

Greenwich Central School District

K-6 Health Offices

10 Gray Ave. Greenwich, NY 12834 Phone (518) 692-9542

Ellen Kent, R.N. Primary Health Office K-2 ext 1010 FAX (518)692-7658

Lisa D'Acchille, R.N. Middle Grade Health Office 3-6 ext. 1020 FAX (518)692-0001

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The district's school health services program supports your child's academic success by promoting health in the school setting. One way that we provide care for your child is by performing the health screenings as mandated by the State of New York. There have been some changes that will start for the 2018-2019 school year. This involves vision and hearing screens done in school, as well the school years the mandated physicals are due and when.

During this school year, the following screenings will be required and/or completed at school. A letter will be sent home if there are any findings on the screenings done at school that would cause concern or need for medical follow-up.

Vision

- Distance and Near acuity screening for all newly entering students, including incoming Kindergarten and students in Grades 1st, 3rd, and 5th
- Color perception screening for all newly entering students, including incoming kindergarten.
- Scheduled Screening: **October and November 2018**

Hearing

- Hearing screening for all newly entering students, including incoming Kindergarten and students in Grades 1st, 3rd, and 5th
- Scheduled Screening: **October and November 2018**

Scoliosis

- Scoliosis (spinal curvature) screening for Girls in 5th Grade
- Scheduled Screening: **Will be given notice prior to screening.**

Health Appraisals (physicals) * Note changes to Grade levels that are mandated

- A physical examination including Body Mass Index and Weight Status Category Information is required for all **newly entering students, including incoming Kindergarten, and students in Grades 1st, 3rd and 5th**
- A new enacted beginning start of 2018/2019 school requires all physicals to be completed on the Health Examination Form provided in this mailing. The form is also available on the HS health office portal to print and take to your PCP. Many physicians are already using this form, to accommodate the new state requirement.

New York State law requires a health examination must be completed by a New York State licensed physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner and their Body Mass Index (BMI) calculated.

- A copy of the health examination must be provided to the school **within 30 days** from when your child (in grades K, 1st, 3rd and 5th) first starts school. Please have your child's physical form sent, faxed or brought to your child's school health office by October 4, 2018. This examination should be done with your child's primary care physician to maintain health care consistency and keep up to date with changing immunization requirements.
- If your child has an appointment for an exam during the school year that is within or after the first 30 days of school, please notify the Health Office with the date.
- For your convenience, a physical exam form and student health assessment form is enclosed.
- Communication between private and school health staff is important for safe and effective care at school. Your healthcare provider may not share health information with school health staff without your signed permission. Please talk to your provider about signing their consent form so records can be faxed to the school at the time of your child's appointment.

Dental Certificates

- A dental certificate is requested for all newly entering students, including incoming kindergarten, and students in Grades 1st,3rd, and 5th.

A law was enacted that expands health screenings to include the dental health of students in New York State. When we require your child to have a physical examination, we will now be requesting a dental certificate. There is a sample certificate available for you to take to your child's dentist and once it is completed, it should be returned to the School Nurse as it will be filed in your child's Cumulative Health Record.

We suggest you make copies of the all completed forms, including physicals and immunizations records for your own records before sending them to the school health office. This way you'll have a copies for trips, camps etc.

Sincerely,

Ellen Kent, R.N. Primary Building School Nurse

Lisa D'Acchille, R.N. Middle Grade Building School Nurse