



Don't get caught "short" with "shots"

The Pennsylvania Department of Health has issued new immunization requirements that affect your student's entry into school for the 2011-2012 school year. The new regulations are as follows:

Students entering ALL grades will need:

2 doses of varicella (chicken pox vaccine) or history of having had chicken pox

Students entering 7th grade will need:

2 doses of varicella

1 dose of meningococcal (MCV) vaccine

1 dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis) if no immunization containing tetanus within the last 5 years

Your student may have these shots at your family doctor or the Chester County Health Department. In May the school district in conjunction with the Chester County Health Department will be offering these vaccines at no cost to SBMS students during a one day immunization clinic during the school day. Information about this opportunity will be mailed home and consents will be returned to the school nurse.

Several things to note:

- Your student may begin school in August without the immunizations (except MCV) but will be attending on a "provisional" basis meaning he or she will be excluded from school if he or she fails to get the needed shots by May 1
- Your child will NOT be able to begin 7th grade in 2011/2012 if he or she does not have the meningococcal vaccine
- In December letters were mailed home to all students who do not have the required shots. Keep in mind that your student may have had the immunizations but the school nurse doesn't have updated records from your health care provider

Please contact me if you have any questions about your student's immunization status and needed shots or documentation.

Mrs. Poskitt RN