching their full learning potential. Good oral health is important to help children be healthy and ready to learn, and the purpose of this screening is to make sure your child does not have any dental problems that would prevent them from doing well in school.

Take the attached Kindergarten Oral Health Assessment Screening Form to any of these locations to have the screening done:

- your dental office
- Oakland County Health Division 1-800-848-5533 for appointment at either North or South County locations

Return the completed form to the school.

The screening is free if it is done at the local health department or at a pre-kindergarten enrollment event where the health department does the screenings.

Many things influence a child's progress and success in school, including oral health, and we encourage you to have your child screened.

Sincerely,

Denise Bradley RN
Health Resource Advocate
947-235-1064