SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

SCOLIOSIS SCREENING

Dear Parents/Guardians:

School law requires that a screening for scoliosis be done on all students in grades 6 and 7. Scoliosis is a lateral curvature of the spine that becomes progressively worse if not detected early. Early detection and treatment can prevent the development of more serious problems in later life.

Scoliosis screening is part of the 6th grade physical examination and will be done either by your private physician or by a school physician.

The school nurse will screen students in 7th grade. The screening test is very simple; your child's back will be observed while your child is standing and bending forward. You will be notified if your child needs to have a further examination by your family physician or pediatrician.

To assure a view of the spine, it will be necessary for students to expose their backs during screening. Every effort will be made to screen students during swimming class. For those students who do not have swimming, it is recommended that boys wear a shirt that can be easily removed. Girls should wear a bra, bathing suit top, or halter under a blouse or sweater.

If you have any questions about this program, please call the school nurse. If you have any objections to having your child participate in the screening program, please inform the school nurse in writing by _____.

Sincerely,

School Nurse