

BRASHER FALLS CENTRAL SCHOOL MIDDLE/ HIGH SCHOOL HEALTH OFFICE NEWS

Welcome to St. Lawrence Central Middle/High School. I, Carol Hallahan, RN, would like to take this opportunity to acquaint you with our Health Policies. I would like to extend to you an open invitation to call with any questions you may have throughout the year. I can be reached at 389-5131, extension 29104.

I. Attendance

A written excuse is required if your child is absent from school. Phone calls will be made to monitor attendance.

Please notify the Health Office of any major illness, injuries or surgeries so that your child's health record may be kept up to date. In addition, if your child will be absent due to illness for an extended period of time please let me know; it may be possible for home instruction. A note to re-enter school from your physician may be required.

II. Immunization Requirements Students Enrolled in Grade 6

New York State law mandates sixth grade students must receive two Varicella vaccines (commonly known as chicken pox) and a Tdap. *It is imperative that physician documentation of these immunizations must be on file in the health office by the first day of school in September* -- **students may be excluded from school for non-compliance.**

III. Immunization Requirements Students Enrolled in Grade 7

New York State law mandates seventh grade students must receive the first dose of MenACWY (Menactra-Menveo or MCV4) for Meningococcal Disease. *It is imperative that physician documentation of these immunizations must be on file in the health office by the first day of school in September* -- **students may be excluded from school for non-compliance.**

IV. Immunization Requirements Students Enrolled in Grade 12

New York State law mandates twelfth grade students must fully vaccinated against Meningococcal Disease. One dose of MenACWY (Menactra-Menveo or MCV4), if first dose is given on or after sixteenth birthday or two doses of MenACWY (Menactra-Menveo or MCV4) if the first dose was given before sixteenth birthday. *It is imperative that physician documentation of these immunizations must be on file in the health office by the first day of school in September* -- **students may be excluded from school for non-compliance.**

V. Physicals

New York State law mandates that the following students receive a physical during the school year:

1. All students in grades 7 and 10;
2. New students entering our school for the first time;
3. Students requiring a triennial review;
4. Students referred for CSE services.

Physicals are scheduled through out the year. If you wish your private physician to complete this physical, please let me know as soon as possible. I do have a form that your private physician must complete and return to me by October 1st. If not, our school physician will do the exam.

*****A sport physical completed in June this calendar year satisfies the requirement for mandated physicals.**

VI. Health History Updates for Students in Grades 5, 7 and 10

Please complete the Health Questionnaire (provided in the packet of information at the beginning of school) to update my medical files for your child. Please complete and return the questionnaire to your child's homeroom teacher or to my office.

VII. Sports Physicals

Sport Physicals are required for any student who wishes to play school sports. Contact the health office if you wish your private physician to complete the sports physical. I have a form that your private physician must complete. Our school physician may review all physicals for students to be qualified.

VIII. Screenings

New York State mandates that the following Screenings be completed:

1. Vision - Students in grades 5, 7 and 10;
2. Hearing – Students in grades 5, 7 and 10;
3. Scoliosis (back checks) - Annually for students in grades 5 through grade 9.

Written and/or verbal referrals are given if any problems are noted.

IX. Body Mass Index (BMI) Screening and reporting Grades 7 and 10.

BMI is determined by a student's weight and height which helps the doctor or nurse know if the student's weight is in a healthy range.

Recent changes to the New York States Education Law require that that BMI and weight status group be included as part of the students school health examination. Furthermore, the New York State Department of Health may require us to report a summary of weight status groups for Grades 7 and 10. This is only a summary report, no names or personal information about individual students is sent. However, you may choose not to have your child's information on the report. Please contact my office for this form, which must be completed and in my office by November 1st.

X. Dental Health Certificate

New York State Law (Chapter 281) permits schools to request a dental examination in the following grades: school entry, grades 7 and 10. Your child may have a dental check-up during this school year to assess his/her fitness to attend school. Please complete Section 1 and take the form to your dentist for an assessment. If your child has had a dental check-up before he/she started the school year, ask your dentist to fill out Section 2. Return to the school nurse as soon as possible. Students in grades 7 and 10, please see form in the packet of information provided at the beginning of the school year.

XI. Medications

If medications are needed during school hours, either prescription or over-counter, State Law requires that:

1. A written, signed order form from your health care provider stating the medication, dosage and time to be given.
2. A note from parent or guardian requesting that the medication be given.
3. Medication should be in original pharmacy container, if a prescription medication, and if an over-the-counter medication, please send in a new unopened container with your child's name on it.
4. Medications should be transported to the school nurse's office by an adult.

Please note: Students must not carry medications on their persons unless they have a doctor's order stating they may do so. Please discuss this with your child, as our goal is to provide our students with a safe and drug free environment.