

Dear Parent or Guardian:

This letter is to remind you that a scoliosis screening is required for all students in the 6th and 8th grades who attend public school in Georgia. This is an important screening; if this condition is detected early and appropriately treated, progressive spine deformity can be prevented.

Screening is simple and painless, and only takes about a minute. Trained Rockdale County Public Schools clinic personnel and medical staff volunteers will observe the student's back both in the standing position and while bending forward. Males and females are screened separately. Female students should wear a bra, sports bra or bathing suit under their clothes on the day of the screening. If a screening shows signs of scoliosis in your child, you will be notified.

Please see the attached letter from the Georgia Department of Public Health regarding a new option to complete the screening. Options include the following:

1. Submit a completed Form #4400, Certificate of Scoliosis screening. Form #4400 can be completed by a physician with an active GA license or person working under the supervision of a physician with an active GA license, the local health department, or licensed school nurse. Form #4400 can be found at [www.dph.georgia.gov](http://www.dph.georgia.gov) and it is attached to this letter. If you decide to have your physician complete the screening, we must have Form #4400 by \_\_\_\_\_.

**OR**

2. Students can participate in a school scoliosis screening event. Students without a completed Form #4400 on file will be asked to participate in the scoliosis screening event at your child's school held on \_\_\_\_\_.

**OR**

3. Parents or guardians can choose to not have their child screened for scoliosis by selecting the **opt-out option** at the bottom of Form #4400. We must receive the Form #4400 indicating the opt-out option) by \_\_\_\_\_.

PLEASE NOTE: Beginning school year 2022-2023, Form #4400 will be required for all 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students during the first 90 days of school.

Sincerely,