Year-Year Academic Year

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Did you know that healthy teeth are important for your child’s overall health and ability to learn? The North Carolina Oral Health Section will conduct dental screenings for children in INSERT GRADE LEVEL during the Year-Year school year. **Your child’s participation in these screenings is important for two critical reasons:**

1. The dental screening can help identify any early or urgent dental needs your child may have and provide you with options for getting dental care in your community.
2. Even if your child sees a dentist regularly, the oral health information we collect also helps the Oral Health Section and other partners to *develop and improve oral health programs and services for children and youth in your county*. Without this information, beneficial programs and services might not reach the children who need them most. Your child’s information is protected and information such as name, birthdate and student ID is never shared.

The simple, pain-free screening is also an opportunity for your child to learn more about good dental care. PHDH Name, a licensed public health dental hygienist with the Oral Health Section, will complete the dental screening using a flashlight, clean tongue depressor, mirror and cotton tip applicator.

Copies of the data collection form and Dental Health Screening Report used are included with this letter. The data collection form is used by Oral Health Section staff only. The Dental Health Screening Report is sent home to you with the results of your child’s screening.

**Please complete and return the attached consent form to your child’s teacher if you wish for your child to participate.** If you have any questions or concerns, please contact PHDH Name at Phone Number.

Sincerely,

PHDH Name

Public Health Dental Hygienist

Oral Health Section

Division of Public Health, NC Department of Health and Human Services

Email address

[www.dph.ncdhhs.gov/oralhealth/index.htm](http://www.dph.ncdhhs.gov/oralhealth/index.htm)

enc/



