

December 13, 2017

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Thank you for working with our school communities to have a very positive, energetic first semester of the 2017-18 school year. As plans begin for the 2018-19 school year, changes have occurred to the Kentucky immunization schedule for students attending school. New immunization requirements have been added for the 2018-19 school year.

- Effective July 1, 2018, all students in kindergarten through twelfth grade must show proof of having received 2 doses of Hepatitis A vaccine to attend school.

These 2 doses of the Hepatitis A vaccine require a 6 month period between shots, so we are notifying and encouraging you to attend to your child's health and safety as soon as possible to meet this state requirement which is due prior to enrolling for the 2018-19 school year. Please try to have your child's 1st dose of the Hepatitis A vaccine before February 2018 so that the 2nd dose may be completed before August 2018.

Additionally, if you have a child 16 years of age or older the new regulation also states:

- Students aged 16 years or older, must show proof of having received 2 doses of Meningococcal ACWY vaccine to attend school. If the 1st dose was received at age 16 or older, the 2nd dose is not required for school entry.

Proof of all immunizations is required for enrollment in August 2018. If your child has already received two doses of Hepatitis A vaccine, and has had the Meningococcal ACWY vaccine, he or she will not be required to receive these series again.

Online information concerning Hepatitis A and MenACWY vaccines is available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/hepa/index.html>.

Religious exemptions shall be documented on a signed and notarized Commonwealth of Kentucky Parent or Guardian's Declination on Religious Grounds to Required Immunizations. There will be a space for the parent or guardian to initial each specific immunization they are choosing to decline.

<http://chfs.ky.gov/NR/rdonlyres/F2B0AAEC-DB07-46B4-AA21-EBF3C686C38D/0/CommonwealthofKentuckyParentorGuardiansDeclinationonReligiousGroundstoRequiredImmunizat.pdf>

New versions of forms, effective June 21, 2017, can be found on Websites for the Kentucky Department of Education, <http://education.ky.gov/districts/SHS/Pages/Immunization-Information.aspx> and the Kentucky Immunization Program, <http://chfs.ky.gov/dph/epi/Immunization.htm>

If you have questions concerning Hepatitis A vaccine or Meningococcal ACWY vaccine, please contact your healthcare provider or local health department.

Thank you for working with Breckinridge County Schools to assure the health and safety of our entire school community.

Sincerely,

Kathy Gedling
Breckinridge County Schools
District Health Coordinator