



Dear 7<sup>th</sup> grade parents,

### **NEW vaccine requirement for 7<sup>th</sup> graders for 2016-2017 school year**

**Beginning with the 2016-2017 school year, the state of Ohio requires all students entering the 7<sup>th</sup> grade to have the meningococcal vaccine (also known as MCV4, Menevo or Menactra) in addition to one dose of Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis).**

#### **Meningococcal Vaccine (NEW REQUIREMENT):**

The reason behind the new requirement is because meningococcal disease can spread from person to person. The bacteria that cause this infection can spread when people have close or lengthy contact with someone's saliva (kissing or coughing). Teens and young adults are at increased risk for meningococcal disease.

This bacterial infection poses a serious threat to teens. Meningitis can kill a healthy person in 48 hours or less. This infection can result in long term effects. The meningococcal vaccine is the best way to protect someone from getting the disease.

You may obtain these vaccines from your child's health care provider or other community resource. Vaccines are also available at your local health department

Students who do not provide documentation of these immunizations to the school this fall are subject to exclusion. If there are medical/religious or philosophical reasons your child cannot receive immunizations, please contact the school clinic for an Immunization Exemption Form.

Thank you,

Janet Dix, MSN, RN, NCSN  
District RN Supervisor for Stow-Munroe Falls City School District  
Akron Children's Hospital, School Health Services