

An Indianapolis
Classical
High School



110 East 16th Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46202
317-231-0010
www.herronhighschool.org

July 28, 2010

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

The Indiana Health Department has released new vaccination requirements for all Indiana students. In addition to previously required immunizations, students in grade 6-12 are now required to receive a vaccination for meningitis (MCV4), as well as a combined booster shot for whooping cough/tetanus (Tdap). Additionally, if your student did not have chicken pox in early childhood, they will be required to provide proof of two doses of varicella vaccine.

This is a new legal requirement (Indiana Administrative Code 410 IAC 1-1-1). **Beginning in the 2010-2011 school year**, all students entering grades 6-12 will need to provide proof of immunization for the following:

- **Two doses of Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine; (or statement of proof of prior disease)**
- **One dose of Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis) vaccine; and**
- **One dose of MCV4 (Menactra or Menveo) vaccine.**

If your student had chicken pox in childhood, you must provide proof of the illness. For those children entering grades 2-12, documentation from a parent indicating when their child has had chicken pox is sufficient. The written statement should include date of disease, a parent's signature and date of signature.

These vaccines are mandatory. Your student may not be allowed to continue attending school until their immunizations are recorded as up-to-date.

Please see the Indiana Department of Health FAQ's if you have any concerns. <http://ccs-indy.org/2010immunization.pdf>

If your student has an extreme medical condition that prevents them from receiving the required vaccines, your physician must provide documentation in writing that the child has a medical reason for not receiving the vaccine. This statement must be resubmitted to the school each year. As true medical contraindications to immunization are vaccine-specific, medical exemptions must be written for each vaccine your student is prevented from receiving.

Exemptions are also granted on religious grounds. A religious objection must state that the objection to immunization is based on religious grounds. Each objected immunization must be specified. The objection must be in writing, signed and delivered to the school. There is no requirement of proof. The written religious objection must be resubmitted to the school each year.

Free Immunizations clinics are being held throughout Marion County. Please see enclosed information sheet for a location near you, or check with your local Department of Health.

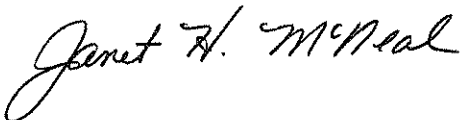
2010-2011 School Year Immunization Requirements for 6th—12th Grade

- Five doses of DTaP/DTP/DT/Td vaccine;
- Four doses of Polio vaccine;
- Two doses of Measles vaccine;
- Two doses of Mumps vaccine;
- One dose of Rubella vaccine;
- Three doses of Hepatitis B vaccine;
- ****Two doses of Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine;**
- **** One dose of Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis) vaccine; and**
- ****One dose of MCV4 (Menactra or Menveo) vaccine.**

**** Denotes new requirements for 2010-2011.**

We will be carefully examining each student's immunization records at the beginning of the school year. It is vital that all students are properly immunized! The last thing we want is to ask a child to leave Herron High School due to a failure to receive these important, life saving immunizations.

Sincerely,



Janet McNeal
Head of School

Marion County Health Department

FREE Vaccine Locations

Health Department and Immunization Coalition Offer Back to School Immunization Clinics

The Marion County Health Department and the Indianapolis Immunization Coalition will offer Back to School immunization clinics beginning July 31.

Clinic information includes:

- Saturday, July 31 Back to School Family Day
9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Marion County Health Department, 3838 North Rural
Free
- Thursday, August 5 Indianapolis Immunization Coalition Clinic
4 p.m. - 7 p.m., Indianapolis Children's Museum
Free
- Saturday, August 7 Marion County Health Department Clinic
9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Washington Township Administration Building Main Conference Center
8550 Woodfield Crossing Blvd
Free
- August 9-12 - Marion County Health Department Back to School Immunization Week, Marion County Health Department District Health Offices **A \$10 administrative fee will be charged at these clinics:**

South District Health Office
505 National Avenue
8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Northeast District Health Office
6042 East 21st Street
8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Northwest District Health Office / Pecar Health Center
6940 North Michigan Road
8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

- Saturday, August 21 Marion County Health Department Clinic
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. , Warrior Dome, campus of Warren Central High School (East 21st Street entrance)
Free

Parents and guardians are asked to bring shot records for their children when coming to any of the immunization clinics.

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Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

Indiana State Law IC 20-30-5-18 requires that school systems provide important information to parents and guardians of all students about meningitis and the vaccines available to prevent one type of this serious illness at the beginning of each school year.

One type of meningitis is caused by a bacteria called *Neisseria meningitidis*. Infections caused by this bacteria are serious, and may lead to death. Symptoms of an infection with *Neisseria meningitidis* may include a high fever, headache, stiff neck, nausea, confusion and a rash. This disease can become severe very quickly and often leads to deafness, mental retardation, loss of arms or legs, and even death. It can be spread through the air or by direct contact with saliva from another person with the disease.

There is a vaccine (Menactra) that can prevent most cases of meningitis caused by this bacteria in people over the age of 2. The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends vaccination against this disease for all children and adolescents 11-18 years of age. Children ages 2 -10 who have sickle cell anemia or problems with their immune systems should also receive this vaccine.

Beginning with the 2010 – 2011 school year, one dose of Menactra will be required for students in grades 6 – 12. This is a new legal requirement (Indiana Administrative Code 410 IAC 1-1-1).

All students entering grades 6-12 will need to have a record of this immunization in the state immunization registry (CHIRP) or a signed written statement from a medical provider prior to the start of the school year. Check with your doctor to see if your child's record is available in the state immunization registry (CHIRP).

Many local health departments and private healthcare providers offer this vaccine. Your child may also be able to get this vaccine at school free of charge. Please check with your local health department.

Additional information about meningococcal disease can be found at:

The Indiana State Department of Health <http://www.in.gov/isdh/22121.htm>

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/mening/default.htm>

The Indiana Department of Education School Health Student Services <http://www.doe.in.gov/sservices/sn.htm>

Sincerely,

Janet H. McNeal
Head of School

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Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

The Indiana State Department of Health and the Indiana Department of Education have asked that school systems provide important information to parents and guardians of students about pertussis (whooping cough) and the vaccines available to prevent this serious illness.

Pertussis is a highly contagious respiratory infection caused by the bacteria *Bordetella pertussis*. Pertussis is spread by droplets created when an infected person coughs or sneezes. Infants and young children are usually vaccinated against pertussis, but the vaccine becomes less effective as children get older, and vaccinated children can become infected. Pertussis causes severe coughing fits. During a coughing fit, the infected person may be short of breath and appear frightened. The coughing fit may be followed by vomiting and exhaustion. Young infants are at highest risk for developing complications from the disease like pneumonia and seizures.

Teens and adults who received the whooping cough vaccine when they were younger might have milder disease if they get sick with pertussis, but they can still spread it to others. The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends a pertussis vaccine for all 11-12 year old children, and for anyone older who did not have a at the vaccine at 11-12 years of age. The pertussis vaccine (Tdap) is combined with tetanus vaccine and takes the place of one tetanus booster shot. The Tdap vaccine can be given as soon as one year after a regular tetanus booster.

Beginning in the 2010-2011 school year, the Tdap vaccine will be required for all students in grades 6 -12. Please talk with your child's healthcare provider about the Tdap vaccine. Additional resources for families to obtain information about pertussis disease include the following websites:

The Indiana State Department of Health
<http://www.in.gov/isdh/22191.htm>
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/pertussis/default.htm>

Sincerely,

Janet H. McNeal
Head of School