

## ***Reminder from the School Nurse...***

### **Immunizations**

This past week the Milwaukee Health Department shared that approximately 600 children (in the city of Milwaukee) were up-to-date with immunizations. By this time each summer that number is generally in the 1000's. Unfortunately, during the initial months of the pandemic physician's offices scaled back on appointments and families were hesitant to go out in public so many routine vaccinations were not able to be administered.

Although St. Marcus is currently planning on virtual classes to begin the school year, the State of Wisconsin immunization requirements have not changed. Now more than ever, having your child up-to-date on his/her immunizations is important. The school is required, by law, to send out 3 legal notices informing parents/guardians which immunizations are needed for each child. If you wish to know which immunizations your child needs you can check on the Wisconsin Immunization Registry.

To access the registry follow these instructions:

**Step 1.** Go to <https://www.dhfs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/registry>.

**Step 2.** Near the bottom of the page, in the Public Immunization Record Access section, click on the Public Immunization Record Access link

**Step 3.** On the next screen, enter your or your child's first name in the First Name field and last name in the Last Name field

**Step 4.** In the Birth Date field, enter the person's birth date using the MM/DD/YYYY format, or use the pop-up calendar by clicking the calendar icon to the right of the field.

**Step 5.** Enter one of three choices in the next section: social security number, Medicaid ID or health care member ID or chart number in the appropriate field

**Step 6.** Click Search. You will see your or your child's vaccine record and a list of due or upcoming vaccines. Note, if the person cannot be found in WIR, you will get the following message: "No match was found. Please contact your healthcare provider"

**Step 7.** Click Print to print out the immunization record, if needed. You can use this as proof of vaccination for child care or school entry, summer camps, or for your place of work

**\*\*If you have difficulty accessing the site you may call the Registry helpline at 608-266-9691. (Please Note: Your child is in the WIR database **under the name they had when first immunized** as an infant.)**

Because immunizations, in physician's offices, are given by nurses or medical assistants the appointment does not count as a "doctor visit" for BadgerCare (or most insurances) there is no need to wait until your child's yearly appointment.

The Milwaukee Health Department has immunization clinics at three of their Health Centers. No appointment is needed but **they ask that you bring any vaccine records** with you so print out the list of immunizations in the WIR.

Keenan Health Center	3200 N 36 <sup>th</sup> Street	Fridays 8:00 - 11:00 am
Northwest Health Center	7630 W. Mill Road	Wednesdays 3:00 – 6:00 pm
Southside Health Center	1639 S. 23 <sup>rd</sup> Street	Mondays 3:00 – 6:00 pm Tuesdays 1:00 – 4:00 pm

(Please Note: Only children who **are uninsured or on Medicaid/BadgerCare** can be vaccinated at the Health Department. If you have insurance through an employer then you will need to see your child's healthcare provider.)