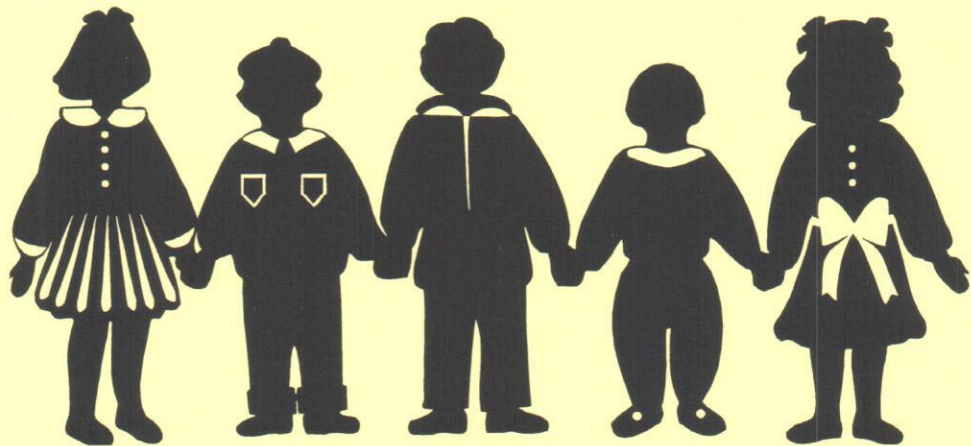


SPAULDING MEMORIAL SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN SCREENING INFORMATION



WHAT IS KINDERGARTEN SCREENING?

As a major step toward identifying children with special needs, the public schools are responsible for providing a screening program for all kindergarten youngsters as mandated by federal and state statutes.

Our screening instrument is designed to identify children who, because of a disability, may be unable to progress effectively in a regular education program. This screening is NOT designed to determine a child's "readiness" to start kindergarten. It is designed to provide us with information as to how your child processes and integrates information both auditory and visually, understands and uses language, and uses his/her body in fine and gross motor activities.

Kindergarten Screening is a means of identifying children who may need further testing and support services. Your child will be screened by a team comprised of members of the professional staff of the Spaulding Memorial School. The screening has been designed to provide kindergarten teachers with additional information for program planning.

It is our intent to make this a very positive and worthwhile experience for all those involved.

You may want to give your child a modest understanding of what to expect during the screening. You can explain that he/she will spend a short time with teachers answering questions and doing some drawing.

When you bring your child to school for Kindergarten Screening, please consider the following:

1. Dress your child comfortably to be able to complete motor activities.
2. If possible, due to limited space, brothers and sisters should not accompany you.
3. Be prompt for your prescheduled appointment.
4. Prepare to spend approximately 60 minutes at school with your child.

When you arrive, a kindergarten paraprofessional will greet you and your child and take pertinent information. While your child is being screened you will be asked to complete a questionnaire.

When the screening is completed, a kindergarten paraprofessional will return your child to you. PLEASE do not ask to discuss the results at that time. A letter will be sent out within a month to inform you about the screening results.

If your child already receives special education services through an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), the screening process is not required. If you have any questions please feel free to contact the School at 597-0380; Ms. Kate Guziejka, Principal.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. Together, we can make your child's introduction to school a successful experience.

SPAULDNG MEMORIAL SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I would like to welcome you to the Spaulding Memorial School. This letter is for the purpose of explaining to you the state law requiring vision screening to be done by the pediatrician.

In 2004, the Massachusetts Legislature enacted Chapter 181 of the Acts of 2004 "*An Act Relative to Eye Examinations For Children*" which amended Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 71, and Section 57. An important requirement of the amendment is that "*Upon entering kindergarten or within 30 days of the start of the school year, the parent or guardian of each child shall present to school health personnel certification that the child within the previous 12 months has passed a vision screening conducted by personnel approved by the department of public health and trained in vision screening techniques to be developed by the department of public health in consultation with the department of education...For children who fail to pass the vision screening and for children diagnosed with neurodevelopmental delay, proof of a comprehensive eye examination performed by a licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist chosen by the child's parent or guardian indicating any pertinent diagnosis, treatment, prognosis, recommendation and evidence of follow-up treatment, if necessary, shall be provided.*"

Cathryn Hampson, RN
School Nurse