

NORTH HUNTERDON HIGH SCHOOL

Michael P. Hughes
Principal

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Assistant Principal

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Assistant Principal



A NATIONAL SCHOOL
of
EXCELLENCE

Patricia L. Raleigh
Director of Guidance

John Deutsch
Director of Athletics

Michael Gleason
Dean of Students
Health/PE Supervisor

October, 2009

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students:

Blood donations in New Jersey, as elsewhere, are always in desperately short supply. While 60% of the population is eligible to give blood, only 5% of those eligible actually do. Yet, every three seconds, someone needs a blood transfusion.

North Hunterdon High School is proud to announce that we are hosting a blood drive on November 24, 2009. Each year, our teachers, students, parents, and community members have come forward to help others through blood donations. Their generosity was acknowledged again last year on New Jersey Blood Services' roll of leading corporate and educational blood donor groups, with North Hunterdon listed as #11 in the state of New Jersey. We hope our community's generosity will continue.

The blood drive will be held in North Hunterdon High School's New Gym on November 24th from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. While students who are seventeen and eighteen years old may donate legally without parental permission, we ask that they speak with their parents before donating, and that they get written permission (see below). This year, we also extend a special invitation to our students who will be sixteen years old by November 24th. With parental permission, sixteen-year-olds can now donate in the state of New Jersey. In addition to filling out the permission slip below, they must also fill out the New Jersey Blood Services permission form attached.

Reminders:

- All donors should drink plenty of water and eat regular meals on donation day.
- All donors must show some official form of identification, such as a picture ID or driver's license.

We look forward to your help. Save someone's life on November 24th.

Sincerely,


Michael P. Hughes
Principal

Attachment (New Jersey Blood Services Permission Form)

If you are 16 years of age or older, you are eligible to donate blood. Please submit this permission form, signed by your parent, when you come in to donate blood:

I am giving permission for my child _____, who is a minimum of 16 years old, to donate blood on November 24th at North Hunterdon High School.

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____

UNIT NUMBER: _____

Consent Form for 16 Year Old Donors

(BLOOD CENTER COPY)

This is to certify that _____
is 16 years old. I have read the informational material provided
with this form, and I consent for my child/ward to donate blood
through New Jersey Blood Services.

PARENT / GUARDIAN SIGNATURE DATE

HOME PHONE _____

PARENT'S CELL PHONE _____

Reminders

- All student donors must show proof of age
- Eat well before your donation
- All donors must present identification with signature or photo

Donation Process

To determine if your child is eligible to donate we will:

- Ask questions about health, travel, sexual activity and medicines to determine risk for viruses and other disease.
- Take the blood pressure, temperature and pulse.
- Take a small blood sample to ensure your child is not anemic.

If able to donate we will:

- Cleanse the arm with an antiseptic.
- Use a new, sterile, disposable needle to collect the blood.

Possible Donation Complications:

Most donors tolerate giving blood well, but on occasion reactions and complications may occur. On average, a very small number of donors have a reaction or complication when they donate either a bag of whole blood or donate blood on a machine. Examples of reactions and complications which may occur when donating whole blood or donating on a machine include anxiety; feeling warm or cold; nausea or vomiting; and dizziness or fainting; bruising, nerve injury, or infection at the puncture site. Injuries from falls following dizziness or fainting may also occur. Some of these reactions and complications may occur more frequently with younger donors donating whole blood versus donating blood on a machine. Donors donating blood on a machine may experience tingling of the fingers and around the mouth that is caused by citrate, a substance used to keep blood from clotting in the machine. Muscle spasms can also occur infrequently. Very rarely, a donor on a machine may develop decreased calcium levels (hypocalcemia) or an irregular heart beat from citrate. Our staff is trained to recognize and manage adverse reactions and your child needs to listen to all instructions from our staff and to be alert to signs of the above reactions, including during the time spent in the canteen area following the donation.

What happens to the donation:

To protect patients, the blood is tested for viruses and certain other infectious diseases. If the blood tests positive, it will not be given to a patient. Your child will be notified about test results that may disqualify from donating in the future.

From time to time, New York Blood Center (NYBC) may offer additional health-related screening tests (such as cholesterol testing) to donors. Your child will be advised at the time of donation concerning the specific test(s) that may be performed, and provided with the opportunity to decline the offer. The results of any additional health related screening tests will be provided. Some of the blood may be used for research studies or investigational test procedures which will be conducted in accordance with guidelines established by NYBC's committee for protection of human subjects. If the results from any study could affect your child's health, your child will be notified.

If your child responds to the optional question regarding racial or ethnic group, the blood may also be tested for the presence of a rare blood type. If a rare blood type is found based on the optional screening program, we will notify your child by mail.

What happens to the test results:

Your child may be asked to speak with one NYBC's medical professionals if the blood tests are positive for certain viruses, and your child may also be asked to return for a follow-up visit and further testing. Your consent will be requested again at that time. The names of donors whose blood tests positive are kept in confidential files. These files can be opened solely by authorized NYBC personnel. New York Blood Center will not release positive test results without your written consent unless required by law (e.g. to the Health Department, FDA, or by judicial process).

We will not notify your child if the test results are negative or if sample tubes do not provide enough blood to complete all laboratory tests.

If you have any question about your child's donation, please call (732) 220-7026 during normal business hours.

Some products used in blood collection contain natural latex rubber which may cause allergic reactions.

Thank you for consenting for your child to donate blood.