Dear Parent/Guardian of Rising 12th Grade Student(s):

We want your child to remain healthy and help them to be protected against illness from vaccine-preventable diseases. This is a reminder that your 11th grade students' vaccine may be due soon, before the start of the 12th grade year.

To enter 12th grade in Virginia, an additional vaccine is required **after** the students 16th birthday:

- MenACWY (meningococcal ACWY)

According to Virginia Code §22.1-271.2, students are not permitted to begin school unless the parent or guardian submits documentary proof of immunization status, or unless the student has a medical or notarized religious waiver (excluding the HPV vaccine, which the parent/guardian may opt out). If the parent/guardian chooses to not have their child immunized against MenACWY, a notarized waiver needs to be provided according to Virginia Code 12VAC5-110-80. The waivers, along with other vaccine information, can be found on the VDH website: https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/11/2016/04/cre_1.pdf, or the Orange County Public Schools School Health Resources site: https://www.ocss-va.org/departments/student-services/school-health-resources. **All immunizations and/or waivers must be on file prior to the student's first day of 12th grade.**

If you haven't already scheduled your child's rising 12th grade required MenACWY vaccine, please contact your healthcare provider, or the Orange County Health Department at 540-672-1291 to set up an appointment for your student to receive their vaccine prior to the 2025-2026 school year. To learn more about vaccinations for your child, please visit the Virginia Department of Health website at: https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/immunization/requirements/. You may also access this information on the Orange County Public Schools Health Services webpage, listed above. If you have further questions, please contact the school nurse at your child's school.

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