

September 2009

Dear Parents,

As of 7/26/2009 our state legislature has repealed the mandate to screen all public school children for scoliosis. Since School Nurses will no longer be screening students I wanted to send you an update on identification of scoliosis. If you have any concerns about your child, please contact your school's nurse.

Scoliosis of the spine is an abnormal curve of the spine with a rotational deformity. This means that the spine turns on its axis like a corkscrew. Most scoliosis goes undetected and does not cause any problems. Occasionally scoliosis is bad enough that bracing or surgery is indicated.

The symptoms of scoliosis are uneven musculature on one side of the spine. This may look like a rib hump, a prominent shoulder blade, one shoulder being higher than the other or an uneven hip. Pain is occasionally considered a symptom of scoliosis.

Most symptoms of scoliosis are picked up by parents or during a well-child visit.

Thank you,

Health Services
Snoqualmie Valley School District