

Nurse Newsletter

May 2025 | Heather Boswell RN, BSN

2025/2026 Health Requirements

Immunizations

All students enrolling at Central Decatur Schools are required to provide one of the following: an up-to-date immunization record, a medical exemption, or a religious exemption. Parents must submit the appropriate documentation to the school nurse prior to the first day of school.

A provisional certificate may be issued for any student who has received at least one dose of each state-required vaccination at the elementary level. However, once the provisional certificate expires, the student must be fully vaccinated in accordance with state regulations. If updated vaccination records are not provided, the student will be excluded from school until the required documentation is submitted to the school nurse.

Kindergarten

- Proof of vision screen
- Proof of dental screen
- Recent physical
- Blood Lead Screening Results
- **Immunization Records**

3rd Grade

- Proof of vision screen


7th Grade

- Tdap vaccine
- Meningococcal Conjugate vaccine

Free Student Physicals – May 14

This week, physical forms were sent home with 6th grade students. If you would like your child to receive a free physical provided by an Infinity Health provider on **May 14** between **12:00 PM and 4:00 PM**, please complete the form and have your student return it to the school.

For additional details, please check the **TextCaster alerts** and the **Central Decatur Facebook page**.



Measles Guidance

Iowa Health and Human Services

You may have heard recent news reports about a measles outbreak occurring in parts of the United States. While there are currently no confirmed cases in Iowa, neighboring states like Minnesota and Missouri have reported cases, so it is important for us to stay informed and take proactive steps to keep our community healthy.

According to the latest update from Iowa Health and Human Services, there have been 884 confirmed measles cases nationwide, with the majority reported in Texas. Of those cases, 94 have resulted in hospitalization, and sadly, there have been three deaths. Alarming, 97% of these cases involved individuals who were either not vaccinated or whose vaccination status was unknown.

The best way to protect yourself and your family is through vaccination. The MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella) vaccine is highly effective and recommended in two doses: the first between 12 and 15 months of age, and the second between ages 4 and 6. If you are unsure whether you or your child have received both doses, please contact your healthcare provider or local public health office for guidance.

In Decatur County, approximately 62.2% of the population is vaccinated against measles. To achieve herd immunity and help prevent the spread of the disease, at least 95% of the population needs to be vaccinated. With current rates falling below this threshold, vulnerable groups—including infants, individuals with compromised immune systems, and the unvaccinated—are at higher risk of infection. Measles is extremely contagious: one infected person can spread the virus to 12–18 unvaccinated people, and 90% of those without immunity will become infected if exposed.

If a case of measles is identified within Central Decatur Schools, we will immediately work in partnership with public health officials to assess exposure and determine appropriate next steps. In some cases, non-immune individuals may need to isolate, quarantine, or be temporarily excluded from school to prevent further spread. Vaccinated individuals are considered immune and would not be subject to these measures.

We encourage all families to review their immunization records and speak with their healthcare providers if there are any questions or concerns. Together, we can take the right steps to help protect our students, staff, and broader community.