

Student Health Services

Helping all children to develop physically, mentally, and emotionally so that they may achieve their full potential

STATE MANDATES

(1) DENTAL HEALTH: A dental exam is required for each student in first, third and seventh grades. Dental examination forms are available in the health office online by clicking on the [TS Dental Form](#) link.

Examination forms should be returned to the school by September.

(2) IMMUNIZATIONS: New Pennsylvania Immunization Requirements Go Into Effect

August 1, 2017. There have been significant changes to the Immunization Law in Pennsylvania for the 2017-2018 year. Students who do not meet the requirements detailed below can be excluded from school on **September 12, 2017** in accordance with the law.

28 PA.CODE CH 23.83 (School Immunization) and 28 PA.CODE CH 23.2 (Medical Examination) require the following:

Evidence of Immunization: Pennsylvania school health regulations require students to be properly immunized and provide verification to attend school.

NEW for September 2017:

- Students must have at least one dose in a series of a specific vaccine to attend the first day of school in September.
- If the student has at least one dose and additional doses are necessary and medically appropriate during the first 5 days of school, the student must obtain the next scheduled dose in the first 5 days of school and provide a medical certificate from the health care provider detailing the schedule of any remaining doses. **Students who do not have the next dose and have not provided the medical certificate from the health care provided will be excluded from school on September 12 in accordance with 28PA.CODE CH 23.83 requirements.** Students may return to school when they have received the next dose or have provided the medical certificate from the health care provider detailing the schedule of the remaining doses.
- If the child has at least one doses and additional doses of the vaccine are necessary but not medically appropriate during the first 5 days of school, the parent/guardian must provide a medical certificate detailing the schedule of remaining doses.
- **New requirement for students entering grade 7:** 1 dose of tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap) and 1 dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV)

- **New Requirement for students entering Grade 12:** Second dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV). A dose of MCV received at 16 years of age or older shall count as the 12th grade dose.
- **Exemptions to the new requirement include:**
 1. Students who have completed a certificate of medical or religious exemption (medical reasons, religious beliefs, philosophical/strong moral exemption) *.

***If a child is exempt, he or she may be removed from school during an outbreak/health emergency.**

 2. Students who are homeless
 3. Students who are transferring from a school or country outside of Pennsylvania may have up to 30 days to complete the immunization series or provide a medical certificate with schedule of completion. These students must have at least one dose of all required immunizations on the first day of school.

According to **28 PA.CODE CH 23.83** (School Immunization) the following immunizations are required:

- Four doses of tetanus, diphtheria and acellular pertussis (1 dose on or after the 4th birthday), usually given as DTP, DTaP.
- Four doses of polio vaccine (oral (OPV) or injectable (IPV). A 4th dose is not necessary if a third dose was administered at age 4 years or older and at least 6 months after the previous dose.
- Two doses of measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine, the 1st dose administered at 12 months of age or older.
- Three properly spaced doses of hepatitis B vaccine
- Two doses of varicella (chicken pox) or history of disease.
- **For students entering Grade 7**
 - 1 dose of tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap)
 - 1 dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV).
- **For students entering Grade 12**
 - 2nd dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV).
A dose of MCV received at 16 years of age or older shall count as the 12th grade dose.

For additional information on Pennsylvania's school immunization requirements, visit the Pennsylvania Department of Health website at www.health.pa.gov or contact your child's school nurse.

(3)PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS: The Timothy School requires a physical examination each year. Examinations done by a family physician within one year before the opening of the school term are acceptable by state regulations.

Please keep the School Nurse informed of any corrections, treatments or immunization boosters that your child has received so that your child's health record is current. Up to date information is essential in emergency situations.

Timothy School Physical Examination forms are available in the health office and online by clicking the link for [*TS Physical Exam Form.*](#)

(4)HEALTH SCREENINGS: Pennsylvania State Law mandates specific screenings for students in certain grades within each school year. Please contact the School Nurse if you have any questions about screenings (610-725-0755 Ext. 251).

