



July 22, 2010

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This letter serves as a reminder about the change in Ohio law for immunizations. Ohio law requires that children who attend a public or non-public school be immunized against certain vaccine-preventable illnesses to help prevent the spread of communicable diseases amongst the children and the public. Beginning this upcoming 2010-2011 school year, the Ohio Department of Health, at the recommendation of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), has issued the following additional immunization requirement for all kindergarten students:

- ALL INCOMING KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS ARE NOW REQUIRED TO HAVE TWO DOSES OF THE CHICKENPOX VACCINE

These immunizations must be received prior to the start of 2010-2011 school year. Please contact your physician to schedule an appointment or vaccines can be obtained at Lake County General Health District, 33 Mill Street, Painesville (440- 350-2554).

Once your child has received the vaccine, please forward a copy of your child's immunization record to the school. According to the Ohio Department of Health (2010), "As with other school immunization requirements, students who do not provide documentation of this immunization are subject to exclusion from school". We will work with families to ensure that all timelines are met to avoid any interruptions in learning.

Ohio Law allows a 14 school day period for compliance with the immunization requirement. Please provide the needed information by August 24, 2010, the first day of school. As of September 15, 2010, students whose records are incomplete will not be able to attend classes until the needed documentation is provided to the school.

Please contact Sandra Yankie, RN or Fran Keller, RN (440-259-9604 or 440-259-9504), if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

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Listed below are immunizations that **are required before the 1<sup>st</sup> day of Kindergarten**

- **DPT** (minimum of 4) – 5 doses if the 4<sup>th</sup> dose was administered prior to the 4th birthday.
- **Polio Vaccine** – 4 doses of any combination of OPV or IPV, the final dose must be administered on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday regardless of the number of previous doses.
- **2 doses of MMR** (Measles (Rubeola), Rubella (3 day), plus Mumps)...**1<sup>st</sup> MMR** dose on or after 12 months of age...**2<sup>nd</sup> MMR** dose to be given at least 28 days after 1<sup>st</sup> dose but **must be given before starting Kindergarten.**
- **Hepatitis B (3 shot series)** must show evidence of having received a 3 dose series or proof that the Hepatitis B Series is in progress.
- **Varicella (Chicken Pox)** 2 doses of varicella vaccine must be administered prior to start of school.