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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Have your students ready for the next school year!**

If your child will be entering the 6th grade this fall, there are vaccinations that are needed to protect your child and other children in school.

The Student Immunization Law requires that all students through grade 12 meet a minimum number of required immunizations prior to school entrance. The purpose of these laws are to protect your children and those around them. These requirements can be waived only for health, religious or personal conviction reasons. If you desire a waiver form for your child please contact your school district.

Children entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade will need their Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis (**Tdap**) **booster**. This one time shot is the key to increasing your child's resistance to Pertussis (Whooping Cough). The Wisconsin Immunization law requires a dose of this vaccine to attend school.

Two other vaccines are recommended for your son or daughter at this age:

- The **Meningococcal vaccine** helps prevent a brain and spinal cord infection. This vaccine is a series of two doses.
- The **Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccine** prevents cancer. This vaccine is a series of two or three doses. Ask your provider about these vaccines!

If you have insurance, please contact your clinic today to set up an appointment to have your child receive these important immunizations. If your child is uninsured or your insurance does not cover immunizations (shots), please contact Polk County Health Department at **715-485-8500** to schedule an appointment for your child to receive these vaccines at no cost to you.

For further information on these important Public Health Laws refer to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services:  
**Statute 252.04 and 144**

"Promoting, Protecting and Preserving Health Through Partnerships with People and Communities"

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