

December 1, 2015

Dear Parents

Newberg School District is pleased to announce that we will once again be partnering with the Oregon Lion's and Hearing Foundation (OLSHF) to provide vision screening to all elementary students in attendance on Vision Screening Day. We would like to thank the Newberg Early Morning Rotary for generously sponsoring this event again this year. The vision screening at your student's school will take place during the week of Jan 12-16<sup>th</sup>.

The OLSHF will be using the Spot Vision Screener. It is a handheld, portable device designed to quickly and easily detect vision issues in people from 6 months of age through adult. This technology uses a special camera so instead of being required to read and recite letters, students simply look into the device as it takes some pictures. Based on those images, it will proceed to notify clinicians if it detects potential vision problems. The SPOT vision screen is 97% accurate.

The Spot Vision Screener is able to accurately detect the following conditions:

- Myopia (nearsightedness)
- Hyperopia (farsightedness)
- Astigmatism (blurred vision)
- Anisometropia (unequal refractive power)
- Strabismus (eye misalignment)
- Anisocoria (unequal pupil size)

The total screen takes approximately 5 seconds per student. You will receive the results of the screening in 2-3 weeks following the screen.

### **1) What will my student have to do?**

A classroom at a time is brought into the screening room. One student at a time simply sits down and look into the front of the device, focusing their vision on its blinking red, amber and blue lights - a "chirping bird" auditory cue may also be used, to attract the attention of young children. It then takes a series of photos of the patients' eyes using infrared light, all within no more than one second. By analyzing those images, it is able to determine if their vision is "in range" or "out of range." Parents will be notified in writing the results of their student.

### **2) What will the school district do with information gathered?**

The school district will document the finding and notify the parent of the results.

### **3) What does OLSHF do with information gathered? Is it secure?**

The information collected about children (data received from schools in advance, as well as their screening results) are secured at all levels... we encrypt all information that is transmitted over the internet, store data securely inside our organization & delete all identifiable student data within 1 year. We use HIPAA and FERPA compliant systems to protect student data. Our business associates

who handle student data (for printing prep materials & reports and storing our data) also receive from us and store all information in encrypted, HIPAA/FERPA compliant systems.

#### 4) Background Check on Volunteers?

Per district policy all volunteers are background checked. The OLSHF volunteers have undergone FBI background checks.

#### 5) Is the vision screening mandatory?

Yes and No. No it is not mandatory to participate. However, if you are the parent of a kindergarten student and you choose not to participate, you will be asked to bring in a copy of a vision screen results from your doctor or eye care professional by January 16, 2016. It is required by Oregon Law that all kindergarten student receive a professional vision screen either within or outside the school system.

If you do not want your student to participate, please sign and return the form below no later than January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

#### 6) How do I read the SPOT results form?

If your child's results form states "**Screening Complete**" in the upper right-hand corner, your child has **PASSED** the Vision Screening. No further action is required. If your form states "**Complete Eye Exam Recommended**", please take your student to an eye care professional for a complete exam.

#### 7) What if I don't have vision insurance for my student?

There are a limited number of vision vouchers available to pay for an exam and glasses for student's uninsured that meet qualifying conditions. I am happy to give away these vouchers for any student in need. Please contact me at the number below.

Sincerely,



Annie Berger RN  
Newberg School District Nurse

503-554-5363

If you **do not want** your student to participate, please sign and return the form below no later than January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

|                                                        |             |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| School _____                                           | Grade _____ |
| My student (s) _____                                   |             |
| <b>will not</b> be participating in the vision screen. |             |
| _____                                                  |             |
| Parent Signature                                       |             |