

HEALTH EXAMINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONS

Pupils who enter the district schools for the first time shall have a medical examination conducted at the medical home of the pupil, and a full report sent to the school. If a pupil does not have a medical home, the district shall provide this examination at the school physician's office or other appropriately equipped facility. "Medical home" means a health care provider and that provider's practice site chosen by the pupil's parent/guardian for the provision of health care. As the school physician is also a health care provider, the parent/guardian may request that the school physician provide the medical examination.

Immunizations

The Mount Laurel Township School District shall ensure that a principal or his or her designee does not knowingly admit or retain in the school building any student whose parent/guardian has not submitted acceptable evidence of the child's immunization, according to the schedule specified in N.J.A.C. 8:57-4 immunization of pupils in school.

A pupil shall be exempted from mandatory immunization if the parent/guardian objects to immunization in a written statement submitted to the principal, signed by the parent/guardian, explaining how the administration of immunizing agents conflicts with the pupil's exercise of bona fide religious tenets or practices. General philosophical or moral objection to immunization shall not be sufficient for an exemption on religious grounds. A pupil may be exempted from mandatory immunizations with a signed physician's letter stating the reason for the exemption.

Every pupil who enters the district schools for the first time shall present an immunization record as required by law. At the parent/guardian's request, these immunizations may be administered by the school physician.

In order to protect the health of the children and staff in district schools, all regulations of the state department of education, the state department of health and the local board of health shall be scrupulously observed, particularly those dealing with contagious/infectious diseases or conditions. Pupils seeking to enter school who have been identified as having a communicable/infectious disease or condition shall not be enrolled unless they qualify under the above agencies' rules pertaining to periods of incubation, communicability, quarantine, and reporting.

The chief school administrator or his/her designee shall formulate regulations that ensure immunization records are reviewed and updated annually pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.1 through 4.16. The chief school administrator shall also formulate regulations for this policy and for regular pupil health examinations at appropriate grade levels; before participation in sports programs; and for tuberculosis, scoliosis, hearing loss, visual acuity and any other physical examinations required by law. Any health defects revealed by any examination given by the school health services must be reported to the parent/guardian. The board shall review the regulations and adopt those required by law.

Health Examinations

The board requires that all pupils enrolled in this district submit to physical examinations in accordance with law and rules of the State Board of Education and State Department of Health to insure that the learning potential of each child is not diminished by a remediable physical disability and that the school community is protected from the spread of communicable disease.

HEALTH EXAMINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONS (continued)

A pupil who presents a statement signed by his or her parent that required examinations interfere with the free exercise of his or her religious beliefs shall be examined only to the extent necessary to determine whether the pupil is ill or infected with a communicable disease, or under the influence of a drug or is handicapped or is fit to participate in any health, safety, or physical education course required by law.

The results of physical examinations and screenings shall be reported to the pupil's parent when any condition is identified that requires follow-up by a physician or family health provider.

The chief school administrator shall instruct all teaching staff members to observe pupils continually for conditions that indicate a physical defect or disability and to report any such conditions promptly to the school nurse.

An examination to determine the presence of physical defect shall be conducted for pupils entering kindergarten and for newly enrolled pupils (who cannot present evidence of a physical exam). Parents will have the option to be examined by the school medical inspector or another physician licensed to practice medicine. An examination by a physician other than the medical inspector shall be at no expense to the board. The report of any such examination shall be given to the school on a form furnished by the board. Upon enrollment into school, parents shall provide examination documentation within 30 days of enrollment. Parents will be notified of the importance of obtaining medical examinations of the student at least once during each developmental stage, at early childhood (pre-school through grade 3) pre - adolescence (grades four through six) and adolescence (grades seven through twelve).

Pupil health examinations shall include, in accordance with district regulations, immunizations; the pupil's health history including allergies, past serious illness, injuries and operations, medications and current health problems; height, weight, hearing, vision, and blood pressure screenings; and physical examination of the pupil's body. Pupil examinations/physicals and pupil athletic physicals shall not require screening or disclosure of HIV status.

Sport physical examinations shall be conducted prior to participation on a school sponsored interscholastic or intramural athletic team or squad for students enrolled in grades 5 to 8. The examination, in accordance with above shall be conducted within 365 days prior to the first practice session. The medical examination shall be documented on the Athletic Participation Physical Examination Form approved by the Commissioner of Education. Parents will have the option to be examined by the school medical inspector or another physician licensed to practice medicine. An examination by a physician other than the medical inspector shall be at no expense to the board. The medical examination shall include a health history questionnaire, completed and signed by the parent. Each student whose medical examination was completed more than 60 days prior to the first practice shall provide a health history update on medical problems experienced since the last medical examination. This shall be completed and signed by the parent.

