

October 1, 2011

Dear Faculty and Staff,

This letter is an annual reminder for all adults in our school community that immunizations are necessary for adults as well as children. There are a variety of boosters and new immunizations that adults should receive, based on their age, as well as their health and living situations.

The Department of Public Health also regulates exclusions from school when there is an outbreak of communicable disease such as chicken pox (varicella) or whooping cough (pertussis). Since January 1, 2011 there have been 24 cases of measles confirmed in Massachusetts compared to three cases for all of 2010. We often have varicella, and have had significant numbers of pertussis cases in the past. These exclusions include both staff and students. If a staff member is exposed and not properly immunized, large amounts of missed school time may occur.

Please take a moment and consult with your physician regarding your immunization status in order to prevent exclusion from school. It is the responsibility of staff to stay current on these immunizations. Failure to do so could result in unpaid work days. As always, do not hesitate to consult with your school nurse or my office if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Roy Belson, Superintendent

Eileen DiBattista, RN, Supervisor of Health