

Attention Parents of Incoming 7th and 12th Grade Students!

I wanted to send out a reminder that, as of last year, there are a few vaccinations that are required for junior high and high school students that need to be done prior to them attending school. These immunizations are MANDATORY for students, we cannot allow grace periods for them.

Students entering the 7th grade and born after September 15, 2004, will need to have the following:

One dose of meningococcal vaccine given after age ten and before entering the seventh grade.

A Tdap booster prior to entering the seventh grade.

Students entering the 12th grade that are born after September 15, 2004, will be required to have the following:

Two doses of meningococcal vaccine (1 dose received on or after the age of 16); or 1 dose if received when the student was 16 years of age or older.

Meningitis is a very serious illness that can infect the blood, brain and spinal cord. It is spread by bacteria through upper respiratory droplet, such as saliva. About 10-15% of people who get meningococcal disease die even if given correct treatments. Up to 20% may suffer serious after effects such as hearing loss or brain damage.

Meningococcal vaccines are very safe and effective at preventing the meningococcal disease. It is about 85-100 percent effective at preventing the infection.

The Tdap booster helps to prevent the occurrence of diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis.

If you have questions regarding your child's immunizations I would be happy to help assist you. Give me a call at 641-764-2621 or email me at school, alene_kirvin@mstm.us.

