

NEW PLYMOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

SCHOOL DISTRICT 372

(208) 278-5788

4400 SW 2ND AVENUE
NEW PLYMOUTH, ID 83655

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Adolescence is an important time to ensure that your child is up-to-date on all recommended immunizations. As a result, we are asking that you give us an up-to-date immunization record for your child prior to the start of school.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), and the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) recommend that adolescents 11-18 years of age receive the following immunizations:

- **Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis (Tdap) vaccine**
The Tdap vaccine can protect your child from tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (whooping cough). This is the first pertussis containing booster vaccine for adolescents and adults. Immunity against pertussis can decline in as short as 5 years, making a booster dose of vaccine necessary to prevent the frequency and spread of disease.
- **Meningococcal (“meningitis”) vaccine**
This vaccine can protect your child against bacterial meningitis (swelling of the lining around the brain and spinal cord). Meningococcal meningitis is a rare but serious condition that can be spread in crowded situations such as school, by sharing sodas, or kissing.
- **Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine**
This vaccine can prevent chickenpox, which was once a common childhood rash. Chickenpox is usually a mild disease in children, but is 10 to 20 times more likely to cause serious complications if contracted as an adolescent or adult.
- **Hepatitis A vaccine**
This vaccine can protect your child from a commonly transmitted virus that can be contracted from contaminated food. Traditionally, Idaho was one of several western states with a high frequency of hepatitis A.
- **Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine**
This vaccine can protect young girls against a very common virus, HPV. The vaccine protects against 4 types of HPV which cause 70 percent of cervical cancers and 90 percent of genital warts.

The vaccines listed above are not currently required for school in Idaho, but are recommended to protect the health of your child and others. For more information about pre-teen and teen immunizations contact your healthcare provider or your local health department.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Nishizaki R.N., B.S.N.