

## **BMI and Scoliosis. Screenings for Jonesboro Public Schools**

***BMI and Scoliosis screenings will be done during the school year.***

### **-BMI**

Beginning with Kindergarten and then in even number grades, schools must include as part of a student health report to parents a body mass index percentile by age for each student.

Any parent may refuse to have their child's body mass index percentile assessed and reported to the Arkansas Center for Health Improvement, by providing a **WRITTEN Refusal to the school nurse.**

### **Scoliosis**

Scoliosis is a sideways curve of the spine, resembling a S-curve or C-curve. Eighty-five percent of the time, scoliosis has no known cause and tends to run in families. This type of scoliosis first develops between the ages of 10-15 years and occurs more often in girls than in boys. If scoliosis is detected early, treatment can be started and almost all of the curving can be prevented.

The procedure for screening is a simple one in which the child's back is observed as she/he child stands upright and then bends forward.

Any curvature or "back hump": that is noticed during the screening may indicate the need for further studies. If a problem is found, you will be notified. We will recommend that you take your child to a physician of your choice for an evaluation.

### **Exclusions to Screening**

Act 41 of 1987 states that "No child shall be screened if its parent or guardian objects to the screening **in WRITING** as the basis of objection that it is contrary to the parent's or guardian's religious beliefs"

If you plan to object on religious beliefs, **PLEASE SEND THE NURSE A WRITTEN STATEMENT.**