

# Health Screenings

The health staff will perform the following state-required health screenings. If you do not wish the district health staff to perform the screenings, you may substitute a professional examination by a health care provider of your choice. Please contact your campus nurse for further instructions.

The results of these screenings may indicate that your child may need diagnostic evaluation beyond the school capabilities. Referrals to physicians are made as needed. Parents are urged to obtain appropriate medical care following a school screening referral. If you do not have insurance or cannot afford care, your campus nurse may be able to assist you with referrals for free or affordable care.

## Vision and Hearing Screening

This screening is mandated by Texas law in grades:

- Early Childhood (EC)
- Prekindergarten (PK)
- Kindergarten (KN)
- First (01)
- Third (03)
- Fifth (05)
- Seventh (07)
- For students in other grades who are new to BHA

Parents of students who fail two vision and or hearing screenings will receive a referral letter from the school nurse recommending a more comprehensive exam by an eye doctor and or audiologist.

## Scoliosis (spinal) Screening

This screening is mandated by Texas law in grades:

- Seventh (07)
- Ninth (09)
- Students in Sixth (06) and Seventh (07) who are new to BHA

Spinal screening is designed to detect abnormalities that may be indicative of conditions such as scoliosis, kyphosis, or lordosis. This is done in a private environment by school nurses. Parents of students who have any positive findings will receive a letter from the school nurse with recommendations.

## Acanthosis Nigricans Screening

Acanthosis Nigricans (AN) is a skin discoloration that may indicate high levels of insulin in the blood which results from insulin resistance. Insulin resistance can create a potential risk for the development of Type 2 Diabetes. The skin on the nape of the neck will be visually examined.

This screening is mandated by Texas law in grades:

- First (01)
- Third (03)
- Fifth (05)
- Seventh (07)

The screening is usually done at the same time as the vision and hearing screening. If the AN marker is noted, then the student will have blood pressure, height, and weight measured individually and privately at a later date. Parents will be notified of these specific findings.