



Weekly Newsletter from The Principal's Corner *September 25, 2020*

Safety Drills

We are planning a fire drill and a lock down drill the week of September 28th. Teachers have been schooling children on our safety protocols. I am hoping our little ones come home and talk about the two drills, (to be done on two different days in a positive and matter-of-fact way; we try to make safety a part of the school culture).

Vermont Schools Move to Phase 3 on September 26th

By now you are aware that the Governor has announced that schools will move to Phase 3 this Saturday. Please don't get too excited, as this announcement was made so that sports' programs across the state could start competing. It has little to do with the work we are doing in the buildings with children. We have received little guidance on what Phase 3 means and schools and supervisory unions are expected to design their own modified rules for Phase 3 at this point, (until the state offers guidance). For now, we will be doing the same things that we have been doing with the exception of a few minor changes:

1. Grade alike pods can start to do activities together to get to know one another. The students are already mixed together for sports, starting Saturday. Wearing masks and socially distancing will continue.
2. We will be introducing band lessons to grades 5-8 in early October, except for woodwinds.
3. K-5 can be socially distanced from 3 to 6 feet. Grades 6-8 must maintain a distance of 6 feet. Therefore, Ms. Stillson's 8th grade homeroom class will be moved to the band room after school on October 2, 2020. My apologies, but there is no other way around this. We will have 22 in person 8th graders starting on October 5th.

Health checks, bus monitors, hand washing stations, door holders, play structure disinfecting, place based integrated units of study, marked hallways for traffic flow, and the thorough cleaning regiment we have practiced will all continue as usual. Water fountains will remain off. Water will continue to be the drink students enjoy, (the water filling stations are open), with milk and juice being offered at breakfast and lunch. Breakfast and lunch in the classrooms will continue. The modified daily schedule will remain as is for now, with remote afternoon remediation and support starting the week of October 5th. The gym and ap room will remain closed unless used for a special event such as school pictures or faculty meetings. No volunteers will be permitted in the building or on school grounds when school is in session. Drop off and pick up routines will continue as practiced. If the AOE suggests other changes, the WSESU will roll them out carefully and with great forethought. The intent is to keep you all safe and in good health. Today marks the 12th day of in person school and we have been blessed with a spectacular opening. We want this momentum to continue. I hope this answers the many questions I have received about Phase 3. As we hear more from the AOE, I promise to keep you informed.

Flu Clinic for Students and Their Families

On October 9th at 8:30am we will be doing a drive up flu shot clinic at Weathersfield School in collaboration with Mount Ascutney Hospital. Anyone can participate. Please fill out the attached form prior to coming to the clinic and please read the vaccine information sheet also attached to this email. If you are unable to print these papers please let the school know and we can send them home with your student. Contact Emily Stevens in the health office as soon as possible to give her the number of people you plan on having get the flu shot on October 9th.

Play Structure Open to K-4

We opened the play structure this week to grades K-4 on a rotating basis. The custodial staff is cleaning and disinfecting the area after every use.

Girl Scouts

Jaime Richardson and Shirray Johnson are co-leaders for Girl Scout Troop #59296. Their contact information is:

Shirray Johnson, shirrayjohnson@yahoo.com

Jaime Richardson, Jaime11soccer@gmail.com



Sports at WS

The WS sports program has begun! For more information, please contact Jessica Kischko at jessica.kischko@wsesu.net

Soft Covered Yearbooks for Sale

If you would like to purchase last year's WS yearbook, please let BJ Esty know. The cost of the yearbook is \$13.00.

Flu Clinic for Faculty and Staff

Our school nurse, Emily Stevens, has arranged for the faculty and staff to get a flu shot at school on October 13th. The flu shot clinic for staff will be here at Weathersfield School in the AP room at 1:00 pm. Please pick up paperwork in the health office to fill out prior to the 13th. Let Mrs. Stevens know if you have questions.

AOE Report – Education After Covid

Earlier this month, we received a report of recommendations from the AOE that describes revisions public schools in Vermont need to make to ensure a shift in paradigms from a traditional model to a more student-centered model. It is an interesting and ambitious notion. It's a quick and easy read, 26 pages. I have included the link below and would encourage folks to read it and chat with me about it if they have thoughts, concerns or questions. The faculty, staff and I will be reviewing the report as a team on September 29th.

<https://education.vermont.gov/documents/grammar-of-schooling-continuity-of-learning-task-force-report>

Looking Ahead

October 9th is a remote learning day for students and an inservice day for teachers. The work students are given on the 9th may be independent work, (asynchronous) or "fix and finish" work. Indigenous Peoples' Day is Monday, October 11th and there is no school that day.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Teachers will have Office Hours remotely the week of November 9-13, 2020 from 1:30 to 3:15 pm. Parents are encouraged to make an appointment during the afternoon hours, to discuss their child's progress with their teacher.

Thanks for ALL you do; So proud of our partnership!

JeanMarie

JeanMarie K. Oakman, WS Principal

Influenza (Flu) Vaccine (Inactivated or Recombinant): *What you need to know*

Many Vaccine Information Statements are available in Spanish and other languages. See www.immunize.org/vis

Hojas de información sobre vacunas están disponibles en español y en muchos otros idiomas. Visite www.immunize.org/vis

1 Why get vaccinated?

Influenza vaccine can prevent **influenza (flu)**.

