



Wellsville Central School

Elementary School UPK-5
Secondary School Grades 6-12
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Dear Parent and/or Guardian,

This letter is to make you aware of a recent change regarding physical exams at school. In the past a choice was offered to families, 1) make an appointment with your own doctor or 2) schedule the physical at school. Best practice indicates that children should be seen by their primary health care provider annually (once per year), within the doctor's office, for a well-child appointment. School nurses make every attempt to encourage best practices, therefore we are encouraging all of our families to plan on scheduling your child's physical with their primary health care provider. Physical exams can be offered at school if there are extenuating circumstances.

Recent discussions involving school nurses and primary doctor offices have led to the discovery that some children have not been evaluated annually by their primary health care provider as a result of receiving their physical at school. In other cases, children have received a physical at school and within days or months are seen again in the primary doctor's office, creating a duplication of services. Well-child physicals received within the privacy of the doctor's office afford for opportunities beyond what could be expected within a school setting and add merit to best practice.

Physical exams are required for children entering grades Pre-K or K, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11. In addition, any student participating in sports must have a valid physical exam every year. Any student who is new to the district should provide a copy of a valid physical within 30 days of entering. In any of these cases, following your child's appointment, please ask for the physical to be faxed to the school nurse or provide a copy yourself.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Sincerely,

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Elementary Grade 3-5, ICS
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Kathy Darrow-Holla, RN, BSN
Secondary Grades 6-8
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Secondary Grades 9-12
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Our mission is to prepare our students to be successful, contributing members of their communities through excellence in education.