

Dear Parents/Guardians;

Starting school is a big step for your child and your whole family. I am looking forward to getting to know you and your family as your child begins his/her educational experience at Waverly-Shell Rock Schools. To help you prepare your child for the first day of kindergarten, there are a few state-regulated requirements you should know about.

⇒ **Immunization Requirements** – Iowa law requires that every child submit a completed immunization form or valid Iowa immunization exemption form **before the first day of school**. The following immunizations are required:

DTaP	5 doses required with one dose <u>after</u> age 4
Polio	4 doses required with one dose <u>after</u> age 4
MMR	2 doses required
Hepatitis B	3 doses required
Varicella	2 doses required OR a reliable history of natural disease

⇒ **Blood Lead Test** – Iowa law requires all incoming kindergarteners to have a lead screening (or a valid Iowa exemption form) completed. This blood test may have already been completed when your child was younger. If your child has already had one lead test, this does not need to be repeated prior to kindergarten. If you are unsure if this test has been done, you can contact your child's primary care provider. Your child will not be withheld from school if this requirement is not complete prior to the first day of school.

⇒ **Dental Screening** – Iowa law also requires all incoming kindergarteners to show proof of a dental exam (or a valid Iowa exemption form). It is preferred that a dentist or dental hygienist completes the screening, but this may also be done through your family care provider or nurse . Any exam after age 3 is acceptable for this requirement. You can return the form to your child's school at your earliest convenience. Your child will not be withheld from school if this requirement is not complete prior to the first day of school.

⇒ **Vision Screening** – A vision screening is also required for students entering kindergarten. This vision screening does not have to be a comprehensive eye exam. **The school nurse will do vision screenings to satisfy this requirement during the school year.** You do not need to return a form prior to the school year starting and your child will not be withheld from school.

⇒ **Physical Exam** – A well-child exam by your primary care provider is **recommended** before the first day of kindergarten. This is when your child may receive updated immunizations if needed. You can return a completed physical form to your child's school at your earliest convenience.

Your child's health plays an important role in his/her success in school. During the school year, I will be doing health screenings including vision, height, weight, and blood pressure. If any abnormalities are found, you will be notified. If you do not wish to have your child participate in the school health screenings, please let me know in writing before the start of the school year.

It is also important to inform the school of any health concerns regarding your child that may affect his/her academic performance. Examples of health concerns can include: asthma, ADD/ADHD, allergies (including food allergies), diabetes, seizures, anxiety and/or headaches. If your child is required to take medication during the school day, please notify the school to learn about the district's medication administration policy.

If you have any other questions/concerns or need assistance finding a care provider, please feel free to contact me by email at jaime.robbyns@wsr.k12.ia.us or by phone at (319)352-3630.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Jaime Robbins, MSN RN
Waverly-Shell Rock School Nurse