



620 Wilcox Street
Castle Rock, Colorado 80104

VISION/HEARING SCREENING

Dear Parents:

Each year Douglas County Schools conduct vision and hearing screening for all students in the state-mandated grade levels K, 1, 2, 3, 5, 7 and 9, as well as new students to the District and special education students in other grades. The screenings are overseen by the school nurse consultants and conducted by the District Vision and Hearing Screening Team.

It is important for you to understand that this is a mass screening to detect academically significant vision and hearing problems. Certain visual or eye problems will not be picked up in a screening program, therefore, it should not be considered a substitute for a professional eye exam, particularly in students who are experiencing difficulty in visual tasks or who have frequent visual complaints.

Students will be vision screened using a Sloan standardized letter chart, an LEA symbol chart and/or the Spot Vision Photo Screener. The Spot Vision Photo Screener by Welch Allyn (SPOT) is powered by sophisticated technology that detects the indication of the following vision issues: near sightedness, far sightedness, unequal refractive power, blurred vision, pupil size deviations and eye misalignment. The process is improved if students with glasses are wearing them or have any corrective lenses with them for the screening. **This helps to avoid unnecessary referrals for an eye exam.**

The hearing screening may be done on a day your child has a cold or an ear infection. If your child is on medication for an ear problem and is being followed by your doctor, please inform the vision and hearing team at namiller@dcsdk12.org.

Referral letters will be sent to the parents of students who fail the vision screening. Students who fail the initial hearing screening will be referred to the DCSD Audiology Department which will conduct further screening and communicate directly with parents if hearing concerns are noted. **Please return the completed referrals as it assists us in updating your student's records and improves the follow up process.** Any questions that you may have about the school vision and hearing screening can be answered by the school nurse at the phone number listed below.

If you would like to opt out of the vision or hearing screening, please request the opt out in writing at least the day before the screening so that the request can be sent to the appropriate personnel.

Thank you in advance for your support of these very important programs.

Nurse: Kelly Driver, RN BSN. 720-284-7545