

February 26, 2017

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 6th grade, a 2nd 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 1st and final dose of Polio.

- Students who are entering 6th 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 6th 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 6th 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

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