



HEALTH OFFICE UPDATE

Immunizations

This year, the state has made the Influenza Vaccine (Flu shot) mandatory for all children attending public school. Students who are learning remotely only must also get the flu shot. Students must receive the flu vaccine before December 31st to avoid being excluded from school.

Additional Covid-19 information

In accordance with Massachusetts Department of Public Health guidelines, students should be assessed at home each morning for common symptoms of Covid-19. If your student is experiencing symptoms, do not send your child to school. Please call the school to report that your child is feeling unwell. Current DPH guidance suggests that all persons experiencing even mild symptoms should be tested. If your child has had a covid-19 test, they may not return to school until they have received a negative test result. Those who choose not to test may return to school 10 days from the start of symptoms, as long as symptoms have improved, and your student has been fever free for 24 hours without use of fever reducing medication.

If someone in your household has tested positive for Covid-19, please call the school health office or the Westfield Department of Public Health prior to sending your child to school.

If your student needs to be picked up from school for feeling unwell, we ask that you make arrangements to have transportation for your student within 1 hour.

Hand Sanitizer

Hand sanitizer will be accessible to students when soap and water for hand washing is not readily available. If your child is unable to use hand sanitizer, you may opt-out, by sending a letter to the school nurse.

We thank you for entrusting the health and well-being of your students to us. We're so glad to have them back, and we will work hard with you to keep them healthy and learning!

-THE WESTFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOL NURSES