Flu is a contagious disease that spreads around the United States every year, usually between October and May. Anyone can get the flu, but it is more dangerous for some people. Infants and young children, people 65 years of age and older, pregnant women, and people with certain health conditions or a weakened immune system are at greatest risk of flu complications.

Pneumonia, bronchitis, sinus infections and ear infections are examples of flu-related complications. If you have a medical condition, such as heart disease, cancer or diabetes, flu can make it worse.

Flu can cause fever and chills, sore throat, muscle aches, fatigue, cough, headache, and runny or stuffy nose. Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults.

Each year **thousands of people in the United States die from flu**, and many more are hospitalized. Flu vaccine prevents millions of illnesses and flu-related visits to the doctor each year.

2 Influenza vaccine

CDC recommends everyone 6 months of age and older get vaccinated every flu season. **Children 6 months through 8 years of age** may need 2 doses during a single flu season. **Everyone else** needs only 1 dose each flu season.

It takes about 2 weeks for protection to develop after vaccination.

There are many flu viruses, and they are always changing. Each year a new flu vaccine is made to protect against three or four viruses that are likely to cause disease in the upcoming flu season. Even when the vaccine doesn't exactly match these viruses, it may still provide some protection.

Influenza vaccine **does not cause flu**.

Influenza vaccine may be given at the same time as other vaccines.

3 Talk with your health care provider

Tell your vaccine provider if the person getting the vaccine:

- Has had an **allergic reaction after a previous dose of influenza vaccine**, or has any **severe, life-threatening allergies**.
- Has ever had **Guillain-Barré Syndrome** (also called GBS).

In some cases, your health care provider may decide to postpone influenza vaccination to a future visit.

People with minor illnesses, such as a cold, may be vaccinated. People who are moderately or severely ill should usually wait until they recover before getting influenza vaccine.

Your health care provider can give you more information.



4 Risks of a vaccine reaction

- Soreness, redness, and swelling where shot is given, fever, muscle aches, and headache can happen after influenza vaccine.
- There may be a very small increased risk of Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) after inactivated influenza vaccine (the flu shot).

Young children who get the flu shot along with pneumococcal vaccine (PCV13), and/or DTaP vaccine at the same time might be slightly more likely to have a seizure caused by fever. Tell your health care provider if a child who is getting flu vaccine has ever had a seizure.

People sometimes faint after medical procedures, including vaccination. Tell your provider if you feel dizzy or have vision changes or ringing in the ears.

As with any medicine, there is a very remote chance of a vaccine causing a severe allergic reaction, other serious injury, or death.

5 What if there is a serious problem?

An allergic reaction could occur after the vaccinated person leaves the clinic. If you see signs of a severe allergic reaction (hives, swelling of the face and throat, difficulty breathing, a fast heartbeat, dizziness, or weakness), call **9-1-1** and get the person to the nearest hospital.

For other signs that concern you, call your health care provider.

Adverse reactions should be reported to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). Your health care provider will usually file this report, or you can do it yourself. Visit the VAERS website at www.vaers.hhs.gov or call **1-800-822-7967**. *VAERS is only for reporting reactions, and VAERS staff do not give medical advice.*

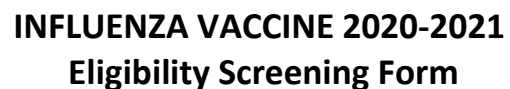
6 The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program

The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP) is a federal program that was created to compensate people who may have been injured by certain vaccines. Visit the VICP website at www.hrsa.gov/vaccinecompensation or call **1-800-338-2382** to learn about the program and about filing a claim. There is a time limit to file a claim for compensation.

7 How can I learn more?

- Ask your healthcare provider.
- Call your local or state health department.
- Contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):
 - Call **1-800-232-4636 (1-800-CDC-INFO)** or
 - Visit CDC's www.cdc.gov/flu





First Name: _____

Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Other

Preferred Phone Number_____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Insurance Name_____ **Insurance ID#**_____

If under 18 years of age: Guarantors name_____

Guarantors Address_____

Please answer the following questions, and Check (✓) the appropriate box:

YES NO

1. Have you had a dose of influenza vaccine this season? (August – June)	[]	[]
2. Have you ever had a serious or life threatening allergic reaction to the influenza vaccine or any of its components before?	[]	[]
3. Have you ever had a severe allergic reaction to eggs that required medical intervention?	[]	[]
4. Are you ill today or have a fever of greater than 100°F?	[]	[]
5. Do you have a history of Guillain-Barre Syndrome?	[]	[]

If yes to 2 - 5 of the above further screening must be provided.

I have read or have had explained to me the information in the current CDC Influenza Vaccine Information Statement (VIS). I have had an opportunity to ask questions and receive answers. I understand the benefits and risks of the influenza vaccine and consent to be vaccinated.

Recipient/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Screening Nurse / CMA / Provider Signature: _____ Date: _____

[illegible]

Employees and Volunteers In Action (VIA):

By signing this form you are granting MAHHC Occupational Health permission to access your personal EMR and document receipt of this vaccine.

For Vaccinator Use Only: VIS Print Date: 08/15/2020

Product Name: _____ **Manufacturer:** _____

Confirm Age of Recipient: _____ **Dose:** 0.5 mL **Flu Vaccine Lot Number:** _____

Expiration Date: _____ **IM Injection Site** RD () LD () R Thigh () L Thigh ()

Vaccinator Signature: _____ **Date/Time:** _____