



SHOREHAM-WADING RIVER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
 631-821-8100 250B Route 25A, Shoreham-New York 11786 www.swrschools.org

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 Charles Althoff, Director of Student Services

Glen Arcuri, Asst. Supt. for Finance & Operations
 Alan Meinster, Asst. Supt. for Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment
 Angelo Andreotti, Director of Facilities III

November 26, 2019

Dear Governor Cuomo and Elected Officials,

Section 2164 of NYS public health law describes the immunization requirements for all public school children. A proposed amendment is currently under consideration for Section 2164 to add a mandatory vaccination for the human papillomavirus (HPV).

The Shoreham Wading River Central School District Board of Education is **opposed** to enacting any health law such as HPV that mandates vaccinations for viruses that are not transmitted in schools. The HPV vaccination has historically been a parental decision, is not transmitted in schools, lacks the full support of the medical community and would require schools to enforce a widely unpopular mandate by excluding children. It **should not** be adopted.

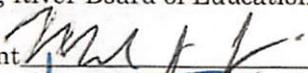
Please be advised that parents in our community have already notified the District that should the proposed amendment to add the HPV vaccination to public health law section 2164 be made law, they will not vaccinate their children and their children will as a result be excluded.

Amendments made last year to Section 2164, which prohibited the use of religious exemptions for vaccination requirements strained the relationships between our educators and parents by requiring schools to enforce the amendment through excluding children. It resulted in children in our district missing extended time in school and several students are now being homeschooled by parents who had no previous intention of homeschooling. It is a certainty that mandating the HPV vaccination for school enrollment will create more dissonance between schools and families. It will result in many more students being excluded from school. Attendance in school, coupled with academic success is strongly linked to health.

We write this letter to urge you to **oppose** the legislation to include the HPV vaccination as a requirement for school attendance.

Sincerely,

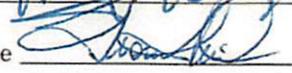
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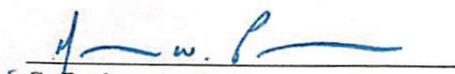
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