

Health Notice

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The State of New Hampshire Immunization Program has changed their requirements for the upcoming 2009-2010 school year. **This particular change impacts most of the students in grades 5-8.**

One of the changes involves the tetanus toxoid containing immunization. In the past, the state required a booster for this immunization every 10 years. The **NEW** requirement states: if a student is age 11 years or older, and it has been 5 years or longer since the last documented dose of tetanus toxoid containing immunization, the student is required to receive a **ONE TIME** dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis vaccine). If the student has a medical contraindication to pertussis vaccine, the student can receive a Td (tetanus and diphtheria toxoid vaccine), and then a Td booster vaccine will be needed every 10 years.

In many cases, this vaccine has already been given but our Health Office does not have documentation of this vaccine administration. Please contact your child's physician and **ask if there has been a tetanus vaccine given in the past 5 years.** If so, please forward this to the school Health Office as soon as possible. In the event that your physician will fax us the updated immunization, our fax number at the school is **887-4961**. If it was not given, please schedule an appointment and send the results to the Health Office before the start of school in August.

Your prompt attention is appreciated in this matter as this immunization is needed for your student to start school this coming fall for the 2009-2010 school year. Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact our Health Office.

Katie Pierson, RN 887-3621 x 135

Lynda Cioli, RN

