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To: Parents/Guardians of **Children entering Pre-K, Kindergarten & 7th Grade**

Subject: **NEW STATE IMMUNIZATION RULES AND CERTIFICATES**

From: Kathy Ragan, RN, School Nurse

 Mischelle Black, School Health Coordinator

The Tennessee Department of Health (TDOH) has issued new immunization rules and is issuing a new Official Certificate that is required for entry into school effective July 1, 2010. All newly required vaccines are routinely recommended for all children. Most children should have already received them.

* There will now be only **one** official TDOH certificate of immunization that must be filled out by medical providers for delivery to schools prior to entry of their child into pre-school, pre-k, kindergarten, 7th grade, or as a new student. This form will only be available from a private healthcare provider or local health department.
* **Children entering pre-K, Kindergarten or 7th grade**, **who are already enrolled,** must show proof of two new immunizations.
* For 7th grade students already enrolled in Tennessee schools, only proof of the two new immunizations is required on the new immunization certificate.

*Summary: Tennessee Immunization Requirements (TDOH 1200-14-1-29)*

Children entering 7th Grade

* ***New*** immunization requirements:
* Tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis booster (“Tdap”)
* Verification of immunity to varicella (2 doses or history of disease)