



9981 Canterbury Street, Westchester, Illinois 60154
(708) 450-2700 Fax (708) 450-2712

Dr. Jean H. Sophie, Superintendent

February 2010

Dear Parent(s):

As mandated under Board Policy 7.100, all Westchester Public School students are required to include a tuberculosis skin test screening as part of their regular health examinations while they attend district schools. This tuberculosis screening requirement has been instituted as an additional protective health measure for our students. This requirement along with a physical is for incoming students either in early childhood or kindergarten, incoming sixth graders, and new students to the district. New students will have 30 days to fulfill this requirement.

You should be aware that, in addition to the generally-required health examinations, Illinois law governing schools (Section 27-8.1 of the *School Code*, 105 ILCS 5/27-8.1) and Illinois Department of Public Health regulations (77 Ill. Admin. Code 665.140) expressly authorize school districts to require additional health examinations and further evaluations of students as they deem necessary. Even though the Department of Public Health has not designated the area in which Westchester students reside as having a high incidence of tuberculosis, the Board of Education of District 92½ has made a policy determination that tuberculosis skin test screenings should be part of the regular student health examination. You may want to share this information with your student's physician.

As required by law and Illinois Department of Public Health rules, if you object to the tuberculosis screening requirement and desire to have your student exempted from the District's health requirements, you may do so only for:

1. Religious or medical grounds if the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) present to the Superintendent a signed statement of objection, detailing the grounds for objection; or
2. Medical grounds if a physician provides written verification.

If you have any questions about the District's tuberculosis screening requirement, please contact our District Office at 708-450-2700.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jean H. Sophie