

Dear Parents -

As the school year comes to an end, I want to wish you all a safe and wonderful summer break. Over the summer, please take the opportunity to have your children's immunizations completed. Attached are the required vaccines per Ohio Department of Health in Ohio Revised Codes 3701.13 and 3313.671. On the 15<sup>th</sup> school day after school entrance, it will be necessary to exclude from school all pupils who have not been adequately immunized or provided documentation of immunization. **For those in middle school and entering the 7th grade, 1 dose of meningococcal is required.**

Vaccines are safe, effective, have mild side effects, and strengthen your child's immune system. (American Academy of Pediatrics, 2017).

<https://www.aap.org/en-us/about-the-aap/aap-press-room/Pages/American-Academy-of-Pediatrics-Emphasizes-Safety-and-Importance-of-Vaccines.aspx>

Allergic reactions to vaccines are rare. By delaying immunizations or refusing, it places your child at risk for serious illness, harm, and even death (Center for Disease Control, 2019).

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/why-vaccinate/risks-delaying-vaccines.html> "The Food and Drug Administration ensures that vaccines undergo a rigorous and extensive development program to evaluate safety, purity, and potency. Only if a vaccine's benefits are found to outweigh its potential risks does the FDA license (approve) a vaccine, allowing it to be used by the public" (vaccines.gov, 2018).

<https://www.vaccines.gov/basics/safety>

For vaccine specific information, please visit

<https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/Immunization/Immunization-Pamphlets/Immunization-Pamphlets> to download an educational pamphlet.

For those in need of assistance, check with your local health department to see where vaccines are available for little or no cost.

**Cuyahoga County Board of Health**

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<https://www.ccbh.net/immunization-clinics-2/>

Please feel free to contact me with any further questions or concerns.

Considerations will be made, in collaboration with the health department, for those vaccinated out of the country, immigrants, those with religious beliefs, those with certain medical conditions, or for those who have already experienced measles, mumps, or varicella viruses. Further information can be obtained at:

<https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/Immunization/Required-Vaccines-Child-Care-School/>

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/why-vaccinate/vaccine-decision.html>

[https://www.vaccines.gov/resources/more\\_info](https://www.vaccines.gov/resources/more_info)

Again, these are strictly the required immunizations. I would strongly encourage you to speak with your health care provider about further vaccinations, like the influenza and HPV. Below is an article published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services regarding the importance of vaccinating our children.

Throughout the year, information regarding health services at BBHCSD, screenings, communicable diseases, when to keep students at home, medication policy, and infestations can be found at <http://www.bbhcsc.org/HealthServices.aspx>.

Detailed policy information can be found at

<https://go.boarddocs.com/oh/bbhcsd/Board.nsf/Public?open&id=policies#> under policy manual, then students.

**Immunization Policy po5320**

**Use of Medications po5330**

**Care of the Student with Chronic conditions po5335**

**Emergency Medical Authorization po5341**

Under Operations, **Communicable disease policy/Health concerns po8450**

Administrative Guidelines, Operations - **Head Lice AG8450A**

Thanks for your time,

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# Five Important Reasons to Vaccinate Your Child

You want to do what is best for your children. You know about the importance of car seats, baby gates and other ways to keep them safe. But, did you know that one of the best ways to protect your children is to make sure they have **all** of their vaccinations?

**Immunizations can save your child's life.** Because of advances in medical science, your child can be protected against more diseases than ever before. Some diseases that once injured or killed thousands of children, have been eliminated completely and others are close to extinction— primarily due to safe and effective vaccines. Polio is one example of the great impact that vaccines have had in the United States. Polio was once America's most-feared disease, causing death and paralysis across the country, but today, thanks to vaccination, there are no reports of polio in the United States.

**Vaccination is very safe and effective.** Vaccines are only given to children after a long and careful review by scientists, doctors, and healthcare professionals. Vaccines will involve some discomfort and may cause pain, redness, or tenderness at the site of injection but this is minimal compared to the pain, discomfort, and trauma of the diseases these vaccines prevent. Serious side effects following vaccination, such as severe allergic reaction, are very rare. The disease-prevention benefits of getting vaccines are much greater than the possible side effects for almost all children.

**Immunization protects others you care about.** Children in the U.S. still get vaccine-preventable diseases. In fact, we have seen resurgences of measles and whooping cough (pertussis) over the past few years. Since 2010, there have been between 10,000 and 50,000 cases of whooping cough each year in the United States and about 10 to 20 babies, many of which were too young to be fully vaccinated, died each year. While some babies are too young to be protected by vaccination, others may not be able to receive certain vaccinations due to severe allergies, weakened immune systems from conditions like leukemia, or other reasons. To help keep them safe, it is important that you and your children who are able to get vaccinated are fully immunized. This not only protects your family, but also helps prevent the spread of these diseases to your friends and loved ones.

**Immunizations can save your family time and money.** A child with a vaccine-preventable disease can be denied attendance at schools or child care facilities. Some vaccine-preventable diseases can result in prolonged disabilities and can take a financial toll because of lost time at work, medical bills or long-term disability

care. In contrast, getting vaccinated against these diseases is a good investment and usually covered by insurance. The Vaccines for Children program is a federally funded program that provides vaccines at no cost to children from low-income families. To find out more about the VFC program, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/programs/vfc/> or ask your child's health care professional.

