



Westport Middle High School

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www.westportschools.org

Laura Charette
Principal

Sean Persico
Assistant Principal

Michael Grandfield
Assistant Principal

Health Office

Dear Parent/Guardian:

We want to make you aware that **at the start of the 2023-2024 school year**, the Westport Community Schools will require proof of immunization for the meningococcal conjugate vaccine for **students entering the 11th grade**, unless a religious or medical exemption applies. This is a requirement issued by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH). The immunization record will need to demonstrate:

- **11th grade entry: 1 booster dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MenACWY) received on or after 16 years of age. (One or more doses of MenACWY vaccine are acceptable as long as one dose was received on or after 16 years of age.)**

Meningococcal meningitis is a rare but serious bacterial infection. It causes the membranes that cover the brain and spinal cord to become inflamed. Meningococcal disease incidence peaks among young people 16-21 years of age. Implementation of a required booster dose of MenACWY vaccine for entry to 11th grade ensures that everyone is protected before entering the high-risk time period.

Proof of immunization is required prior to the 1st day of school (Fall 2023) or your child will not be able to attend school and will be sent home. Please submit a recent physical with documentation of this required vaccine as soon as possible. If you do not have a current physical, please send in proof of immunization.

Please email me with any questions at swalinski@westportschools.org

Sincerely,

Suzanne Walinski RN, BSN

WJSHS Nurse