



DIOCESE OF FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND

School Wellness Ministry

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The School Wellness Ministry Program provides school health for the Catholic schools. The enclosed packet of information will need to be completed by the first day of school. The law in the State of Indiana requires that your child have certain immunizations in order to attend school. **Please make sure that the immunization information is read carefully, as the Indiana State Department of Health and the Indiana Department of Education have made some mandatory changes for the 2015-2016 school year.**

Below is the minimum number of immunizations *required* according to grade:

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Beth Clemans, RN, BSN
Ext. 202

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Ext. 203

- **Pre-School - Pre-Kindergarten: 4 DTaP, 3 Polio, 3 Hepatitis B, 1 MMR, and 1 Varicella or physician written documentation of history of the Chicken Pox Disease including month and year**
- **Kindergarten – First Grade: 5 DTaP, 4 Polio, 3 Hepatitis B, 2 MMR, 2 Varicella or physician written documentation of history of the Chicken Pox Disease including the month and year AND NEW, 2 Hepatitis A**
- **Grades Second –Fifth: 5 DTaP, 4 Polio, 3 Hepatitis B, 2 MMR, 2 Varicella or Physician written documentation of history of the Chicken Pox disease including the month and year**
- **Grades Sixth – Eleventh: 5 DTaP, 4 Polio, 3 Hepatitis B, 2 MMR, 1Meningitis, 1Pertussis, and 2 Varicella (or physician written documentation of the Chicken Pox Disease including month and year for sixth and seventh graders; a history of the Chicken Pox disease with a written statement from the parent/guardian including the month and year for grades 8 – 11).**
- **Twelfth Grade: 5 DTaP, 4 Polio; 3 Hepatitis B, 2 MMR, 1 Tdap, 2 Varicella or a history of the Chicken Pox Disease with a written statement from parent/guardian including the month and year AND NEW, 2 Meningitis.**

(OVER)

The Indiana State Department of Health has also made *recommendations* for the **2015-2016 school year** that will eventually become a requirement for more grade levels in the upcoming school years to follow. **These recommendations include:**

- **First Grade: 2 Hepatitis A vaccinations**

PLEASE PROVIDE ALL IMMUNIZATION DATES, UNLESS SPECIFIED, WITH THE MONTH, DAY AND YEAR (i.e.: xx/xx/xxxx). Please also understand that we have to report immunization data to the Indiana State Department of Health electronically through the Children and Hoosiers Immunization Registry Program (CHIRP). Please return the CHIRP consent with all other health forms provided so immunization data can be reported.

Please be mindful that these are minimum immunization requirements, and children need to have booster shots for certain vaccinations. Consult your child's physician or health care provider to ensure your child is fully immunized. The Center for Disease Control does recommend that 2 doses of Hepatitis A are needed for lasting protection. Hepatitis A vaccination may be given to any child 12 months or older to protect against Hepatitis A. Hepatitis A vaccination is recommended for older children with certain medical conditions that place them at high risk. Hepatitis A vaccine is licensed, safe, and effective for all children of all ages. Even if your child is not at high risk, you may decide you want your child protected against Hepatitis A. Talk to your healthcare provider about Hepatitis A vaccine and what factors may place your child at high risk for Hepatitis A.

Once your child is accepted at school, please send in the forms found in this packet. We will accept exams that were done within the last twelve months. Please look over the form before sending it to the school to be sure that the above required immunization dates are on the form.

The State of Indiana recognizes only 2 reasons for non-immunization of children. One is medical. If your child has a medical reason for not being immunized, there is a form that must be filled out **annually**. A physician is the only health care provider that is able to sign this form. The second reason is religious. If religion is the reason, the parent must sign a form **annually**. **These forms are due on the first day of school.**

You can send in the information in this packet during the summer months to the school or to our office. Fax copies will also be accepted.

Sincerely yours,

Maureen VerVaet, RN, BSN