



## **A Note from the School Nurse**

### **INFORMATION FOR KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS 2018-19**

**IMMUNIZATIONS:** Your child will need several immunizations before starting school. Minnesota law requires 5 DPT/DTaP; 4 IPV (polio); 2 MMR; and 3 Hepatitis B; plus 2 varicella (chicken pox) vaccines or a signed doctor's statement of immunity to chicken pox. Usually several immunizations are given at the pre-kindergarten physical. Be sure to schedule this physical now if your child hasn't had it yet. You'll find an immunization form in your packet. Please turn a complete record of immunizations (using the form, or any other record) to the nurses' office as soon as possible, but no later than Monday, August 27th. Minnesota law prohibits children from attending any school (public or private) without documentation of immunizations. Exceptions are granted for medical or conscientious reasons; the school nurses can provide you with information on how to receive this exemption if it applies to your child.

**HEALTH HISTORY FORM:** This form should be completed by your doctor and turned in to us. Bring it to your child's pre-kindergarten physical, or ask the doctor to complete the form if your child has had their physical already. Many doctor's offices have their own physical forms which are similar; these are acceptable. If you send the form in, allow two weeks or more for completion; doctor's offices get many form requests during the summer months!

**HEALTH CONCERNS:** Notify the nurses' office if your child has any ongoing health concerns (asthma, diabetes, food/other allergies, frequent illnesses, etc.). We'll work together to figure out the best way to handle any health needs at school, and to notify teachers and other appropriate support staff (phy ed, kitchen, etc.).

**SICK DAYS:** Healthy kids are better learners! Please keep your student home if they have had a fever (typically, 100.0 degrees or more) within the last 24 hours; vomiting or diarrhea within the last 24 hours; or signs of a communicable disease (strep throat, influenza, impetigo, ringworm, etc.) until 24 hours after starting medication, or as directed by their doctor. If your child is diagnosed with a communicable disease, please notify the nurse.

**NURSE VISITS:** We are here to help your child if s/he becomes ill or is injured during the school day. If your child is ill enough to need to go home, we will call you to come pick them up. We will also notify you if your child is seen repeatedly in our office or if we have any concerns about their health. You may get a phone call or note sent home regarding a single office visit that is notable.

One of our two school nurses is present throughout school hours every school day, and for part of the week prior to the start of school. Feel free to call, email, or drop by to discuss any concerns. We look forward to meeting you and your student(s), and to helping them stay healthy and feeling their best at school.

Thank you, and welcome to Faithful Shepherd!

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