

COMMACK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment & Student Support Services

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Mr. Jordan F. Cox

Executive Director of Instructional Services

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Maintaining healthy teeth is an important part of a child's general health. Your child's first teeth and permanent teeth are important and should receive regular care by a dentist.

This letter is to inform you that New York State suggests a dental certificate as part of a student's physical for new entrants and for students in grades Pre-K or Kindergarten, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11.

We encourage you to take your child to the dentist for an oral examination. The form on the next page should be completed by your family dentist and **returned to your school nurse.**

If you have any questions, please contact your school nurse.

Sincerely,

Jordan F. Cox

Jordan F. Cox
Executive Director of Instructional Services

JFC/jp

Attachment

Dental Health Certificate- Optional

Parent/Guardian: New York State law (Chapter 281) permits schools to request an oral health assessment at the same time a health examination is required. 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.