



## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Immunization Requirements

All students entering, advancing or transferring into 7th grade and born on or after September 15, 2000, will need proof of an adolescent tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough) booster immunization (called “Tdap”), and Meningococcal vaccines for school in the fall.

**Tdap** is a booster vaccine for older children, adolescents, and adults. It safely protects against three dangerous diseases: whooping cough (also called pertussis), tetanus, and diphtheria.

**Pertussis** (also known as whooping cough) is a contagious disease that causes violent coughing fits that make it hard to breathe. It spreads easily when someone with the disease coughs or sneezes. The symptoms can last for months. Whooping cough is particularly dangerous for young babies.

**Tetanus**—causes a severe, painful tightening (spasms) of muscles, including of the jaw (“lockjaw”), which can limit swallowing and breathing.

**Diphtheria**—is a throat infection that can lead to breathing problems, paralysis, heart failure and death.

**Meningococcal** – Meningococcal disease is a life threatening illness that is caused by bacteria that infects the brain, blood, and spinal cord. It can easily spread in crowded settings.

Immunization records will be reviewed at the beginning of the school year. Many of the incoming 7th graders have already received the Tdap vaccine. If your child has not received the Tdap vaccine, you will be notified and your child will receive a Provisional Certificate of Immunization. This will be valid for 60 days. Please send documentation when the immunization has been completed.

All medical and religious exemptions will also need to be updated.

Please contact me at 641-774-5114 with questions or concerns. Donna Krutsinger,  
RN