

## **Health Screenings**

Pennsylvania School Health Law requires the following screenings:

**Hearing** - Grades K-3, 7, 11

**Vision** - Grades K-12

You can request a vision or hearing screening at any time if you suspect that your child may have a problem.

**Growth Screening** - Grades K-12

Height and weight measurement is used to calculate Body Mass Index-(BMI)-for-Age percentile. The BMI-for-Age percentile is used as a guideline to help assess whether an individual may be overweight or underweight. This information will be sent home to the parent/guardian of each student.

BMI should be considered a screening tool only. The child's health care provider is the best person to evaluate whether or not the measurements are within a healthy range.

Note: The new BMI calculation is required in grades K-4 in the 2005-06 school year, K-8 in 2006-07, and K-12 in 2007-08.

**Physical Exam** - Grades K, 6, 11

It is recommended that this exam be done by your private physician who is more familiar with your child's medical history. The form for reporting the exam can be obtained from your school nurse or from this website.

**Dental Exam** - Grades K, 3, 7, 11

This exam can be done by your private dentist. The form for reporting the exam can be obtained from your school nurse or from this website.

Students who do not turn in a completed, private physical or dental exam form will be scheduled for an exam with the school doctor or dentist.

**Scoliosis Screening** - Grades 6, 7

The purpose of this screening is to detect any abnormal curvature of the spine. In 6th grade the scoliosis screening is generally done as part of the physical exam.

### **What Does a Referral Mean?**

If you receive a referral form after any school screening, it simply means that the screening detected a possible problem and further evaluation is recommended. The form is to be completed by your private physician, dentist or eye doctor and returned to the school nurse. As always, if you have any questions, contact the school nurse.