Some of the mandated health screenings include:

- **Hearing Screenings:** Screening occurs in grades K, 1, 2, 3, 7 and 11 and may be done yearly for students with special needs.
- **Vision Screening:** Annually in all grades.
- **Growth Screening:** Height / Weight/ BMI are recorded annually for each student.
 - **Body Mass Index (BMI)** is a screening tool used to assess underweight, overweight and the risk of overweight. BMI is calculated from body weight adjusted for height, age and gender. BMI in children is age and gender specific because body mass changes as children grow, and boys and girls differ in BMI as they mature. The purpose of the BMI is to:
 - Monitor growth and development patterns of students.
 - Identify students who may be at nutritional risk or who may have a common nutritional problem.
 - Notify parents/guardians of screening results with a recommendation to share findings with the student's health care provider for further evaluation and intervention if necessary.
- **Scoliosis Screening:** Grades six and seven. Those who have completed a sixth grade physical exam with results of scoliosis screening documented by their private physician are excused from the screening

Parents/Guardians will be contacted if their child does not pass the health screenings and will be referred to the appropriate health care provider.

MEDICATIONS AT SCHOOL

The Timothy School Medication Guidelines reflect regulations from the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Pennsylvania Department of Education. The School Nurse is available to assist you with the Medication Guidelines and procedures. Some important points are summarized below.

1. Students are not permitted to carry prescription or over-the-counter medications to/from school. A parent or guardian must deliver the medication **in the original pharmacy container** and any necessary refills to the nurse's office.
2. Medications may be given in school if failure to take the medication would jeopardize the student's health or prevent a child from attending school. The initial dose of a medication cannot be given at school except in a life threatening situation.
3. Acetaminophen (generic Tylenol), Ibuprofen (generic Advil), and Benadryl for allergic reactions may be dispensed by the nurse (or other Responsible Personnel as designated by the Administration in the absence of the school nurse^{*}) under the direction of the school physician and with the permission of a parent or guardian. A check off area for permission to give these medications is included on the [Emergency Contact and Health Information Form](#).
4. Prescription medications, over-the-counter medications, research or investigational medications, or any product that could be considered a drug, including natural remedies', herbs, vitamins, dietary supplements, homeopathic medicines or medications from other countries, may be dispensed by the school nurse (or other Responsible Personnel as designated by Administration) with a written order from a physician indicating the student's name, the name of the medication, the dosage, the route of administration, the time, any special circumstances under which the medication should be administered, and the length of the period for which the medication is prescribed. A note from the parents or guardians requesting the school nurse (or other Responsible Personnel as designated by Administration) to administer the medication is also required.
5. Parents of students who have life-threatening allergies and/or seizure disorders should provide to the nurse each year a completed **Emergency Allergy Plan/Emergency Seizure Plan** and any needed emergency medications.
[Emergency Allergy Plan for life-threatening allergies](#)
[Emergency Seizure Plan for life threatening seizures](#)
6. Medication must be in the original pharmacy container
7. A medication will not be given if the prescription date is over a year old, or if the medication has expired.
8. **All requests for medication administration by parents and physicians must be renewed each school year.**

[TS Medication Guidelines](#)

*“Responsible Personnel” includes a school nurse or other individual designated by the Administration. The administration of medication to a student **may not be delegated by the school nurse to unlicensed health professionals** but may be delegated to personnel or staff at the discretion and under the direction of School Administrators.

SCHOOL ABSENCE

All absences require a note from the parent/guardian stating the reason for the absence. Absences due to illness that are 3 or more consecutive school days require an absence note documenting the reason for absence and the dates of absence from a medical doctor or other licensed health care provider who is providing ongoing care for the child. Please contact the School Nurse (610-725-0755 Ext. 251) if your child has an illness or health condition that may affect attendance at school or if an illness results in prolonged absence.

