

January 30, 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian:

On **Tuesday, February 21, 2023 (6th grade)** and **Thursday, February 23, 2023 (8th grade)** scoliosis screening will take place at your child's school to identify children with suspected abnormal curvature of the spine. The screening is done yearly in the middle school grades as required by State Law, Department of Community Health and State Department of Education guidelines. You may opt out of screening for your student by signing and returning the bottom portion of this form.

****If your child has been screened by a health care provider or is under the care of a physician for scoliosis, please submit a completed 4400 form.**

Scoliosis affects two to three percent of the adolescent population. If the condition is detected early and appropriately treated, progressive spine deformity can be prevented. The procedure for screening is a simple observation test in which the screener (student nurse, nursing school faculty, school nurse) looks at the child's back in the standing position and the forward bending position. Boys and girls are screened separately. Girls should wear a sports bra or bathing suit top. Accurate screening cannot be performed if girls are wearing camisoles.

If your child has a suspected curvature on initial screening, you will be notified by the Gwinnett County Department of Public Health. The Health Department will also provide information regarding further evaluation in the case of a suspected curvature.

If your child is absent on the day of screening, please contact your local health department or pediatrician for screening.

If you **do not** want your child to be screened, you must complete the requested information below and return this form to [Ms. Petra Ordini](#), Office of Student Services no later than **Wednesday, February 15, 2023**.

Sincerely,

Dr. Christopher Ray
Principal

I DO NOT WANT MY CHILD TO BE SCREENED FOR SCOLIOSIS AT SCHOOL

Print Name of Student & Grade

Signature of Parent/Guardian & Date

School Name