

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

September 12, 2022

Stewart County School District

LUMPKIN, GA- Stewart County School District has collaborated with Prevent Blindness Georgia's Star Pupils and Healthy Eyes for Healthy Futures Programs to provide vision and hearing screening at Stewart County Middle School on Wednesday, September 14th, 2022 at 8:30 am. The screenings will be performed by certified screeners from Prevent Blindness Georgia's Star Pupil's: Healthy Eyes for Healthy Futures program and school district staff.

VISION SCREENING

The purpose of the screening is to identify children who have, or may be at risk for, vision problems and need a comprehensive eye exam by an eye doctor. The screening is <u>NOT</u> a diagnosis.

Vision problems are the leading handicap of childhood, yet most vision problems go undetected because they are not evident to children or their parents. These problems can result in permanent vision loss if left untreated and may impact the child's ability to learn, athletic performance, and self-esteem. However, early detection and treatment can, in many cases, restore normal vision.

HEARING SCREENING

Hearing is important for speech and language development, reading, learning, and social interactions. Even mild hearing loss or hearing loss only in one ear may interfere with academics. Children with undiagnosed hearing loss may appear to have poor attention or other learning problems. Hearing can change between screenings and hearing loss can be related to medical issues.

You will receive an initial letter sent home with your child if he/she **DOES NOT PASS** their Vision and/or Hearing screening(s) and follow-up communication from the screening staff regarding the results and recommendations for further evaluation.

About Stewart County School District-

Stewart County School District is an equal opportunity employer committed to inclusion and diversity. We take affirmative action to ensure equal opportunity for all applicants, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, Veteran status, or other legally protected characteristics.