

## *From the Office of the School Nurse*



**Karen Lukacovic**

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

The state has adopted changes in the NJ statutes regarding immunizations for incoming sixth graders. These changes were in effective since September 1, 2008. When your child enters sixth grade in September, you will be required to show proof of one dose of the meningococcal conjugate vaccine and one dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis). For more information regarding these vaccines please go to the CDC website, [www.cdc.gov/vaccines](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines)

If your child is going for their yearly checkup, please discuss this with your pediatrician. Once the vaccinations are administered or if your child has already had these immunizations, you may provide me with proper documentation as soon as possible. All documentation is required for admittance to sixth grade by the first day of school in September.

In addition to the state mandated vaccines, all children in grades 6-8 interested in trying out for a school sport team must have a sports physical to participate. Your physician can do this for you at their yearly checkup. Physicals are valid for 365 days from the day of the exam. For further information, please refer to the Garwood Schools website under Nurses Notes.

If you do not have a family physician, you can check with the Westfield Health Clinic, 908-789-4070, or the Union County Immunization Center, 342 Westminister Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ 07208 for free immunizations. Please feel free to call me with any questions. Thank you

Sincerely,

Karen Lukacovic, RN, CSN

C: M. Emmons/Principal