



**Bethlehem Central
School District
Health Services**

Dear Parent or Guardian:

As a part of your child's requirements for school, a physical examination has been required for students in Kindergarten and in Grades 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11 and all new entrants. A law was recently enacted that expands health screenings to include the dental health of students in New York State.

After September 1, 2008, when we require that your child have a physical examination, we will be requesting a dental certificate as well. There is a sample certificate available for you to take to your child's dentist and once it is completed, it should be returned to the School Nurse, as it will be filed in your child's Cumulative Health Record.

Thank you for your cooperation in this new health endeavor. Our students' benefit when we work together to promote the health and achievement of all students.

Please call the school's Health Office if you have any questions or concerns.

Bethlehem Central High School
518-439-4921

Glenmont Elementary School
518-434-1246

Bethlehem Central Middle School
518-439-7705

Hamagrael Elementary School
518-439-8889

Eagle Elementary School
518-694-3953

Slingerlands Elementary
School 518-439-8984

Elsmere Elementary School
518-439-3019

(OVER)

Bethlehem Central School District

Dental Health Certificate

Parent/Guardian: New York State law (Chapter 281) permits schools to request an oral health assessment in the following grades: K, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, and all new entrants. Your child may have a dental check-up during this school year to assess his/her fitness to attend school. Please complete Section 1 and take the form to your registered dentist or registered dental hygienist for an assessment. If your child had a dental check-up before he/she started the school, ask your dentist/dental hygienist to fill out Section 2. Return the completed form to the school's medical director or school nurse as soon as possible.

Section 1. To be completed by Parent or Guardian (Please Print)

Child's Name: Last First Middle

Birth Date: / / Sex: Male Will this be your child's first oral health assessment ? Yes No
 Month Day Year Female

School: Name Grade

Have you noticed any problem in the mouth that interferes with your child's ability to chew, speak or focus on school activities? Yes No

I understand that by signing this form I am consenting for the child named above to receive a basic oral health assessment. I understand this assessment is only a limited means of evaluation to assess the student's dental health, and I would need to secure the services of a dentist in order for my child to receive a complete dental examination with x-rays if necessary to maintain good oral health.

I also understand that receiving this preliminary oral health assessment does not establish any new, ongoing or continuing doctor-patient relationship. Further, I will not hold the dentist or those performing this assessment responsible for the consequences or results should I choose NOT to follow the recommendations listed below.

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____

Section 2. To be completed by the Dentist/ Dental Hygienist

**I. The dental health condition of _____ on _____ (date of assessment)
The date of the assessment needs to be within 12 months of the start of the school year in which it is requested. Check one:**

- Yes, The student listed above is in fit condition of dental health to permit his/her attendance at the public schools.
- No, The student listed above is not in fit condition of dental health to permit his/her attendance at the public schools.

NOTE: Not in fit condition of dental health means that a condition exists that interferes with a student's ability to chew, speak or focus on school activities including pain, swelling or infection related to clinical evidence of open cavities. The designation of not in fit condition of dental health to permit attendance at the public school does not preclude the student from attending school.

Dentist's/ Dental Hygienist's name and address

(please print or stamp)

Dentist's/Dental Hygienist's Signature

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Optional Sections - If you agree to release this information to your child's school, please initial here.

II. Oral Health Status (check all that apply).

- Yes No **Caries Experience/Restoration History** – Has the child ever had a cavity (treated or untreated)? [A filling (temporary/permanent) OR a tooth that is missing because it was extracted as a result of caries OR an open cavity].
- Yes No **Untreated Caries** – Does this child have an open cavity? [At least ½ mm of tooth structure loss at the enamel surface. Brown to dark-brown coloration of the walls of the lesion. These criteria apply to pits and fissure cavitated lesions as well as those on smooth tooth surfaces. If retained root, assume that the whole tooth was destroyed by caries. Broken or chipped teeth, plus teeth with temporary fillings, are considered sound unless a cavitated lesion is also present].
- Yes No **Dental Sealants Present**

Other problems (Specify): _____

III. Treatment Needs (check all that apply)

- No obvious problem. Routine dental care is recommended. Visit your dentist regularly.
- May need dental care. Please schedule an appointment with your dentist as soon as possible for an evaluation.
- Immediate dental care is required. Please schedule an appointment immediately with your dentist to avoid problems.