EXHIBIT I

A Report of Vision Screenings

In

Arkansas Public and Charter Schools

School Year 2011-2012

As required by Act 1438 of 2005

Prepared by Paula Smith, MNSc, RNP State School Nurse Consultant Arkansas Department of Education/ Arkansas Department of Health Act 1438 of 2005 requires that all Pre-kindergarten, Kindergarten, first, second, fourth, sixth and eighth grade and all transfer students undergo a vision screening. School nurses who receive training from the Community Health Nurse Specialist (CHNS) housed in the educational cooperatives across the state conduct these screenings. In 2006, these CHNS received training from the Eye and Vision Commission members as well as other volunteer optometrists and ophthalmologists. In addition, Act 1438 requires that the Eye and Vision Commission and the Department of Education report its findings and updates to the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House and Senate Interim Committees on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor two times per year. To meet this mandate, in 2006 school nurses in all 245 school districts as well as the charter schools completed the Vision Summary Form for their school/district. Beginning with the 2007-2008 school year, school nurses were able to enter vision screening results into the Arkansas Public School Computer Network (APSCN). This data is compiled and reported to the State School Nurse Consultant twice a year.

School Year 2011-2012

Overall. Students receiving a vision screening in the required grades (pre-K, K, 1, 2, 4, 6, 8 and all transfers) numbered 221,795. Referrals to an eye doctor numbered 19,719 students (9%) of which 9,598 students (49%) actually reported to the school nurse they received an exam. Of these students receiving an exam, 8,345 (87%) were identified as having a vision difficulty confirmed by an eye doctor.

Pre-Kindergarten. There were 8,257 enrolled Pre-kindergarten students who received a vision screening at school. Of these, 412 (5%) students were referred to an eye doctor. Two hundred fifty-two students (61%) actually reported to the school nurse they had received an eye exam and 199 (79%) students had a vision difficulty confirmed by an eye doctor.

Kindergarten. Thirty-six thousand ninety two Kindergarten students received a vision screening. There were 2,310 students (6%) referred to an eye doctor for an exam. Of these referrals, 1,310 students (57%) actually reported to the school nurse they received an eye exam and 1040 students (79%) had a vision difficulty confirmed by an eye doctor.

<u>First Grade.</u> There were 36,724 first-grade students who received a vision screening. Of these, there were 2,917 students (8%) referred to an eye doctor for an exam. One thousand six hundred forty-three students (56%) actually reported to the school nurse they received an eye exam and 1,362 students (83%) had a vision difficulty confirmed by an eye doctor.

Second Grade. There were 35,923 students who received a vision screening. Of those screened, 3,121 students (9%) were referred to an eye doctor for an exam. One thousand six hundred eighty-five students (54%) actually reported to the school nurse they received an exam and 1,434 students (85%) had a vision difficulty confirmed by an eye doctor.

Fourth Grade. Thirty-five thousand three hundred twenty-eight fourth grade students received a vision screening. There were 3,606 students (10%) referred to an eye doctor for an exam. One thousand eight hundred eighty students (52%) actually reported to the school nurse they received an exam and 1,701 students (90%) had a vision difficulty confirmed by an eye doctor.

Sixth Grade. There were 34,974 sixth grade students who received a vision screening. Of these, 3,760 students (11%) were referred to an eye doctor for an exam. One thousand five hundred fifty-one students (41%) actually reported to the school nurse they received an exam and 1,409 students (91%) had a vision difficulty confirmed by an eye doctor.

<u>Eighth Grade.</u> Thirty-four thousand four hundred ninety-seven eighth grade students received a vision screening. There were 3,593 students (10%) who were referred to an eye doctor for an exam. One thousand two hundred seventy-seven students (36%) actually reported to the school nurse they received an exam and 1,200 students (94%) had a vision difficulty confirmed by an eye doctor.

<u>Transfer students.</u> Transfer students were reported in their respective grades as opposed to reporting them separately.

Other. All students receiving a vision screening in grades Pre-Kindergarten through twelve were 252,156. That is an additional 30,361 students screened that were not previously reported in the above grades. As a result of these extra screenings, an additional 3,533 students (12%) were referred to an eye doctor. Of these referrals, 1,711 students (48%) reported to the school nurse they received an exam by an eye doctor. As a result, 1,581 students (92%) reported a vision difficulty confirmed by an eye doctor.

Ark. Code Ann. 6-18-1502. Eye exams.

- (a) (1) A child who does not pass the eye and vision screening tests, except for the color perception test, shall be required to have a comprehensive eye and vision examination conducted by an optometrist or ophthalmologist within sixty (60) days of receipt of the vision screening report identifying the need for the examination.
- (2) The parent or guardian of the child shall be responsible for ensuring that the child receives the appropriate eye and vision examination.
- (b) (1) If a child does not receive an appropriate examination, as evidenced by a certificate signed by an optometrist or ophthalmologist acknowledging the examination, then the public school or public charter school where the child is registered shall report the child to the Department of Education.
- (2) The local school district shall take such action as necessary to encourage that the child receive an appropriate examination

Students who do not pass the vision screening are referred to an optometrist or ophthalmologist for a comprehensive eye and vision examination.

The parent notification/referral letter is available in English and Spanish on the Arkansas Coordinated School Health website, www.arkansascsh.org.

Vision Screenings, School Year 2011-2012

Grade	Screened	Referred	Received Exam	Confirmed Difficulty	Confirmed Normal
Pre-kindergarten	8,257	412	252	199	53
Kindergarten	36,092	2,310	1,310	1,040	270
First	36,724	2,917	1,643	1,362	281
Second	35,923	3,121	1,685	1,434	251
Fourth	35,328	3,606	1,880	1,701	179
Sixth	34,974	3,760	1,551	1,409	142
Eighth	34,497	3,593	1,277	1,200	77
TOTALS	221,795	19,719	9,598	8,345	1,253

Vision Screenings, School Year 2010-2011

Grade	Screened	Referred	Received Exam	Confirmed Difficulty	Confirmed Normal
Pre-kindergarten	7,730	458	298	236	62
Kindergarten	36,363	2,180	1231	970	261
First	36,204	2,600	1,486	1,268	213
Second	35,718	2,952	1,640	1,417	223
Fourth	35,598	3,363	1,746	1,592	154
Sixth	35,582	3,702	1,527	1,419	108
Eighth	34,616	3,305	1,319	1,234	85
TOTALS	221,811	18,560	9,242	8,136	1,106

Vision Screenings, School Year 2009-2010

Grade	Screened	Referred	Received Exam	Confirmed Difficulty	Confirmed Normal
Pre-kindergarten	7,925	366	211	141	68
Kindergarten	37,496	2,350	1,266	971	295
First	37,306	2,870	1,532	1,277	255
Second	36,637	3,096	1,664	1,426	238
Fourth	36,635	3,588	1,849	1,679	170
Sixth	35,530	3,606	1,487	1,364	123
Eighth	34,814	3,593	1,346	1,264	82
TOTALS	226,343	19,469	9,355	6,922	1,231