



May 5, 2017

Dear 5th Grade Parents/Guardians:

As spring and summer quickly approach, it is important that you are aware of the **immunization requirements for students entering Grade 6 in September 2017**, pursuant to NY Public Health Law, Section 2164 and Education Law, Section 914.

- Students who are entering 6th grade are required to have 2 doses of varicella regardless of age.
- Students who are entering 6th grade, and are 11 years or older, must receive an immunization containing tetanus toxoids, diphtheria and acellular pertussis (Tdap).
- Students who are 10 years old and entering 6th grade will not be required to receive the Tdap until they turn 11 years old. At that time, they must provide documentation of a booster dose of Tdap or provide proof of an appointment for the booster dose within 14 days.

The only two exemptions from this requirement are either:

- A medical exemption written by a physician
- A notarized statement from parent(s)/guardian(s) who hold genuine and sincere religious beliefs which are contrary to the immunization provisions required by law. Such statements must be approved by Denise Campbell, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services & Human Resources and Kurt Simon, Principal of West Side School.

Students who are 11 years old at the start of school and are not immunized with Tdap **must be excluded from school as of September 20, 2017**.

All 6th grade students (regardless of age) who are not immunized with the 2nd Varicella **must be excluded from school as of September 20, 2017**.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Healthfully yours,

Diana Marlow, R.N.