



ST. THERESE SCHOOL

— Bringing people closer to God and to each other —

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Dear Upcoming 6th Grade Parents,

The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services has recently revised the law to include 2 new vaccine requirements for 6th graders.

Diphtheria, Tetanus Toxoids and Pertussis Vaccine (Tdap):

Every child born on or after January 1, 1997, and **entering or attending Grade Six** or a comparable age level special education program with an unassigned grade on or after September 1, 2008, shall have received one dose of Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis) given no earlier than the 10th birthday.

(Children who received a Td booster dose less than 5 years prior shall not be required to receive a Tdap dose until 5 years have elapsed from the last DTP/DTap or Td dose.)

Meningococcal Vaccine:

Every child born on or after January 1, 1997, and **entering or attending Grade Six** or a comparable age level special education program with an unassigned grade on or after September 1, 2008, shall have received one dose of a meningococcal-containing vaccine, such as the medically-preferred meningococcal conjugate vaccine. (Please note: This applies to students when they turn 11 years of age and are attending Grade Six.)

If your child will not be 11 years old on the first day of school, there is a one week grace period after the child's 11th birthday to bring in the documentation. The student will have no problem starting school without the vaccines in this circumstance.

These ARE NOT new vaccines. They are just new to this age group.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO YOU?

- Please get these vaccines **BEFORE** your child enters 6th grade.
- **This must be done before your child starts 6th grade in September.**

THIS IS THE NEW NJ Law, any questions or concerns please call the health office at 973-584-0812 ext. 104

Stay Healthy ~ Nursing Staff: Barbara K. McKenna RN & Joanne Morro RN,

Mr. Timothy Dunnigan, Principal