

### Immunization Requirement for 12<sup>th</sup> graders

Dear Parent:

Beginning with the 2015-16 school year, all incoming 12<sup>th</sup> graders will be required to show proof of receiving two meningococcal vaccines. Meningococcal disease describes infections caused by the bacterium *Neisseria meningitidis*, also called meningococcus. While best known as the cause of meningitis, it carries a high mortality rate if untreated, but is vaccine preventable.

The first vaccine should have been given **on or after** your child's 10<sup>th</sup> birthday and the second vaccine given at least 8 weeks after the first vaccine. If your child has not received the meningococcal vaccine, then one dose **on or after** their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday will be required before he or she begins the school year. Immunizations given before the child's 10<sup>th</sup> birthday will **not** be compliant with the Illinois School code.

High School District 211 has a first day exclusion policy. In order for you to complete registration, and for your child to begin school on the first day, proof of your child receiving the meningococcal vaccine needs to be on file in the nurse's office prior to completing the registration process. If you have questions regarding when or if your child has received the meningococcal vaccine, please contact your physician or refer to your child's school immunization record using the Infinite Campus parent portal. If you have further questions, please contact your school nurse's office.

Sincerely,

Mary Jo Pawlowski RN BSN MS PEL-CSN  
School Nurse  
Palatine High School