

School Staff Notification

GROWTH SCREENING

[School Letterhead]

[Date]

Dear Faculty and Staff:

This (letter/email) is to inform you about our district's Growth Screening (Height/ Weight/BMI) program so that you, along with students, parents/guardians, and the community, can help make this year's program a success.

Although assessment of height and weight are not specifically required by Kansas Statute, assessment of height and weight and calculating the BMI is an important clinical tool in assessing the health and growth of a child.

The results of the BMI screening will be kept confidential in each student's school health record and will be mailed or directly communicated in writing to the parents or guardians; not sent home with the student. The parent or guardian letter will include a description of the screening program and interpretation of the results as well as recommendations to share the results with their child's primary health care provider.

Because students may react in a variety of ways to the BMI screening in school, it is important that you are aware that this screening is taking place so that you can respond appropriately. For example, if a student makes a negative comment about his/her body, a sensitive response might be, "Kids come in different sizes and shapes." You can help by being objective and open about your students' concerns about their weight in your responses.

The screenings will be conducted on *[Insert dates]* in *[Insert locations]*. Letters with results of the screening for parents or guardians will be sent on *[Insert date]*. Parents will also be given the opportunity to opt out of the BMI screening and will be asked to notify me by *[date]* if they are not interested in having their child participate in this screening.

Please let me know if you have any questions about this screening program as we collaborate to create a healthier environment. Together we can make a real difference in the health and wellness of our students!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

School Nurse

[you may also consider having the principal co- sign the letter]

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