



Lufkin ISD

School: Brandon

Dear Parent /Guardian,

Lufkin ISD will be conducting spinal screens during the month of February. The purpose of spinal screening is to detect the signs of abnormal curves of the spine at their earliest stages so that the need for treatment can be determined. 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 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 that can affect a person's appearance and health.

The procedure for screening is simple. Screeners who have been specially 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.

Boys will remove their shirts. Girls are requested to wear separates.

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 regular health care and check-ups.

According to state law, all children in the following grade levels are required to be screened: 5<sup>th</sup> grade girls, 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls, & 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys.

If you do not want us to screen your child please send a note from your doctor with the results of his/her screening for scoliosis by the date of **February 1, 2019**.

If for religious reasons, you do not wish to have your child screened you need to submit an affidavit of exemption to the school nurse office by the date of **February 1, 2019**.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

LISD Nurses

Schedule for Screening:

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls – Date: Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls -Date: \_\_\_\_\_

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys – Date: \_\_\_\_\_