

LETTER TO PARENT/GUARDIAN

Dear Parent/Guardian of _____

Our school is excited to offer an education and prevention program for school aged students in collaboration with the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH). The School Immunization Catch-Up Program is a federally funded initiative that provides the hepatitis B, varicella (Chicken Pox), tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap) and meningococcal conjugate (MCV4) vaccines to schools to offer their students who meet Vaccine For Children (VFC) eligibility.

VFC eligibility includes those students who fall into any of the following categories; Child is enrolled in Medical Assistance (Fee for Service/Managed Care), Child is American Indian or Alaskan Native, Child has NO health insurance, or Child has health insurance, but it does NOT cover vaccinations. Circle the category your child falls into if you are interested in your child receiving any of the indicated vaccines at school at no cost to your family; complete the Permission/Refusal form by _____.

Our records indicate that your child appears to need the _____ hepatitis B, _____ varicella, _____ tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis, and/or the _____ meningococcal conjugate vaccine(s).

Information on the indicated vaccine(s) is accompanying this letter. If you have any questions, please contact the school nurse.

The 2011-2012 school year, Pennsylvania school immunization requirements include the following vaccines for attendance in all grades; four doses of tetanus and diphtheria containing vaccine, three doses of polio, two doses of measles and mumps, one dose of rubella, three doses of Hepatitis B, and two doses of varicella (chicken pox) vaccine. Children attending seventh grade will need one dose of tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap) and one dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV).

Many people between the ages of 11-19 think they are done with their vaccinations and vaccinations are just for children. Getting immunized is a lifelong, life-protecting job. Make sure your child "catches up" with these required vaccines which are available to your child to receive in school during the 2011/2012 school year.

Sincerely,

School Nurse

