



**THREE VILLAGE  
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

*The mission of the Three Village Central School District, in concert with its families and community, is to provide an educational environment which will enable each student to achieve a high level of academic proficiency and to become a well-rounded individual who is an involved, responsible citizen.*

November 18, 2019

Dear Governor Cuomo and State Lawmakers,

As elected officials in the Three Village Central School District we, along with our Superintendent, are writing today in opposition of the proposed amendment to Section 2164 of the public health law, which would require that all children receive the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine as part of the state's mandated school immunization program.

While we recognize that changes in the health law are often necessary in order to protect the public at large against health crises or to mitigate exposure to a communicable disease in open spaces, we are clinically opposed to adding the HPV vaccine to the required vaccination program for myriad reasons.

The other vaccines that students are required to receive in order to attend public school all have one thing in common: they aim to safeguard children against diseases that are easily contracted in a public school setting. These illnesses, such as measles, mumps, rubella and pertussis, are spread most commonly through poor personal hygiene (lack of proper hand washing) or via airborne respiratory droplets that contain the virus/bacteria, making the pool of individuals at risk for illness very large and the locations where one can contract an infection limitless.

However, according to the American Cancer Society, "HPV can be passed from one person to another by skin-to-skin contact, such as occurs with sexual activity. The main way HPV is spread is through sexual activity, including vaginal, anal and oral sex." Research further shows that you cannot get HPV from toilet seats, hugging/holding hands, swimming pools or hot tubs, sharing food or utensils, or being "unclean." Furthermore, according to MED Shadow, while the "post-marketing safety and surveillance data indicate that Gardasil 9 is 'well-tolerated and safe,' still 'many physicians have hesitated to recommend it based on its potential side effects, which range from more mild (pain at the injection site, fever and fainting) to adverse events (autoimmune and neurological disorders, anaphylaxis and death)'."

Cheryl Pedisich, Superintendent of Schools  
Jeffrey Carlson, Deputy Superintendent

Gary Dabrusky, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources  
Kevin Scanlon, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services

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**Board of Education**  
William F. Connors, Jr., President  
Irene Gische, Vice President

Deanna Bavlnka  
Inger Germano  
Dr. Jeffrey Kerman

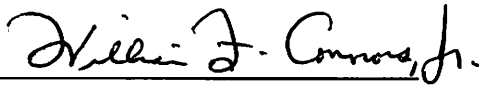
Jonathan Kornreich  
Vincent Vizzo  
Kathleen Sampogna, District Clerk

As our public schools are not places where students would engage in the activities found to make one susceptible to contracting or spreading HPV, why then should it be mandatory that students be inoculated with the vaccine in order to attend school? We have been advised that there is no inherent risk to the public's health, as this disease is neither spread by children nor life-threatening to them.

At the present time, the decision to vaccinate one's child against HPV rests with the parent. If this bill passes, it will preclude children from being able to access a public school education based upon a parental determination that immunization as a "potential preventative measure" does not outweigh the potential risks.

Therefore, the Three Village Central School District Board of Education and administration strongly and vehemently objects to the addition of the HPV vaccine as a requirement for students in the state to attend public schools and encourages our elected public officials to vote against this bill.

Sincerely,



William F. Connors, Jr.  
President, Board of Education



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Superintendent of Schools

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