

SAMPLE

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 (HepB), varicella (Chickenpox), tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap), meningococcal conjugate (MCV), diphtheria, tetanus acellular pertussis, (DTaP), measles, mumps, rubella (MMR), and inactivated poliovirus (IPV) polio, vaccines to schools to offer their students who meet Vaccines For Children (VFC) eligibility.

VFC eligibility includes students in kindergarten through 18 years of age who meet at least one of the following categories:

- Alaskan Native
- American Indian
- Medicaid – Medicaid eligible or enrolled patient
- No Insurance – An uninsured patient
- Underinsured – Health insurance plan does not cover vaccinations

Please, **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.

Our records indicate that your child appears to need:

_____ Hepatitis B	_____ Tdap	_____ DTaP
_____ Varicella	_____ MCV	_____ MMR
_____ Polio		

Information on the indicated vaccine(s) is accompanying this letter. If you have any questions, please contact the school nurse. Please complete the permission/refusal form by _____.

The 2017/2018 school year, Pennsylvania school immunization requirements include the following vaccines for attendance in all grades; four doses of DTaP, (1 dose on or after 4th birthday), four doses of polio, (1 dose on or after the 4th birthday and six months after the last dose), two doses of MMR, three doses of Hepatitis B, and two doses of varicella (chicken pox) vaccine. Children attending seventh grade will need one dose of Tdap and one dose of MCV on the first day of seventh grade. Children attending 12th grade need one dose of MCV on the first day of 12th grade. (If one dose was given at 16 years of age or older, that shall count as the twelfth grade dose).

Many people between the ages of 11 through 18 years of age 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 2017/2018 school year.

Sincerely,

School Nurse