



Owensboro Catholic Middle School
2540 Christie Place
Owensboro KY 42301

July 2007

Dear Parents of 8th Graders:

A Scoliosis Screening Program has been instituted in our schools. Scoliosis is an S-shaped curvature of the spine. In its early years it is painless and appears gradually, especially during the years of rapid teenage growth. It can be confused with poor posture. Some cases of scoliosis are so mild as to need no medical attention at all. Others get progressively more severe as the child grows. If detected in its early stages during the growth years, exercises or a brace may be all that is needed to prevent further curvature. Unfortunately, if not detected and treated early, the curvature can become great enough to severely affect a person's health. I have planned these screenings for early fall this year in order to detect it early if there is a problem.

Registered nurses will conduct the screening sometime during the fall of the school year. It will take only a minute or two. The procedure for screening is simple-the nurse looks at the child's back, standing and bent forward. The student will need to remove their shirt in order for the nurse to assess the spine. It is recommended the girls wear a sports bra as that will not be removed and will make it more comfortable for her. It will be performed in complete privacy. If further examination is indicated, you will be notified by the school nurse and requested to take your child to your family physician or pediatrician.

Please sign the permission form below and return it along with the other forms completed during registration. Thank you.

Sincerely in Christ
Kathryn Crowe, RN, BSN
School Health Coordinator for OCS

Scoliosis Screening Permission Form

Please check one: I DO I DO NOT

want my child to participate in the School Scoliosis Screening Program for detecting a possible curvature of the spine.

Name of Student _____

Signature of Parent _____ Date _____