

January 30, 2016

**To the parent/guardian of current 5th Grader:**

New York State made another change in the immunization requirements for school entry in 2015. Along with the booster **Tdap** being required for 6<sup>th</sup> grade, a 2<sup>nd</sup> dose of **Varicella** (chickenpox) is required, and now students may be required to receive another dose of the **Polio** vaccine, depending on the age the student received their 1<sup>st</sup> and final dose of Polio.

- Students who are entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade or a comparable special education school program on or after September 1, 2007 and who are **11 years of age** or older must receive an immunization called **Tdap**.
- If a student has received a TD, DT, or Dtap vaccination within the last two years, the student's Tdap vaccination should be deferred (with rare exceptions) until a period of two years has elapsed.
- 10-year-old students who are entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade will not be required to receive a Tdap vaccine and will not be excluded in September, but they must be immunized within 14 days of their 11 year old birthday.
- NY State has a mandated report that is due in October. If your child is scheduled to receive the **Tdap** immunization during or after October, we will need a note from your child's physician stating they have an appt scheduled and give the appt date.

If your child has already received the **Tdap** booster, please contact me to make sure I have it documented in their file.

New York State requires that they receive the immunization once they turn 11 years old.

**New York State has additional immunization requirements for students entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade in 2015, besides the Tdap vaccine.**

- **Students are now required to have (2) Varicella (chickenpox) vaccines.**
- **Students must have the appropriate dose intervals of Polio. This may require the student to have anywhere from 3 to 5 doses of Polio altogether. This is dependent upon how old the student was when the vaccines was given.**

**Please check with your health care provider to make sure that your child has the necessary immunizations for next year. Send proof of immunizations to the health office.**

These changes can be confusing. Do not hesitate to contact me with any questions; you can call me at 683-2112 ext.128, between the hours of 9:30-1:00 pm.

You may also email me at [morenob@smeschool.com](mailto:morenob@smeschool.com)

Thank you,  
**Bobbie Moreno R.N.**  
SME School Nurse