



# Northwood Kensett Community School District

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Iowa Department of Public Health has made changes to the Iowa Immunization law for the start of the 2017/18 school year. This change requires that all students entering 12<sup>th</sup> grade have the Meningococcal vaccine before school starts this fall.

Meningococcal disease is a life threatening illness that is caused by bacteria that infects the brain, blood, and spinal cord. It easily spreads in crowded settings and typically affects older teens and young adults.

All students entering 12<sup>th</sup> grade must have proof of having the Meningococcal vaccine before school starts in August, unless the student has a Certificate of Immunization Exemption.

There will be no grace/extension period for the implementation of this requirement.

Now is a great time for your child to receive this immunization requirement and beat the back-to-school rush by making an appointment for your incoming 12<sup>th</sup> grader. Worth County Public Health is also a great resource for this immunization, especially if limited insurance coverage or cost is a concern. The number to call WCPH is 641-324-1741.

Please do not hesitate to call or email me with any questions you may have.

Thank you for your time and attention to this requirement,

Heather Rheingans RN  
Northwood-Kensett CSD Nurse  
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Northwood-Kensett's mission is to create healthy, educated, ethical and productive citizens.

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