

# State Mandated Screenings

The State of Texas requires several different screenings to be performed during the school year to ensure students are healthy and ready to learn. The required screenings include:

## **Vision and Hearing screenings for students in EC,PK, K, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th grades**

These screenings do not take the place of a thorough yearly eye exam, but are useful in identifying vision problems that can affect a student's ability to function in the classroom. Many hearing problems go undetected, so this screening can help parents know when further evaluation is indicated.

## **Acanthosis Nigricans screening for students in 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th grades**

This non-invasive screening helps identify students that are at risk for developing diabetes type 2. It is dark, rough skin around the neck which can be caused by high insulin levels. Parents are notified when this is noted and encouraged to have their child evaluated by a doctor.

## **Spinal Screening Policy from the DSHS website:**

This non-invasive screening helps identify spinal growth problems, such as scoliosis, by observing the student bending, from the side, and front facing. If any abnormality is seen, parents are notified so they can have their student evaluated by a doctor. It is important to identify spinal growth problems before students are finished growing to help correct the problem without surgery. Some spinal curvatures are severe enough that surgery is the only way to correct them. If you have questions or concerns, please contact your school nurse for more information. The school nurse will send out a parent consent form two weeks prior to this screening.

*A student may be exempted from the mandated Spinal Screening if the parent or guardian submits an affidavit of religious exemption to the school nurse prior to screening at the campus. The student may also be exempt from Vision, Hearing or Spinal Screening if they have a professional examination conducted during the school year for the screening. Please submit a copy of the exam to the school nurse.*