

**WASHINGTONVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Dear Parents:

New York State Legislation requires medical examinations of children entering pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, grades 2, 4, 7 and 10, and any new student entering the district for the first time. Each physical must state the student's Body Mass Index (BMI) and weight status category.

Since the family physician knows your child best, parents are strongly encouraged to have this examination performed by the family physician. Physicals and the Annual Physical Examination Form need to be completed within 12 months prior to the commencement of the school year in which the examination is required and provided to the school nurse within 30 days after the start of the school by the student. After this date, the school physician reserves the legal right to make a health appraisal of students for whom we have not received a report. School physicals cannot be used for out of school or community activities, such as Little League or summer camp.

Vision screenings will be done by the School Nurse annually on all K-3, 5, 7 and 10th graders. Hearing screenings will be done on K,1,3,5,7 and 10th graders. All new entrants will be screened for vision and hearing.

Regular dental care by the family dentist is recommended for all students. Preventive dental care through fluoride treatment and sealant can prevent a large percentage of dental decay. Per NYS Law #A00581 etc. As of September 1, 2008 - all students enrolling in Pre-K, kindergarten, or first grade must present a dental health certificate; such dental health certificate must contain a report of a comprehensive dental examination performed on such child.

It is the policy of the District to ask parents to keep their children home from school if they show signs of illness or other infections. If a child has had a fever, he or she should remain at home until the temperature has been normal for at least 24 hours. When a child is absent for 2-3 consecutive days, please notify your individual school Attendance Office.

Due to the size of the District and the large number of students, transportation for ill students cannot be provided. Therefore, it is necessary that you provide us with the name and phone number of an adult who will care for your child in your absence. Please feel free to call us if we may be of assistance.

HEALTH OFFICE	<u>TELEPHONE</u>	<u>FAX NUMBER</u>
Round Hill Elementary	497-4000 x25531	497-4082
Little Britain Elementary	497-4000 x23531	497-4003
Taft Elementary	497-4000 x22531	497-4085
Middle School	497-4000 x21532	497-4037
High School	497-4000 x24532	497-4034

All health forms, including the authorization for the administration of medicine at school may be downloaded from the District's website by navigating to www.ws.k12.ny.us and selecting Central Registration under Administration at the top of the home page. Please take a moment to become familiar with the District's health program procedures:

SCOLIOSIS

New York State Education Law requires that all children between ages of 8 & 16 receive an examination to identify children with possible lateral curvature of the spine (scoliosis). If your child has not had this screening as part of his/her annual physical examination. This screening is done by a nurse practitioner, if your child has a possible problem, you will be contacted promptly; otherwise you will not hear from us. If you do have your physician do the screening please have it noted on the report.

PUPIL IMMUNIZATIONS

New York State Public Health Law requires that children be immunized in accordance with the following.

1. Diphtheria - 3 or more doses of diphtheria toxoid (usually administered as DPT, DTaP, DT)
2. 3 doses of Tetanus Toxoid containing Pertussis Vaccine (Not applicable until student born on or after 1-1-05 enrolls in school) (DTaP, DTP)
3. MMR - one after 1st Birthday and one prior to Kindergarten (2 measles, 1 mumps, 1 Rubella)
4. Polio - 3 or more doses of oral vaccine or 4 doses of inactivated polio vaccine (IPV or OPV)
5. Hepatitis B - 3 doses of the vaccine K-12 as of 2005-2006 school year.
6. Varicella - vaccine for all children born on or after January 1, 1998 and are entering kindergarten starting in September 2003. Students born on or after January 1, 1994, and who enroll in the 6th grade must be immunized against Varicella, or have a history of varicella disease as documented by a health care provider or blood test.
7. Tdap - As of 9/1/2007, vaccine for children entering 6th grade who were born on or after 1/1/1994. If a student has received a Td, DT or DTap vaccination within the last two years, the student's Tdap vaccination should be deferred until a period of 2 years has elapsed. 10 year old students who are entering the 6th grade will not be required to receive a Tdap vaccine and will not be excluded from school, but must receive the immunization when they turn 11.

Immunizations are available from your family physician as well as free clinics sponsored by the Orange County Health Department.

Children who do not have the required immunization may be excluded from school.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION EXCUSES

State Education Law requires that all children take part in physical education program unless a health problem makes this inadvisable. A note from a physician, to be renewed yearly, is necessary for a child to be excused from this requirement. Written parental requests will be honored for one or two class sessions, but periodic or repeated excuses require medical validation in the interest of the pupil's health.

MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

Under certain unusual circumstances, when it is necessary for a child to take medication during school hours, the nurse will cooperate with the family physician and the parents. If the parent submits a written request and it is accompanied by a written request from the family physician in which he indicates the name, frequency, dosage and duration of a prescribed medication, then the School Nurse may administer the medication during school hours. This note must be renewed each year at the beginning of the school year. All medication taken in school must come to the Health Office in its original container and will be taken under the nurse's supervision. The medication must be delivered to the nurse by the parent.

Internet Resource: New York Statewide School Health Service Center (NYSSHSC)

<http://www.schoolhealthservicesny.com>