

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Just wanted you to know about the school immunizations for this year. Arkansas state law requires students to meet minimum immunization requirements in order to attend public schools. Transfer students have 30 days to produce documentation of immunizations. Requirements are as follows:

4 DTAP, the last one given on or after the child's 4th birthday

1 dose of TDAP for anyone 11 years of age or older, if five years since last dose of DTAP

4 Polio, the last one given after the child's fourth birthday

2 MMR, (measles, mumps, and rubella)

3 Hepatitis B (all students)

MCV4, (meningococcal), one dose for 7th graders and second dose due after the child's 16th birthday.

2 Varicella, (chicken pox), all students' kindergarten through 12th grade. We cannot accept disease history!

1 Hepatitis A for kindergarten and 1st grade students.

Each child MUST have a current immunization record or a letter of exemption from the state of Arkansas to attend Arkansas public schools.

It is also a requirement that each kindergarten student provide a physical within 60 days of the start of school.

Our school policy states that no medicine will be given without a written prescription and a signed release. Medicine from home MUST be in a properly labeled bottle with the following information: child's name, name of medication, prescribed dosage, and the date the prescription was filled. Long-term medicine should be brought to school 1 month at a time. Parents should be bringing the medicine to the school health office to be counted and stored in nurse's office. Your pharmacist can give you an extra bottle for storage at the school. If your child's medicine is discontinued, it is your responsibility to inform the school nurse and pick up any unused medicine. Discontinued medicine will be discarded after 1 month if not picked up. Most antibiotics are prescribed 2-3 times a day. These can be given at 7am, 4pm and at bedtime. This will eliminate your child from bringing medicines to school.

Due to recommendations by the CDC pertaining to COVID-19 virus, PLEASE keep your child home if they are running a fever over 100.3, vomiting or exhibiting any flu-like symptoms. Please keep them home for at least 24 hours after fever is gone or abide by the CDC recommendations on COVID-19. (See school reentry plan or visit <https://www.cdc.org> for instructions on school reentry).

Please check your child`s head frequently! In order to make every effort to prevent the spread of head lice, your child may be checked periodically for head lice here at school. You will be called to pick up your child if a teacher or myself observe active lice in your child`s hair.

We also will be doing state mandated screenings on your child, such as, hearing, vision, and body mass index, (body mass index requires the child to remove shoes and two measurements will be obtained for height and weight). State mandated law says a written refusal must be given from a parent for these screenings. If you do not want these screenings please send a note to your child`s teacher or myself before September of the school year. If you want a printout of your child`s BMI, please let me know and I would be happy to print that out. There will be a scoliosis screening for 6th grade girls and all of the 8th grade. I will be sending out a letter to each parent explaining this procedure. If you do not want this screening PLEASE send a note of refusal to myself.

Finally, thank you for the privilege of working with your child. We hope your child has a positive experience at YS schools.

Sincerely,

Laura Hobbs RN BSN, School Nurse at YS Schools