



Minidoka County School District #331

instructional intensity in all classrooms through the use of Idaho Core Standards and by incorporating 21st century strategies to improve academic achievement and demonstrate growth for all students."

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February 23, 2017

Dr. Jeff Swenson
1308 8th Street, Suite 1
Rupert, ID 83350

Dear Dr. Swenson:

We are school nurses in the Minidoka County School District. We are writing to notify you about a change in procedure for scoliosis screenings in our schools. We are aware that for many years in this district, routine scoliosis screenings were done each year for middle school students.

We have read, studied, and thoughtfully discussed some of the recent research surrounding school based scoliosis screening. It has often been found to lead to over-referrals, it takes students away from instruction time, it can be unnecessarily costly for those who have false positive results, and it is a duplication of services that are provided at well-child checks. The role of school nursing is changing, as we are caring for more and more students with chronic and complex health needs in the school setting, and have to manage our time accordingly.

Due to these reasons, we will no longer be doing routine scoliosis screenings in Minidoka County Schools. It is our understanding that the American Academy of Pediatrics is still recommending that children receive a screening examination of their spine during preventative services visits by their primary care provider.

Sincerely,

Allison Serr, RN, BSN
Minidoka County School Nurse

Melanie Lucas, RN
Minidoka County School Nurse