

## IMPORTANT IMMUNIZATION UPDATE

As of September 1, 2001, all children born after January 1, 1996, and who are entering KINDERGARTEN will be required to document three doses of the HEPATITIS B vaccine, in addition to the previously required doses of MMR, DPT, and Polio vaccines. Please remember your child is also required to receive a second MMR before entering Kindergarten. In addition, starting this year any student born after January 1, 1998, will be required to obtain a VARICELLA VACCINE (chicken pox) before starting Kindergarten. If your child has had chicken pox disease, a physician's note or parental statement is required for the file.

Furthermore, all children born on or after January 1, 1990, and who are entering GRADE 6 shall also be required to document receipt of the Hepatitis B vaccine series. Additionally, every child born on/or after January 1, 1997, and entering GRADE 6 on or after September 1, 2008, shall receive one dose of DTap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Acellular) given no earlier than the 10<sup>th</sup> birthday. Every child born on or after January 1, 1997, and entering or attending Grade 6 on or after September 1, 2008, shall have received one dose of meningococcal-containing vaccine, such as the medically-preferred meningococcal conjugate vaccine.

Upon receipt of the first dose of the Hepatitis B vaccine, a child will be granted provisional admission permitting them to remain in school while the series is being completed. Since it takes months to complete the Hepatitis B series, **ALL CHILDREN NEED TO HAVE ONE DOSE OF HEPATITIS B VACCINE BY SEPTEMBER 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009. PLEASE PROVIDE THE SCHOOL WITH DOCUMENTATION BEFORE THIS DATE.**

Parents, please review your child's immunization records or consult your child's physician to ensure these required doses of vaccine have been given or are in the process of being. In addition, if your child has received other vaccines other than those mentioned, during the summer, please let us know.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

School Nurse