

Important Letter from Your School Nurse

Dear Carpenter families,

My name is Patrice Gage and I am the school nurse at Carpenter Elementary. I look forward to meeting your child and working with you to help keep your child happy, healthy and safe.

Immunizations:

This is most important, please read and DO first: Your child's immunization record must be up to date and turned in OR an OFFICIAL WAIVER must be submitted BEFORE the start of the school year.

The **Michigan School Immunization Law** and Ann Arbor Public Schools require that students are up-to-date on their immunizations **before the first day of school**. Centers for Disease Control immunization schedule requires certain immunizations between ages 4-6. **These must be completed before school entry. By state law, parent immunization waivers can only be obtained from the Washtenaw County Health Department.**

Vaccines protect everyone. Students lacking proper immunizations may be asked to stay home during periods of disease outbreaks.

Click here for more information: [Immunization Schedule](#) [Waiver Information](#)

Vision Screening

Kindergarteners and Young 5's are required by the State of Michigan to have vision screening completed **PRIOR to the start of school**. This can be done at your doctor's office or the [Washtenaw County Health Department Vision Services](#) (WCHD).

School Health Plans

If your child has a health diagnosis/need, which may require planning prior to them starting school, we should have a phone conversation and/or plan to **meet before the end of May**. **This includes: diabetes, seizures, life-threatening food or insect allergies, severe asthma, celiac disease, sickle cell, etc.** This meeting will provide an opportunity to discuss your child's health and develop a plan of care. In addition, you should complete the online registration and document any pertinent health issues in the online health section.

Medications

If your child needs to take medications (**prescription or over-the-counter**) during the school day, a [Medication Administration Form](#) **must be filled out and signed by both a health care provider and a parent/guardian**. **Important:** This form must be in place *before* any medications can be given and must be renewed each school year. Medications include **prescription** (e.g. inhalers, EpiPens) and **non-prescription** (e.g. Ibuprofen, Benadryl, Hydrocortisone cream) medications. Medications must be in the original package with prescription labels that match the instructions on the medication order form. Please discuss

this more with your nurse. Health Care provider orders can be faxed to Carpenter Elementary at 734-997-1226.

When Should a Child Stay Home From School

Please carefully read over the following document, "[When Should a Child Be Kept Home or Sent Home From School](#)," and save for your reference during the school year. **Please call the school office as soon as you know your child will not be in school.** You may leave a message on the answering machine. It is important that we account for each student every day.

Emergency Contacts

During your online registration you will be given the opportunity to complete the emergency contact section. This will contain your child's emergency contact information (used if they need to go home during the school day due to injury or illness). The school office staff will contact those you list in this section to pick up the student.

The school staff can only release your child to people who you have listed in this emergency contact section. Therefore, list ALL people who may need to pick up your child if you are not available to come yourself.

Keep this information up-to-date. As cell phone, work, and home numbers can change, PLEASE keep the office staff informed so we can always reach you.

Thank you,

Patrice Gage, RN, MSN, CPNP

District Cell Phone: 734-474-6327

School Fax: 734-997-1226

Email: gagep@aaps.k12.mi.us

Resources Websites and phone numbers:

AAPS Resources:

AAPS [When Should a Child Stay Home From School](#).

AAPS [Standard Medication Form](#)

[AAPS Nurse Care Corner](#)

Washtenaw Public Health Department Resources:

[WPHD Immunization Services or Waivers](#) through the Health Department Contact WCHD: 734-544-6700.

[WCHD Vision and Hearing Screen](#): 734-544-6786

Other Health Resources:

UM RAHS School Health Services: <http://umhs-rahs.org/>

Corner Health: www.cornerhealth.org