

## HEALTH REQUIREMENTS - NOTICE TO PARENTS

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania requires specific examinations and immunizations that children must have before they enter school as well as throughout their school career. These requirements are outlined as follows:

### IMMUNIZATIONS:

Each child must have:

- 4 or more doses of tetanus-diphtheria vaccine (DT or DPT) \*Fourth dose must be after the fourth birthday
- ~~4~~ or more doses of oral polio vaccine (OPV) \*Fourth dose must be after fourth birthday
- 3 doses of Hepatitis B Vaccine

The following must have been administered after 12 months of age:

- 2 doses of measles vaccine or measles serology
- 2 doses of rubella vaccine or rubella serology
- 2 doses of mumps vaccine or mumps disease diagnosed by a physician
- 2 doses of varicella vaccine or documentation that the child had chicken pox

Children entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade:

- 1 dose of tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap) (if 5 years has elapsed since the last tetanus immunization)
- 1 dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV)

Under the law, children that have not received the required vaccines may not enter school. If you have not completed the immunization program, you are urged to contact your family physician. The school nurse in the building where your child will attend school may be of help if you have any questions. Remember that each child must have ALL the immunizations. The only exceptions are for medical (if the child cannot receive the vaccine) reasons.

### PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS:

Each child must have three medical examinations:

- Upon initial entrance to school
- Sixth grade
- Eleventh grade

These grades were selected because they represent critical periods of growth and development in a child's life. It is recommended that these examinations be performed by your family physician since he/she can give a more thorough examination and best evaluate your child's health. If the school nurse in the building where your child attends school has not received the completed form by the end of September, your child will be scheduled for a physical exam by the school doctor.

The initial physical exam must be completed no sooner than one year prior to the entry to school. You may present the signed form from your physician or request a form from the school nurse to provide to your family physician.

### DENTAL EXAMINATIONS:

Each child must have three dental examinations:

- Upon initial entrance to school
- Third grade
- Seventh grade

These grades were selected because they represent critical periods of growth and development in a child's life. It is recommended that your family dentist perform these examinations since he/she can give a more thorough examination and best evaluate your child's dental health. If the school nurse in the building where your child attends school has not received the completed form by the end of September, your child will be scheduled for a dental exam by the school dental hygienist.

### HEALTH SCREENINGS

State mandated health screenings are conducted at all Ridley School District schools each year.

- Vision, height, weight, B.M.I. – every year
- Hearing – Kindergarten, first grade, second grade, third grade, seventh grade, eleventh grades
- Scoliosis – sixth and seventh grades

Should a problem or potential problem be detected in any of the screenings, parents will be contacted and further evaluation will be recommended.

For additional information about the policies and procedures of the Ridley Health Services Department, please visit the Ridley School District website at [www.ridleysd.k12.pa.us](http://www.ridleysd.k12.pa.us).