

# ***Katonah- Lewisboro School District***

## ***Health Office Information***

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The School Health Services staff welcomes you and your child to the Katonah-Lewisboro School District. Our primary interest is the wellbeing of your child.

Effective July 1, 2018, NYS law requires physical exams upon entrance into school and when your child is entering grades 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11. Please have the NYS examination form completed by your medical provider and returned to the Health Office of your child's school.

**Certificate of Immunization:** *Required prior to the first day of school.* This information may be either:

1. A certificate of immunization signed by a physician or licensed health care provider
2. A military, union, migrant, or medical health record or passport
3. Presentation of a physician's statement of medical exemption. Forms are available in the Health Office.

**As of June 2019, New York State no longer accepts religious exemptions.**

The ***minimum immunization requirements*** for school attendance in grades K-12 according to NYS Education and NYS Department of Public Health Laws are:

- **Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis:** 4-5 doses entering Kindergarten; 3 doses: 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade
- **Polio:** 4 doses entering K through 12<sup>th</sup>; 3 doses if last given after 4 years of age
- **Measles, Mumps, Rubella:** 2 doses
- **Hepatitis B:** 3 doses at specific intervals
- **Varivax:** 2 doses
- **Tdap:** 1 dose for all students entering 6<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> grade
- **Meningococcal:** 1 dose for all students 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>; 2 doses for 12<sup>th</sup> grade unless 1 dose was given after 16 years

If the student has incomplete immunizations, the parent(s)/guardian(s) must show acceptable proof that the child is "in process" of receiving the required immunizations.

1. A child must have received at least one dose of each vaccine and
2. The parent(s)/guardian(s) must provide the date(s) of appointments with a specified health care provider or facility for completion of the required immunization(s).

The school will then allow the child to enter and/or attend school, but will maintain supervision until the process has been completed or exclude the child if the parent(s)/guardian(s) default.

***The principal of any school is required, by law, to refuse to admit a child without acceptable proof of the required immunizations.***

***Over***

**Physical Examinations:** Physicals must be performed by a physician, nurse practitioner or physician's assistant for school attendance. The physical exam form must include the results of a PPD Mantoux Tuberculin test for students who have been out of the country for 12 months or more prior to school entry. **Physicians must include body mass index and weight status category (BMI percentile) on the health appraisal.**

**Dental Examinations:** Exams are recommended every six months. The State Education Department requests a dental health certificate for new entrants and children in grades 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11. A list of reduced cost dental clinics is available upon request.

**Special Health Needs:** If your child has any special health needs or problems this information should be communicated to us. This information can be very important to a successful experience in school. Examples of such needs are as follows:

1. Asthma
2. Bee Sting or Peanut/Nut Allergy
3. Allergy to any other substance/food
4. Difficulty with vision, hearing, or speech
5. Need for medication during the school day
6. Need for special aids such as crutches, walkers or wheelchairs, either on a temporary or permanent basis

**Please advise the Transportation Department of any mobility and/or special health needs.**

**Medication:** Directions from the state prohibit the administration of any medication, including over the counter medications, without a written doctor's order. If your child needs to take any medication during the school day, please notify the Health Office. A medication administration form may be found on the district website. No medication will be administered with only parental permission. Medication should be in the original container, labeled with the student's name and brought to the Health Office by an adult. Students in the high school and middle school are allowed to carry and administer asthma inhalers and emergency (epinephrine) medications if the appropriate forms, signed by both the student's physician and parent, are on file in the Health Office.

**Health Emergency Form:** We **must** have current phone numbers where you can be reached during the day. If you are unavailable, please designate someone who will assume responsibility for your child if he/she becomes ill or suffers an injury. These people should be local and be aware that they are your chosen alternates.

**PE excuses:** Students who are unable to participate in Physical Education class on any given day due to health reasons, should bring a note from home stating the date and reason for not participating. This note should be brought to the Health Office. **More than two consecutive absences require a physician's note. At JJHS, the note is required after one (1) absence.** The note should be brought to the Health Office. Please have the doctor be specific as to the exclusion dates from Physical Education.

**If a student suffers any injury that requires stitches, sling, cast, and/or crutches, please have him/her report to the Health Office upon return to school with written instructions from the doctor as to physical activity.** Although it may be obvious that the student cannot participate in Physical Education, a note must be on file to comply with state regulations. Please note that any student who cannot participate in Physical Education cannot participate in recess/sports activities.

Thank you for your cooperation with the above items. Please do not hesitate to call the Health Office of your school if you have any questions.