

[INSERT NURSE NAME], School Nurse
[INSERT SCHOOL ADDRESS]

[INSERT CURRENT DATE]

Dear Parent or Guardian:

As your child's school nurse, I want to remind you of the importance of getting your son or daughter vaccinated before they go back to school this fall. Vaccines are the best way you can protect your child from a number of serious diseases, including cancers caused by HPV.

As you are making your back-to-school checklist for your preteen, I encourage you to make vaccines a priority. Schedule your child's appointment today to ensure they are up-to-date on the vaccines they need. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommend your son or daughter receive the following vaccines:

- Meningococcal conjugate vaccine is recommended for preteens at age 11 or 12 for protection against bacteria that cause meningococcal disease and meningitis, very serious illnesses where death can occur in as little as a few hours. A second shot is recommended for teens at age 16 to continue providing protection.
- HPV vaccine is recommended for preteens at age 11 or 12 to protect against cancers and other diseases caused by HPV infection. Both boys *and* girls should receive three doses of HPV vaccine to protect against these serious diseases. Your preteen should receive the second dose a month or two after the first dose, and the third dose six months after the first dose.
- One dose of Tdap vaccine is recommended for preteens at age 11 or 12 as a booster for continued protection against tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (whooping cough).
- Preteens and teens should also get the flu vaccine every year, ideally as soon as vaccine is available.

[INSERT NAME OF STATE] requires [INSERT REQUIRED VACCINES] for school entry; to learn more about state immunization requirements, go to: www.immunize.org/laws.

Protect your preteen and talk with your child's healthcare provider about what vaccines they need. You may also contact me with any questions. I can be reached at [PHONE NUMBER] and I am in my office [INSERT OFFICE HOURS FOR VISITS]. I can also provide you with additional resources about vaccination and other health topics for the preteens and teen years. To learn more about adolescent immunization, please visit CDC's Vaccines for Preteens and Teens website at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/teens.

Sincerely,

[INSERT NAME OF SCHOOL NURSE]

Your School Nurse