Each candidate for a place on a school athletic squad or team shall submit to a medical examination conducted in accordance with board policy 6145.1/6145.2 Intramural and Interscholastic Competition and rules of the State Board of Education.

Pupils referred for evaluation for eligibility for special education and/or related services shall be examined in accordance with board policy 6171.4 Special Education and rules of the State Board of Education.

Pupils suspected of being under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or anabolic steroids shall be examined in accordance with board policy 5131.6 Substance Abuse and rules of the State Board of Education.

A. Health Screenings:

HEALTH EXAMINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONS (continued)

1. Tuberculin screening;
2. Tuberculin screening shall be conducted as required by the State Department of Health;
3. Screening for height, weight and blood pressure shall be conducted annually for each student in kindergarten through grade 8 (per code).

B. Scoliosis screening

Each pupil between the ages of ten and eighteen years shall be examined biennially (per code) in grades 4, 6 and 8 for scoliosis, by the school nurse or a school employee trained in scoliosis screening. A pupil shall be exempt from the examination on the request of the parent.

C. Audiometric screening

Screening for auditory acuity shall be conducted annually for students in kindergarten through grade 3 and in grade seven (per code).

D. Vision screening

1. Screening for visual acuity shall be conducted biennially for students in kindergarten through grade 8 (per code). Mount Laurel schools will visually screen grades, K, 2, 4, 6, and 8;
2. The school district shall provide notification to the parents/guardians of any student suspected of deviation from the recommended standard from all the health screenings.

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 Revised: February 26, 2008
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 Readopted: January 28, 2014

Key Words

Immunizations, Inoculations, Examinations, Pupil Physical Examinations, Pupil Physical Examinations, Health

<p>Legal References: <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:35-4.6 through -4.8 <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-4 <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-4.3 <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-4.4 <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-4.5 <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-5 <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-6 <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-11 <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-16 through -19 <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-20 <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:61D-8 through -10 <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 26:1A-9.1 <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 26:4-6 <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 26:2T-5</p>	<p><u>Parents Right to Conscience Act of 1979</u> Examination for physical defects and screening of hearing of pupils; health records Scoliosis; periodic examination; notice to parents or guardian Exemption Immunity from action of any kind due to provisions of act Method of examination; notice to parent or guardian In general Exclusion of pupils having communicable tuberculosis Tuberculosis infection; determination of presence ... Immunization at public expense Findings, declarations relative to Hepatitis B vaccinations.... Exemption of pupils from mandatory immunizations Prohibiting attendance of teachers or pupils</p>
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HEALTH EXAMINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONS (continued)

through -9	Findings, declarations relative to Hepatitis C
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:14-3.4	Evaluation
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:16-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Programs to Support Pupil Development
<u>See particularly:</u>	
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:16-1.3, -1.4,	
-2.1, -2.2, -2.3, -2.4,	
-4.1, -4.3	
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:32-9.1	Athletics Procedures
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-2	Reporting of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome and infection with Human Immunodeficiency Virus
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.1	Applicability
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.2	Proof of immunization
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.3	Medical exemptions
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.4	Religious exemptions
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.5	Provisional admission
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.6	Documents accepted as evidence of immunization
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.7	Records required
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.8	Reports to be sent to the State Department of Health
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.9	Records available for inspection
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.10	Diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and pertussis vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.11	Poliovirus vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.12	Measles virus vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.13	Rubella vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.14	Mumps vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.15	Haemophilus influenza type b (Hib) conjugate vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.16	Hepatitis B virus vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.17	Varicella virus vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.18	Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.19	Influenza vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.20	Meningococcal vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.21	Providing immunization
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.22	Emergency power of the Commissioner, Department of Health and Senior
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:61-2.1	Attendance at school by pupils or adults infected by Human Immuno-deficiency Virus (HIV)

Plainfield Board of Education v. Cooperman, 105 NJ 587 (1987)

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Pub. L. 107-110, 20 U.S.C.A. 6301 et seq.

Possible

<u>Cross References:</u>	*1410	Local units
	*4123	Classroom aides
	*5111	Admission
	*5113	Absences and excuses
	*5131.6	Drugs, alcohol, tobacco (substance abuse)
	*5141	Health
	*5141.21	Administering medication
	*5200	Nonpublic school pupils
	*6142.4	Physical education and health
	*6145.1/6145.2	Intramural competition; interscholastic competition
	*6162.5	Research

HEALTH EXAMINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONS (continued)

- *6164.4 Child study team
- *6171.4 Special education

*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.