

Hi Washington Families,

Thank you so much for all your help and patience with the start of the 2020-2021 School Year. Drop Off and Pick Up were slower than normal given the new procedures that have been implemented, but I really appreciate your flexibility as we get into a routine. Overall, students have been doing a great job wearing their masks and keeping social distance.

Thank you again for working with your student(s) on the new protocols and procedures. Below are few reminders I'd like to share.

October 1st & 14th -Students learn from home (Students stay home)

October 6th & 8th -Elementary Parent Teacher Conferences (more information will be communicated with families about virtual/remote conferences)

Below is information explaining the virtual learning process if your student's class were to be quarantined.

If your student is quarantined and unable to attend in-person school, virtual learning will be the mode of instructional delivery during this quarantine period. It will be important for students to access their Seesaw (K-Grade 4) or Canvas (5th-6th Grade) Account daily to retrieve and complete learning activities and assignments being prepared by their teacher. The classroom teacher will be communicating with students regularly throughout this quarantine period. Families are encouraged to reach out to the teacher with any academic related questions. School work provided during the quarantine period is counted toward your student's attendance. Students who do not complete the work will be marked absent.

You are encouraged to visit the Wood County Health Department (WCHD) website at: <https://www.co.wood.wi.us/Departments/Health/CovidHub.aspx> for more information about COVID-19 or call the WCHD at 715-421-8911 with specific questions.

Marathon county residents can visit the Marathon County Health Department website at: <https://www.co.marathon.wi.us/Departments/HealthDepartment.aspx> or call 715-261-1900.

Clark county residents can visit the Clark County Health Department website at: <https://www.clarkcounty.wi.gov/covid-19> or call 715-743-5105

Sincerely,
Ms. Southworth

School District of Marshfield Referendum

The School District of Marshfield is asking taxpayers to support a \$3.5 million recurring referendum to sustain its current programs and offerings. This will be the sixth time the school district has gone to referendum in the past 18 years. Tight budgets increased operational expenses, and unfunded or underfunded mandates continue to drive the need to seek additional financial support. The school board recognizes these are exceptionally challenging times for families. However, to continue to sustain the academic excellence and opportunities for our

students that the community has come to expect, these additional funds are necessary. You can find additional information regarding the purpose for this referendum and what is at stake by accessing the links below, or by viewing the information in this newsletter.

Informational Referendum Flyer: <https://www.marshfieldschools.org/Page/994>

Frequently Asked Questions: <https://www.marshfieldschools.org/Page/995>

Proposed Budget Reduction List: <https://www.marshfieldschools.org/Page/991>

Additionally, there is a referendum community listening session scheduled for Monday, October 5th, 6:00 p.m., at the Marshfield Middle School gymnasium.

FROM THE DESK OF THE DISTRICT NURSES

The Importance of Childhood Immunizations in Disease Prevention

Disease prevention is the key to public health. It is always better to prevent a disease than to treat it. Vaccines prevent disease in the people who receive them and protect those who come into contact with unvaccinated individuals. Vaccines help prevent infectious diseases and save lives.

Parents are constantly concerned about the health and safety of their children and take many steps to protect them. These steps range from child-proof door latches to child safety seats. In the same way, vaccines work to protect children from illnesses and death caused by infectious diseases. While the U.S. currently has a record low number of cases of vaccine-preventable diseases, the viruses and bacteria that cause them still exist. Even diseases that have been eliminated in this country, such as polio, are only a plane ride away. Vaccine-preventable diseases have a costly impact, resulting in doctor's visits, hospitalizations, and premature deaths. Sick children can miss school time and also cause parents to lose time from work.

Before vaccines, many children died from diseases that vaccines now prevent. Those same germs exist today, but children are now protected by vaccines, so we do not see these diseases as often. Immunizing children also helps to protect the health of our community and schools. Immunizations slow down or stops disease outbreaks which are very important in a school setting.

SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

ENTRANCE TO GRADE K-12

- 4 – DTP, DTaP, DT, Td
- 1 – Tdap for grades 6-12 (or Td booster in past 5 years)
- 4 – Polio
- 2 – MMR
- 3 – Hepatitis B
- 2 – Varicella (or history of Chickenpox disease)

All vaccines given in the U.S. have been studied very carefully and are safe. They may cause mild side effects, like soreness or redness in the part of the arm where the shot was given. It is a good idea to ask your child's medical provider at every visit if there are any vaccines that he/she needs.

For more information visit the CDC website at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/index.

You can also contact Wood County Health Department at 715-387-8646 or 715-421-8911 to see if your child qualifies for free or low cost vaccines.



Flu season is around the corner!

Protect yourself and your family this season with an annual flu vaccine for everyone in your family who is 6 months of age and older. While the timing of flu season is unpredictable, seasonal flu activity can begin as early as October and last as late as May. CDC recommends that people get vaccinated by the end of October, if possible. This year, more than ever, receiving the flu vaccine is highly recommended. The impact of both influenza & COVID is likely to bring a significant rise in the number of respiratory illnesses this year. If you have questions about whether your child should receive the flu shot please discuss this with your health care provider.

Take everyday actions to stop the spread of germs. Try to avoid close contact with sick people. If your child becomes sick keep them home until they are free of fever or other symptoms for at least 24 hours without use of medication. Remind children to cover their nose and mouth with a tissue if they cough or sneeze and wash their hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.

Have your child vaccinated today! It takes about two weeks after vaccination for antibodies to develop in the body that protect against influenza virus infection.

If you think your child has the flu, contact your medical provider. Prescription medicine called antiviral drugs can be used to treat flu. Antiviral drugs can make illness milder and shorten the time length of illness. They may also prevent serious flu complications.

You have the power to protect your family against flu this season. Get yourself and your family a flu vaccine.