

**SCHOOL :** Suamico Elementary

**Subject:** Your School's Hearing & Vision Screening Dates

**Please forward the following information to communicate the screening date(s) to your parents and school staff.**



The Brown County Health Department staff will be coming to **Suamico Elementary** to provide Hearing and Vision Screenings for the designated grades and other requested students.

The Hearing Screening will occur on **Wednesday, September 20, 2017**. All 4K (located only within schools that have other designated grades already being screened), 5K and 1st graders, any new students to the district, and any students requested by teachers or parents/guardians will be tested. If your child does not pass the initial hearing screening, a rescreen will be performed in four to six weeks to determine if there is a persistent hearing problem. If they still do not pass, a letter will be sent home indicating the importance of following up with a physician and/or audiologist. The screening is not a substitute for a regular examination by your physician but is meant to identify persistent hearing loss in children and bring it to the attention of parents/guardians and teachers.

The Vision Screening will occur on **Wednesday, October 25, 2017**. All 4K (located only within schools that have other designated grades already being screened), 5K, 1st, 3rd, 5<sup>th</sup> graders, any new students to the district, and any students requested by teachers and parents/guardians will be tested. Vision screening routinely tests distance vision. A photo-refractor tool is used with students in the targeted grades, as well as with requested students. The photo-refractor takes a reading of the child's eyes and could possibly detect some problems with the eye that we cannot detect through our traditional screening methods. If your child already wears glasses, they will be tested with their glasses on to make sure the glasses are working properly. Near vision and color vision can be tested upon request only. The screening methods used can detect several eye problems common to these age groups. However, the screening provided by Brown County Health Department should not be a substitute for a complete professional eye exam. A child who passes may still have other visual problems. If symptoms such as squinting, headaches, frowning, or frequent blinking are noted, a complete eye exam is recommended. Red, swollen or encrusted eyelids indicate a medical problem requiring a physician's treatment. If your child does not pass the screening, a letter will be sent home recommending an examination by an eye doctor. **Prevent Blindness** recommends that children have a professional eye exam prior to entering school and up to every other year after that.

**IMPORTANT:** Brown County Health Department will inform your child's school and teacher if your child does not pass either/both screenings and a letter will be sent home as well. Screening staff will only be sending detailed results to the *"School Nurse or Dedicated Health Professional"*, in accordance with HIPAA and due to PHI (Protected Health Information) contained in the reports

**PARENTS:** Parental consent is not required for students to participate in the above screenings. However, if you **DO NOT** want your child screened for hearing and/or vision **YOU MUST** contact your child's school at least one week prior to the screening date to have your child removed from the screening list. It is the school's responsibility to inform health department staff of any students who should not be included in the screening(s).