

## Lions Screen Kids Sight Program Update 2022-2023

1. We have 31 schools on our candidate list for 2022-2023 (See **B2. Candidate Yavapai County Elementary Schools List – Attached**)
  - a. We are asking Team Leaders to contact the inactive schools listed here to determine their status for 2022-2023:
    - i. Camp Verde Elementary, American Heritage Academy (2 campuses) (CO)
    - ii. Granite Mountain Middle (5<sup>th</sup> Grade), Acorn Montessori Charter (2 campuses) (PS).
2. There may be some residual effects interacting with schools due to the latest COVID variant this year. We want to maximize the number of students that we can vision screen (See Item 9 below). Attached is the revised COVID Protocol for 2022-2023.
3. Current status of new ADHS rules for mandated grade levels under 2019 legislation.  
**Action:** We have determined that until the ADHS finalizes its rules and officially releases them, we will continue to use our current procedures and test all grades that we are permitted to between preK-4<sup>th</sup> grades.
4. When the rules are officially released, we will review and act accordingly. As of now they are:
  - a. Mandated grade levels preK or K (entry into school), 2nd and 6th grades (Revised from grades 3 and 5).  
**Proposed Action:** Screen preK/K and skip grades 2 and 6 (when applicable) in our screenings. Rules for screening preK/K may be more restrictive.
  - b. ADHS is currently prohibiting the use of photoscreeners above the age of 5.  
**Proposed Action:** See above.
  - c. The legislation only covers the mandated grade levels and all other grades are available to vision screen using photoscreeners.  
**Proposed Action:** Screen non-mandated grade levels between prek- 4 using photoscreeners.
  - d. Students who do not pass the initial screening need to be retested between 10 and 30 days after the initial screening.  
**Proposed Action:** We rescreen all Refers immediately. For preK/K, we generally will not return to re-screen, leaving it to the school health official, unless other arrangements are made.
  - e. Reschedule absent students within 45 days.  
**Proposed Action:** We will make arrangements, case by case, whether to return to screen absentees, or leave it to school health official.
5. Data schools need to report annually for vision screening (May only be for preK/K for this program)
  - a. Name of screener:  
**Proposed Action:** This will be the name of Team Leader or event Lead Screener.
  - b. Copy of screener's certificate of completion:  
**Proposed Action:** Team Leader's or event Lead Screener AZ Vision Screening Certificate.
  - c. Type of vision equipment used: **Spot Vision Screener**
  - d. Date of calibration: **Not applicable. Recalibration not required**
6. Requirement for stereopsis screening has been dropped. **No Action Required**
7. Rule: Conduct an inspection of students eyes (Only for preK/K). If defect(s) found, the rule says do not screen.  
**Action:** We will attempt to screen all students in our program and make a notation of any visible eye abnormalities at the bottom of the student's index card.
8. Rule: Color testing will be required for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.  
**Action:** We will continue color testing kindergarten and get school's cooperation to do so. We can discuss with each school the possibility of also color testing 2<sup>nd</sup> grade once rules are released.

**Action:** We recommend that the school nurse retest all Nonconforming students for color.

9. How do we proceed with our partner schools?
- The effects of the 2019 AZ vision screening legislation and COVID-19 impacted the number of grades that we were able to vision screen. Schools may opt to do the anticipated bare minimum. Our goal is to convince them that we continue to vision screen preK – 4 as we did in 2019.

**Action:** Give schools the following reasons to continue to vision screen preK – 4<sup>th</sup> grades:

- The 2019 legislation gives schools the authority to add more grades to the minimum grades mandated for vision screening.
- The minimum vision screening requirement under the mandate does not negate the long time recommended practice of vision screening lower grades every year. It is a bare minimum. The ADHS 2010 vision screening Guidelines recommend vision screening every year through 4th grade, then every other year.
- In this age group, children's eyes change every year and need to be tested every year.
- Charts alone cannot detect eye conditions that photoscreeners can. We detect:  
Astigmatism - irregularly shaped corneas or lenses; Myopia – nearsightedness;  
Hyperopia – farsightedness; Strabismus - misalignment of the eyes  
Anisometropia - unequal refractive power; Anisocoria - pupil size anomalies  
Amblyopia risk factors - reduced vision in one eye. Eliminating Amblyopia is a core Lions objective.
- Eliminating vision impairment is a necessary component in a comprehensive strategy for improving student literacy. Children who do not have strong reading skills by the end of 3rd grade, do poorly for years afterward.
- Vision screening with the Lions program is time efficient, minimizing the time lost in the classroom.
- This Lions program has the resources to pay for an eye exam and glasses for students if their parents can't afford to pay.
- A Baltimore study found that getting eyeglasses to students paid significant dividends in student performance and these dividends had a biggest impact on students the lowest quartile.

