

September 2007

Dear Fifth Grade Parent and/or Guardian,

This letter is to inform you of a new State of Illinois law that was passed and signed into effect on August 24, 2007. This new law changed the requirement for the need of a new school physical upon entrance into fifth grade to entrance into sixth grade. Since the law became effective on August 24, 2007, the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Illinois State Board of Education have delayed the implementation of the requirement of a new physical for entrance into sixth grade for one year. A fifth grade physical is no longer required for the 2007-2008 academic year. However, the State of Illinois law still requires that students in fifth grade must have completed the series of three Hepatitis B immunizations and have a varicella immunization on or after the first birthday or a history of chicken pox disease verified by a health care provider.

The Illinois Department of Public Health is in the process of developing the rules and regulations for the new State of Illinois law requiring a new school physical for entrance into sixth grade. We realize that many students have had a new physical for the 2007/2008 academic year for the requirement for entrance into fifth grade. At this time we do not know what the Illinois Department of Public Health will require, so your child may need another physical for entrance into sixth grade for the 2008/2009 academic year. If your child's fifth grade physical was completed within one year of your child's entrance into sixth grade hopefully you will not need to have another physical for sixth grade. Current rules and regulation require that the physical be completed within a year of entrance into the required grade level. So depending on when school begins for the 2008/2009 academic year and when your child's fifth grade physical was completed, you may not need another physical. If the physical was completed more than a year prior to the start of sixth grade then another physical may be required.

Please note that the State of Illinois still requires that any student transferring into a school must have a current Illinois school physical with proof of required immunizations within one year of the transfer. So if your child has transferred to CCSD 180, your child will still need a physical. If you have any questions or would like any additional information, please contact Jan Schlemmer, School Nurse, at 630-734-6607. We appreciate your understanding with the changes in State of Illinois health requirements.

Sincerely,

Dr. Thomas Schneider
Superintendent

and

Janet K. Schlemmer MS, RN
School Nurse