**Students**

**Health Assessments and Immunizations**

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of periodic health assessments according to state health requirements.

To determine the health status of students, facilitate the removal of disabilities to learning and find whether some special adaptation of the school program may be necessary, the Board of Education requires that students have health assessments. The Board may deny continued attendance in school to any student who fails to obtain the health assessments required under C.G.S. 10-206, as may be periodically amended.

The Board of Education adheres to the state law and regulations that pertain to school immunizations (C.G.S. 10-204a). It is the policy of the Board of Education to require that all enrolled students are adequately immunized against communicable diseases.

The Board of Education shall designate the school nurse as the representative to receive reports of health assessments and immunizations from health care providers.

Parent(s)/guardian(s) wishing their children exempted or excused from health assessments, immunizations, and vision, audiometric, and postural screens on religious grounds must request such exemption to the Superintendent of Schools in writing. This request must be signed by the parent/guardian.

Additionally, a student may be exempted or excused from required immunizations for medical reasons if the parent/guardian presents a written certificate from a physician stating that in the opinion of the physician such immunization is medically contraindicated. This request must also be signed by the parent/guardian.

Or, parents wanting their children excused from immunizations on religious grounds (prior to enrollment in Middletown Schools, pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, and grades seven and ten) must request such exemption in writing to the Superintendent of Schools if such immunization is contrary to the religious belief of the child or of the parent/guardian of the child. The request must be officially acknowledged by a notary public or a judge, a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, family support magistrate, a town clerk, a justice of the peace, or a Connecticut-licensed attorney.

The school nurse shall review and document immunizations and health assessments on all students enrolling in school and to report the status to the school principal. The school nurse shall make reasonable efforts to contact parents or guardians to inform them if immunizations and/or health assessments are insufficient or not up-to-date. The school nurse shall maintain in good order the immunization and health assessment records of each student enrolled. It is the responsibility of the Principal to insure that each student enrolled has been adequately immunized and has fulfilled the required health assessments.

No record of any student's medical assessment may be open to the public.
Students

Health Assessments and Immunizations (continued)

Students born in high risk countries and entering school in Connecticut for the first time, should receive either a TST (tuberculin skin test) or IGRA (interferon-gamma release assay). Any individual found to be positive shall have an appropriate medical management plan developed that includes a chest x-ray. Students not already known to have a positive test for tuberculosis should be tested if they meet any of the risk factors for TB infection, as described in the administrative regulations accompanying this policy, and managed according to the recommendations of the Connecticut Department of Public Health.

As required, the District will report, beginning in October 2017, on a triennial basis, to the Department of Public Health and to the local health director the asthma data, pertaining to the total number of students per school and for the district, obtained through the required asthma assessments, including student demographics. Such required asthma diagnosis shall occur at the time of mandated health assessment at the time of enrollment, in grades Kindergarten, seven and ten. Such asthma diagnosis shall be reported whether or not it is recorded on the health assessment form, at the aforementioned intervals. The District, as required, will also participate in annual school surveys conducted by the Department of Public Health pertaining to asthma.

The Superintendent of Schools shall give written notice to the parent/guardian of each student who is found to have any defect of vision of the eyes, with a brief statement describing such defect or disease and a recommendation that the student be examined by an appropriately licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-204a Required immunizations (as amended by P.A. 15-174 and P.A. 15-242)
10-204c Immunity from liability
10-205 Appointment of school medical adviser
10-206 Health assessments (as amended by P.A. 17 – 146)
10-206a Free health assessments
10-207 Duties of medical advisors
10-208 Exemption from examination or treatment
10-208a Physical activity of student restricted; board to honor notice
10-209 Records not to be public. Provision of reports to schools.
10-212 School nurses and nurse practitioners
10-214 Vision, audiometric and postural screenings. When required. Notification of parents re defects; record of results. (as amended by PA 17-173)
Students

Health Assessments and Immunizations (continued)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes (continued)
Department of Public Health, Public Health Code, 10-204a-2a, 10-204a-3a, 10-204a-4