

(Suggested Content for Referral Letter to Parent)

(Date)

(Address)

(City, State, Zip)

Dear Parent:

The School Health Services program routinely screens students for possible hearing problems in order to identify any barrier to learning that might be corrected. Screening programs to find students with possible problems and to refer them to the appropriate health care provider are important for these reasons:

1. Temporary hearing loss causes students to miss crucial instructions in the classroom;
2. Parents may not be aware of a child's mild hearing loss in every day home situations;
3. Even mild losses may interfere with learning new vocabulary, which is critical for success in reading;
4. Hearing loss is invisible and the child may be blamed for "not paying attention;"
5. Hearing loss may be a sign of ear disease; and
6. Children with very mild losses or loss only in one ear may be experiencing school failure.

Your child failed our screening and rescreening for hearing problems. We feel it is important to your child's school success to have a professional evaluation for this. If a problem is found and corrected, it may help your student do better in his schoolwork. Enclosed is a referral form to take to your doctor if we suspect a medical problem, or an audiologist, if that is more appropriate.

It is important to us to know what is found on the professional examination, so we would appreciate your returning the form to us, with the results of the exam.

Sincerely,

School Nurse

(School or Health Services letterhead)