**Immunization protects future generations.** Vaccines have reduced and, in some cases, eliminated many diseases that killed or severely disabled people just a few generations ago. For example, smallpox vaccination eradicated that disease worldwide. Your children don't have to get smallpox shots any more because the disease no longer exists. By vaccinating children against rubella (German measles), the risk that pregnant women will pass this virus on to their fetus or newborn has been dramatically decreased, and birth defects associated with that virus no longer are seen in the United States. If we continue vaccinating now, and vaccinating completely, parents in the future may be able to trust that some diseases of today will no longer be around to harm their children in the future.

For more information about National Infant Immunization Week, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/events/niiw/index.html>.

For more information about the importance of infant immunization, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines>.

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[Form Approved OMB# 0990-0379 Exp. Date 9/30/2020](#)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2018). Five Important Reasons to Vaccinate Your child. Retrieved from [https://www.vaccines.gov/getting/for\\_parents/five\\_reasons](https://www.vaccines.gov/getting/for_parents/five_reasons).

## Immunization Summary for School Attendance - Ohio

VACCINES	FALL 2019 IMMUNIZATIONS FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
<b>DTaP/DT</b> <b>Tdap/Td</b> Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis	<u><b>Kindergarten</b></u> Four (4) or more doses of DTaP or DT, or any combination. If all four doses were given before the 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday, a fifth (5) dose is required. If the fourth dose was administered at least six months after the third dose, and on or after the 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday, a fifth (5) dose is not required. * <u><b>1-12</b></u> Four (4) or more doses of DTaP or DT, or any combination. Three doses of Td or a combination of Td and Tdap is the minimum acceptable for children age seven (7) and up. <u><b>Grades 7-12</b></u> One (1) dose of Tdap vaccine must be administered prior to entry. **
<b>POLIO</b>	<u><b>K-9</b></u> Three (3) or more doses of IPV. The FINAL dose must be administered on or after the 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday regardless of the number of previous doses. If a combination of OPV and IPV was received, four (4) doses of either vaccine are required. *** <u><b>Grades 10-12</b></u> Three (3) or more doses of IPV or OPV. If the third dose of either series was received prior to the fourth birthday, a fourth (4) dose is required; If a combination of OPV and IPV was received, four (4) doses of either vaccine are required.
<b>MMR</b> Measles, Mumps, Rubella	<u><b>K-12</b></u> Two (2) doses of MMR. Dose one (1) must be administered on or after the first birthday. The second dose must be administered at least 28 days after dose one (1).
<b>HEP B</b> Hepatitis B	<u><b>K-12</b></u> Three (3) doses of Hepatitis B. The second dose must be administered at least 28 days after the first dose. The third dose must be given at least 16 weeks after the first dose and at least 8 weeks after the second dose. The last dose in the series (third or fourth dose), must not be administered before age 24 weeks.
<b>Varicella</b> (Chickenpox)	<u><b>K-9</b></u> Two (2) doses of varicella vaccine must be administered prior to entry. Dose one (1) must be administered on or after the first birthday. The second dose should be administered at least three (3) months after dose one (1); however, if the second dose is administered at least 28 days after the first dose, it is considered valid. <u><b>Grades 10-12</b></u> One (1) dose of varicella vaccine must be administered on or after the first birthday.
<b>MCV4</b> Meningococcal	<u><b>Grades 7-10</b></u> One (1) dose of meningococcal (serogroup A, C, W, and Y) vaccine must be administered prior to entry. <u><b>Grade 12</b></u> Two (2) doses of meningococcal (serogroup A, C, W, and Y) vaccine must be administered prior to entry. ****

**NOTES:**

- Vaccine should be administered according to the most recent version of the *Recommended Immunization Schedule for Children and Adolescents Aged 18 Years or Younger* or the *Catch-up Immunization Schedule for Persons Aged 4 Months Through 18 Years Who Start Late or Who Are More Than 1 Month Behind*, as published by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. Schedules are available for print or download at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/index.html>.
- Vaccine doses administered  $\leq 4$  days before the minimum interval or age are valid (grace period). Doses administered  $\geq 5$  days earlier than the minimum interval or age are not valid doses and should be repeated as age-appropriate. If MMR and Varicella are not given on the same day, the doses must be separated by at least 28 days with no grace period.
  - For additional information please refer to the Ohio Revised Code 3313.67 and 3313.671 for School Attendance and the ODH Director's Journal Entry (available at <https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/immunization/Required-Vaccines-Child-Care-School/>).
- These documents list required and recommended immunizations and indicate exemptions to immunizations.
- Please contact the Ohio Department of Health Immunization Program at (800) 282-0546 or (614) 466-4643 with questions or concerns.

\* Recommended DTaP or DT minimum intervals for kindergarten students four (4) weeks between doses 1-2 and 2-3; six (6) month minimum intervals between doses 3-4 and 4-5. If a fifth dose is administered prior to the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday, a sixth dose is recommended but not required.

\*\* Pupils who received one dose of Tdap as part of the initial series are not required to receive another dose. Tdap can be given regardless of the interval since the last Tetanus or diphtheria-toxoid containing vaccine. DTaP given to patients age 7 or older can be counted as valid for the one-time Tdap dose.

\*\*\* The final polio dose in the IPV series must be administered at age 4 or older with at least six months between the final and previous dose.

\*\*\*\* Recommended MCV4 minimum interval of at least eight (8) weeks between dose one (1) and dose two (2). If the first (1<sup>st</sup>) dose of MCV4 was administered on or after the 16<sup>th</sup> birthday, a second (2<sup>nd</sup>) dose is not required. If a pupil is in 12<sup>th</sup> grade and is 15 years of age or younger, only 1 dose is required. Currently there are no school entry requirements for meningococcal B vaccine.