



Albert H. Hill Middle School ♦ 3400 Patterson Avenue ♦ Richmond, Virginia 23221

June 1, 2021

Dear Parents of Rising Seventh Grade Students,

As your child grows, it is important to schedule a health check-up for them every year. I want you to be aware of changes in our Commonwealth's immunization requirements for school children. Effective July 1, 2021, HPV, Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis), and Meningococcal, are required vaccines for children between 11 and 12 years of age in Virginia. This means that children will receive these vaccines going into the 7th grade. All of these are safe and help stop future disease from happening.

On the recommendation of the Virginia State Health Commissioner and as a parent, I value the many decisions you make every day to protect your child's health. I am sharing information about the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine. This vaccine prevents 6 types of cancer in both men and women.

The Virginia Department of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) strongly recommend this vaccine for children at age 11 or 12. Giving the vaccine at this age is the best defense against certain cancers. For more information on this vaccine and the new requirements, you can visit the State Department of Health website at www.vdh.virginia.gov/immunization/requirements/.

As a parent or guardian, you have the right to decide if your child receives the HPV vaccine. I encourage you to discuss this with your healthcare provider. Please remember to give your child's vaccine record to his or her school.

If you have further questions, you may contact Janaye Oliver, Adolescent Immunization Coordinator at the Virginia Department of Health, by phone at (804) 864-8073, or by email at janaye.oliver@vdh.virginia.gov.

Sincerely,

Tashiana Ivy

Tashiana Ivy
Principal