



## HARMONY SCHOOL OF INNOVATION-LAREDO

4608 Daugherty Ave, Laredo, TX, 78041 ♦ Tel: 956-568-9495 ♦ Fax: 956-568-9490

### Spinal Pre Screening Letter to Parents

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Your child's school will be conducting spinal screenings on various days throughout the school year. The purpose of spinal screening is to detect the signs of abnormal curves of the spine at their earliest stages. Scoliosis, a common spinal abnormality found in adolescents, is a sideways twisting of the spine. It is usually detected in children between 10 and 14 years of age. Kyphosis, sometimes called round back, is an exaggerated rounding of the upper back and is often confused with poor posture. Many cases of curvature of the spine are mild and require only ongoing observation by a physician when they are first diagnosed. Others can worsen with time as the child grows and require active treatment such as bracing and surgery. Early treatment can prevent the development of a severe deformity, which can affect a person's appearance and health.

The procedure for screening is simple. Screeners who have been specifically trained will look at your child's back while he/she stands and then bends forward. For this examination, boys and girls will be seen separately and individually. **ALL STUDENTS MUST REMOVE THEIR SHIRT FOR THIS EXAM. FOR THIS REASON, WE REQUEST THAT GIRLS WEAR A HALTER TOP, TUBE TOP, OR A SPORTS BRA UNDERNEATH THEIR SHIRT ON EXAM DAY.**

Students will be notified prior to screening day so that they may come prepared. Parents will be notified of the results of the screening only if professional follow-up is necessary. This screening procedure does not replace your child's need for a regular health care and checkups.

According to state law, female students ages 10 and 12 and male students age 14 will require spinal screening. If for religious reasons, you do not wish to have your child screened, you are to submit an affidavit or religious exemption to your medical aide as soon as possible.

Thank you for your cooperation,

Sincerely,

  
School Principal

**++SPINAL SCREENINGS WILL TAKE PLACE NEXT WEEK FOR ONLY FEMALES 10 YRS OLD. SCREENING WILL BE DONE FULLY CLOTHED UNLESS THERE IS A NEED FOR FURTHER SCREENING WITHOUT A SHIRT.++**