



SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAM
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH – LIFESPAN HEALTH SERVICES
www.dhhs.ne.gov/SchoolHealth

School Health Screening Rules and Regulations: Project Update for Stakeholders #3
November 12, 2010

The Steering Committee for school health screening rules and regulations met on Nov. 4, 2010.

The committee decided to include distance vision screening only as a minimum requirement for Nebraska school children. The committee reviewed a number of recommendations on vision screening, and decided that distance vision screening was sufficient to identify the child needing further evaluation. At the point of examination by a vision professional, the many other aspects of functional vision for learning can be assessed. Also noted is the existing requirement that all children are required to have a vision evaluation prior to school entry.

The steering committee finalized language of the draft rules and regulations that are positive in tone and intent, fulfill the purpose of screening, fulfill the statutes, and reflect the limited role of the school as non-health care provider.

The steering committee is interested in opening the process of rules and regulations development with a 30-day review and comment period, during which time written comments will be invited from our many stakeholders and other parties interested in school health screening practices on the “draft” document. This will be an informal process, preliminary to finalizing a “proposed” set of regulations for advancing in the policy process.

In addition to comment on any aspect of the draft regulations, input from stakeholders on words or phrases that should be included in *7-002 Definitions* will be helpful.

The target date for posting of the draft rules and regulations for a thirty day period is Friday, 11/12/2010, until Wednesday, 12/15/2010. Shortly thereafter, the steering committee will meet to consider comments and further changes to the draft regulations prior to submission to the regulatory process.