WHEN TO KEEP YOUR CHILD HOME

It is important to maintain a healthy environment in the classroom to protect all students. The following symptoms may indicate contagious illness. Your child should be kept at home if any of these occur: Fever of 100 degrees or more within the past 24 hours

- Fever within the past 24 hours
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea within the past 24 hours
- Chills
- Running or inflamed eyes or nose
- Rash (unless documented to be non-communicable by physician)
- Abdominal pain
- Sore throat
- Enlarged glands
- Excessive coughing
- Yellow or green drainage from the eyes or nose

A child should remain at home at least 24 hours with no fever, diarrhea, or vomiting following an illness. Notify the school that your child will be absent.

Communicable Disease Exclusion as per the Pennsylvania Department of Health

The Timothy School complies with the guidance and directives of the Chester County and Pennsylvania Departments of Health in matters of communicable illness and public health. The Departments of Health can require exclusion of children from school if they pose a threat to the health of others. Additionally they may require exclusion of unimmunized children if there is an

outbreak of communicable illness. **A note from the appropriate licensed health care provider is required to return to school**

Chickenpox	The student may return to school no less than six days after the last crop of vesicles and vesicles must be completely crusted.
Conjunctivitis(Infected/Pink Eye)	Until judged not contagious, without discharge
Diphtheria	Two weeks from the onset or until negative culture
Fifth Disease	Children with fifth disease are not excluded from school however parents should notify School Nurse
Impetigo	24 hours after the start of appropriate treatment
Measles	4 days from the onset of rash
Mumps	9 days from the onset or until subsidence of swelling
Pediculosis (Lice)	Until judged not contagious by the nurse or physician *
Pertussis	Students may return to school no less than 5 days after starting prescribed antibiotic treatment.
Respiratory Streptococcal infections (including scarlet fever)	Not less than 10 days from the onset or 24 hours after start of appropriate therapy
Ringworm	Until first treatment, if body lesions are covered (if not dried).

Rubella	4 days from onset of rash
Trachoma	24 hours from start of appropriate therapy
Rash &/or cough with fever, persistent vomiting, persistent diarrhea	Until medically evaluated and determined not communicable

* **Head lice (pediculosis):** Students may return when appropriately treated as determined by the School Nurse. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and other national health agencies do not recommend "no nit" policies for schools and have found them ineffective for a condition that poses no health risk. However since no pediculocide is 100% effective, removal of nits is important in preventing infestation. It is important for parents/guardians to ensure that nits are removed after a child is treated for head lice. Please notify the School Nurse if your child has been treated for head lice. It is advisable for parents to check their child's hair for head lice weekly. Links to information about head lice are located in the [resources](#) section.

TRANSPORTATION OF ILL OR INJURED STUDENTS

The transportation of ill or injured students is the responsibility of the parent or guardian. Parents or guardians will be contacted to provide or arrange for transportation.

In the event of severe illness or injury, an ambulance will be called to transport the student to the **Paoli Hospital**. Parents or guardians will be contacted. The ambulance fee is the responsibility of the parent or guardian and is usually covered by medical insurance.

FIRST AID /EMERGENCY TREATMENT

The School Nurse (or other Responsible Personnel in the nurse's absence as designated by Administration) will provide first aid and emergency care to students who become ill or injured during the school day. *. If your child is too ill to remain in school, parents will be expected to make arrangements to pick up the student in a timely fashion. For the health and comfort of your child, please make sure that Student Emergency Contact Information is updated to include designated emergency contacts who are local and available during the school day in the event that parent/guardian cannot be reached. Parents who will be away from home for an extended period of time are encouraged to notify the school nurse in writing of alternate emergency phone numbers and temporary guardians.

The school nurse cannot assume the responsibility for injuries that did not occur at school. Parents and students are asked to refrain from requesting the nurse to treat such injuries.

*School staff/Responsible Personnel CANNOT legally administered DIASTAT/Clonidine. In the event of a seizure emergency in the absence of the school Nurse, 911 will be called. Additionally, if emergency seizure medication is administered by the School Nurse, 911 will be called.

ACTIVITY RESTRICTIONS

If your child has an injury or illness that will inhibit them in participating in Physical Education class or any other school activity, a note is required from the doctor. The doctor's note must include the diagnosis, the extent of limitation of activity and the period of limitation.