

To ensure parents stay informed about health risks students may face when learning together in a school community, the state of Tennessee requires that we collect and share annually information regarding Meningococcal Disease, Influenza, and MRSA.

While it is unlikely that a student will require treatment for any of these conditions in a given school year, it is nonetheless important for parents to be fully aware of them and to have resources available to them in case their student(s) need diagnostic care or curative treatment.

Please read the following information and explore the links provided from the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) and the state of Tennessee to learn more about the causes, symptoms, transmission, and treatments of Meningococcal Disease, Influenza, and MRSA.

Meningococcal Disease:

The two most common types of meningococcal infections are meningitis and bloodstream infections. Symptoms are different for meningococcal meningitis and bloodstream infections. However, both are very serious and can be deadly. The best way to prevent meningococcal disease is to get vaccinated. CDC recommends meningococcal vaccination for all preteens and teens, as well as children and adults with an increased risk for meningococcal disease.

Meningitis Infections in Infants and Children

HHS Meningococcal Vaccine Information

Meningococcal ACWY Vaccine Information Sheet

Influenza:

Flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat, and sometimes the lungs. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. The best way to prevent flu is by getting a flu <u>vaccine</u> each year.

Influenza (Flu) Information

Influenza: Preventing Seasonal Flu

Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)

MRSA is a type of staph that can be resistant to several antibiotics. For more information about signs and symptoms of MRSA and how to treat it, please follow this link to the CDC website:

https://www.cdc.gov/mrsa/about/index.html