



GREENSBURG SALEM SCHOOL DISTRICT

1 Academy Hill Place □ Greensburg, Pennsylvania 15601-1567

724-832-2901

DR. EILEEN AMATO
Superintendent

March 15, 2017

TODD McMILLEN
724-832-2913

Coordinator of
Student Services

Dear Parent/ Guardian:

The Pennsylvania Department of Health has recently approved changes to the mandated immunizations required for students to be enrolled in public schools. These changes will go into effect in August 2017 and are intended to ensure that all children are adequately protected against potential outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases. The **NEW** Pennsylvania School Immunization Requirements effective August 2017 are as follows:

Children in ALL grades (K-12) need the following immunizations for attendance:

- 4 doses of tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis* (1 dose on or after 4th birthday)
- 4 doses of polio (4th dose on or after 4th birthday and at least 6 months after previous dose given)
- 2 doses of measles, mumps, and rubella **
- 3 doses of hepatitis B
- 2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) or evidence of immunity

Seventh through 12th grade ADDITIONAL immunization requirements for attendance:

- 2 doses meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV)
 - first dose is given 11-15 years of age; a second dose is required at age 16 or entry into 12th grade.
 - if the dose was given at 16 years of age or older, only one dose is required

- 1 dose of tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap)

* usually given as DTaP or DTP or DT or Td

** usually given as MMR

Exemptions to the school laws for immunizations are:

- medical reasons;
- religious beliefs; and
- philosophical/ strong moral or ethical conviction.

We are providing information about the changes in immunization requirement now so families can plan accordingly and be prepared for the start of the new school year. Failure to comply will result in a mandatory exclusion from school. For more information about the required vaccines, please visit dontwaitvaccinate.pa.gov or speak with your child's pediatrician.

Sincerely,

R. Todd McMillen

Coordinator of Student Services

Administrative Offices

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————— www.GreensburgSalem.org —————