# Superintendent’s Memo #088-19


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: April 12, 2019

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction

## SUBJECT: HPV Immunization for Rising Sixth-Grade Students

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH), Division of Immunization, has asked the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) to disseminate information to parents and school divisions regarding Human Papillomavirus (HPV) immunization for rising sixth-grade students.

The *Code of Virginia* § 32.1-46(A)(12) defines HPV immunization requirements for school age children as follows:

“Three doses of properly spaced human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine for females. The first dose shall be administered before the child enters the sixth-grade.”

The code further provides that parents or guardians may elect for the child not to receive the HPV vaccine after reviewing materials describing the link between the HPV and cervical cancer approved for such use by the Board.

The Center for Disease Control also recommends this immunization for males.

Please distribute the attached letter from the VDH Commissioner, Dr. M. Norman Oliver, to parents of rising sixth-grade students.

Should you have any questions, please contact Janaye Oliver, Adolescent Immunization Coordinator at the Virginia Department of Health, by telephone at (804) 864-8073, or by email at Janaye.Oliver@vdh.virginia.gov. You may also contact Tracy White, School Health Nurse Specialist at the Virginia Department of Education, by telephone at (804) 786-8571, or by email at Tracy.White@doe.virginia.gov.

JFL/TLW/cw

### Attachments

1. [Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Immunization for Rising Sixth-Grade Students English](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/administrators/superintendents_memos/2019/088-19a.docx)
2. [Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Immunization for Rising Sixth-Grade Students Spanish](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/administrators/superintendents_memos/2019/088-19b.docx)