MEMORANDUM

TO: Volunteers
FROM: School Nurse
SUBJECT: Tuberculin Test

Pennsylvania Public School Code requires all school employees, including volunteers to obtain a test for tuberculosis prior to employment or service. A “volunteer”, according to School Law, is “any unpaid person who provides direct services to pupils on behalf of a school for whatever period of time”.

What is a tuberculin test?

Tuberculosis is a reportable communicable disease, which is both preventable and curable. The tuberculin test is a harmless skin test that shows if a person has been exposed to TB germs. The test is provided routinely to children as babies and school children as part of their wellness care.

The test is done by a small skin test application using a tiny needle on the forearm and is to be read within 48-72 hours. The test is administered and read by a school health professional.

If a test is negative, there is nothing to be done. If a test reads “positive”, further testing will be necessary and can be provided by the family physician or, at no cost, by the State Health Clinic in Chambersburg.

How does a volunteer get tested?

The Shippensburg Area School District will provide free testing. Testing can be done any Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Friday from 7:15 a.m. to 11:00 AM at the following health offices in the district: Senior High School, James Burd, and Nancy Grayson. Plan to return 48-72 hours later for reading. A few minutes of time are all that is needed.

If you are unable to attend during these hours, please call Shelly Kwaitkowski, Senior High nurse, at 530-2739 for an alternative time. Every effort will be made to accommodate you.

You can choose to have the tuberculin test by your family physician and submit a copy of the results. Or, if you have had a tuberculin test within the past three months, a repeat is not necessary. A copy of results can be sent to the Volunteer Coordinator.

We appreciate your cooperation in helping us to comply with this Pennsylvania law. If you have any questions, please call Brendan West, Coordinator of School and Community Volunteers, 717-876-8945.