



East Palestine School District

Traci Hostetler, Superintendent
Rick Ellis, Treasurer

To: Families of Students Entering 7th and 12th Grades in 2016-2017

From: Nancy Farmer
EP Nurse

Date: February 9, 2016

Re: Vaccinations

The Ohio Department of Health is now requiring varying doses of the meningitis vaccine for all students entering grades 7 and 12 in the 2016-2017 school year. Supply and demand suggests that the vaccine may be more difficult to obtain over the summer, so I recommend that you fulfill this requirement as soon as possible.

- 7th Grade Requirement: One dose of the MCV4 (meningococcal) vaccine by the start of the school year. This new requirement is in addition to the Tdap (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis) booster vaccine that is already required of seventh graders.
- 12th Grade Requirement: Two doses of the MCV4 (Meningococcal) vaccine by the start of the 2016 – 2017 school year. Please keep in mind that the vaccine requires at least eight weeks between the first and second doses. If the first dose was administered on or after your child's 16th birthday, a second dose is not required.

Immunizations are an important part of public health and keeping your child healthy and safe from life threatening diseases. Ohio law requires students and children that attend school to be immunized against certain preventable diseases. Verification of your child's complete immunization record must be file. Please bring that documentation to the office.

I strongly urge you call your health care provider or the Columbiana County Health Department at 330-424-0272 (only students with no insurance or who utilize Medicaid) as soon as possible and get your child vaccinated.

I recommend that you have your child vaccinated before the end of this school year in order to avoid the "summer rush" and to avoid the possibility of exclusion at the beginning of next school year.

If you have immunization questions or concerns please, contact Nancy Farmer (RN, School Nurse) at 330-426-9451 or at 330-426-9401. Thank you for your cooperation with these mandates.