



## Killeen Independent School District

P.O. Box 967 • 200 North W.S. Young Drive • Killeen, Texas 76540-0967  
254/336-0000

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Scoliosis screening examinations are scheduled for the month of January at Manor Middle School.

Scoliosis, the medical term for curvature of the spine, is a common disorder. Between 5% and 10% of school children have such curvatures. It is more common in girls than in boys and usually develops in the child's rapid growth period between ages 10-14. Although it can be caused by polio, rheumatoid arthritis and spinal injuries, 90% of the cases result from unknown causes. If left untreated, scoliosis can sometimes produce serious deformities and may affect the heart and lungs.

Scoliosis which is discovered early is more likely to be controlled by treatment. Mass screening of the critical age group is an effective procedure for early detection and has been approved by the Texas Education Association and the School Health Committee of the Texas Medical Association. The Texas Department of Health mandates that all students will be screened twice. KISD students will be screened in the 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades.

The examination requires only a simple visual examination of your child's spine but will necessitate removal of outer clothing. Boys will disrobe to the waist. Girls may wear halters, sports bras or swimsuits under their regular clothing. To insure modesty no dresses are recommended. **A professional examination by a physician or chiropractor can be done in lieu of the school screening, but results must be presented to the school.** Provisions will be made to insure privacy.

The examinations will be performed by a school nurse. Parents will be notified if follow-up is necessary. If you have any questions, please contact the school clinic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T. Johnston, RN".

Tona Johnston, RN  
Manor Middle School  
(254) 336-1318

