Dear Parents/Guardians

It is our pleasure to have Cathy Grinham, Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH) visiting our schools. Mrs. Grinham will be available to provide preventive dental services for students in all grades. These services include: dental screenings, dental sealant placement, and fluoride varnish application, as well as classroom education. This is a wonderful opportunity to prevent tooth decay.

90% of all dental decay (cavities) begins on the surfaces of the teeth. This can be prevented by placing a dental sealant on the back teeth. A sealant is a thin plastic coating applied to a healthy tooth, it is brushed on the pits and grooves of the molars and is hardened with a special light. The procedure is simple, painless and 100% effective when retained.

Fluoride Varnish is a brushed on application of fluoride that delivers a safe and effective way to prevent dental decay especially combined with the preventive benefits of sealants. The varnish is made with pine resin and is therefore sticky and adheres to the teeth. The student can eat and drink right away and the varnish actually tastes good. It is best to apply professional fluoride 2-4 times per year. You may choose to add to the fluoride treatment your child is receiving from your dental office, in the school setting especially if there is a history of cavities.

Your child will be sent home with a dental screening record which includes any findings/recommendations. If you have indicated that your child sees a dentist on a regular basis, any referrals will be made to that office. If you do not have a dentist, a list of local dentists that accept your insurance will be included. A follow up screening will be done the following year to make sure all sealants have been retained. If replacement sealants are needed it will be done at no charge.

NO INSURANCE---- NO PROBLEM. Please contact Cathy Grinham directly to discuss options.

Children that are decay free : **Eat Better, Sleep Better, Learn Better**

Thank you,

Judy Aubin RN ,MSN, Med, NCSN
Nurse Leader, North Attleboro Public Schools

Cathy Grinham RDH, Public Health Dental Hygienist
A MassHealth Provider and Collaborator

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