**Action:** Contact schools directly or send a message by e-mail stating we would like to resume vision screening preK/K – 4<sup>th</sup> grade this year. Possibly send 1 page document, **Vision Screening Rationale** (Attached) and our list of reasons for screening more grade levels between preK – 4<sup>th</sup> grade (Attached).

10. Status of index cards. We are requesting that schools add the student's grade and teacher's name to the index cards. (See **E8. Format For 3 X 5 Index Card System** – Attached.)

11. Status of MOUs

- New MOU's need to be signed this year and will be good for one year.

**Action:** Get new MOU's signed

- We don't need to modify MOU text until final ADHS rules are officially released. **No Action Required Now**

- We need to ensure that all grades that we want to vision screen are specifically included in each school's signed MOU to be covered by the 2019 vision screening legislation.

**Action:** Have schools notate grades to screen in MOU if not the default preK – 4.

12. Status of Consent Form (for private schools) and Referral Letter:

- Private schools and preschools still need consent forms for each student. **No Change**
- We want to assist parents in accessing financial assistance if needed, upon receiving a Referral Letter. This includes possible Lions assistance.

**Action:** Request that school staff or health official provide their contact information with the Referral Letter. Remind them that one option for assistance is Lions assistance. Send to each school nurse or health official **G15. Financial Assistance Options** (Attached) and

our application for assistance – **G16. Application For Lions Eye Care Assistance.**  
(Attached)

13. Status of AZ certification:

**Action:** There needs to be at least one Lion that is AZ Vision Screening certified at each vision screening event. Each team leader and at least one assistant should get AZ certified. (Note: Under law, ADHS should honor Lions certification before 8/26/19, but that date may be back-dated to 7/1/19. So, we will use AZ Vision Certification.)

14. Status of Yavapai Lions Vision Screeners.

a. **Action:** Recruit new Lions for the vision screening program to replace those screeners that are no longer participating. New Lions vision screeners need to get their fingerprint ID card, pass the Lions Kid Sight on-line exam and attend a Lions Screen Kids Sight local training session - learning about the Spot screener and our program format. There are minor changes from last year to **C4. Notes on Applying for the Fingerprint Card** (Attached) and **C5. Notes on Applying for KidSight Certification.** (Attached)

b. In 2021-2022, fewer Lions were available from other teams to screen larger schools.  
**Action:** Send future requests for assistance directly to all Lions screeners in the program. An updated **C2. List of Lion Vision Screening Teams** is Attached.

c. We will schedule a training session later this summer for new screeners. The date has not yet been set. **No Action Required Now**

15. We will rescreen all Refers in 2022-2023 immediately after first screening without a delay.

16. Remember to send out document **H6. Vision Screening Program Review and Checklist** (Attached) to schools each year as a program reminder.

17. There are no plans this year to talk to PV Schools. **No Action Required**

18. We will not do near vision testing with charts. **No Action Required**

19. There are no plans to set-up a pilot program to screen preschools in the spring of 2023.  
**No Action Required**

20. Documents updated for 2022-2023:

A1, A2, A3, B1, B2, B6, C1, C2, C4, C5, C7, D1, D8, E4, E8, F1, F2, G9, G10, G11 and H6.

21. There is a plan to send all three Spot Vision Screeners back before the expiration date (3/2023) for batteries and updates at no cost. There are no plans to pay for additional 5 year warranties at an estimated cost of \$1600 each. **No Action Required Now**

22. Vision Screening website: We plan to set up a program website this year. Details to follow.

23. Sustainability – We need a plan to sustain this program including replacement of committee members and the chair.

**Action:** We will pursue the next steps in organizing Lions of Yavapai, now that it has its credentials completed. This is the best organization to ensure longer term sustainability of this multi-club program.

7/20/22