

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST DIOCESAN HIGH SCHOOL

1170 MONTAUK HIGHWAY • WEST ISLIP, NEW YORK 11795-4959

(631) 587-8000 FAX (631) 587-8996

December 17, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As you may know, the New York State Legislature has pending legislation to require the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine for students – Senate Bill S298B and Assembly Bill A2912A.

I am writing to ask your support in opposing the New York State Legislature's proposed legislation.

Please know that St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School is not opposed to vaccines in general. We are in full compliance with New York State's current regulations concerning vaccinations and require all students to be fully vaccinated in order to attend. Your child's health and safety are our *highest* priorities.

However, this vaccine is different. HPV, a potentially alarming health issue, does not represent a public health risk in the way that measles, mumps, or rubella do. Unlike measles – an airborne disease which can remain in the airspace for up to two hours after the infected individual has left – HPV can only be transmitted between two people through very intimate behaviors. HPV cannot be transmitted to someone simply because they are in the same room as an affected individual.

We believe that the decision to vaccinate a child against HPV should be left to the parent, their child, and the family's doctor.

In an effort to stop this legislation, we are asking you to send an email to your New York State elected officials objecting to this new legislation. A formula letter, which you can simply copy and paste into an email, [can be found by clicking here](#), along with email addresses for members of the New York State Senate and New York State Assembly.

Hopefully, the Legislature will receive so many emails in opposition that the bills will not pass. Your support in this is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Argiro", written over a white rectangular box.

Principal