

**\*\*\*IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR MPMS  
UPCOMING 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS\*\*\***

**Please read over this letter in full** so that you will be sure to meet the requirement for your child to start school on **August 1, 2018**. **Your child will NOT be able to attend school until the proper Immunization Record is given to us.** MPMS will accept Immunization Certificates starting now and throughout the summer.

Beginning July 1, 2010 the Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) instituted new immunization requirements for children enrolling in child care and school. Children who start pre-school, pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, **7<sup>th</sup> grade**, **OR** are a new student starting school in **Tennessee for the first time**, all will need a new official **Tennessee Certificate of Immunization** to provide to the school or child care provider when asked for an immunization certificate.

**PLEASE REFER TO THE \*\*\*\*SAMPLE COPY\*\*\*\* I HAVE PLACED WITH THIS LETTER. THIS IS THE ONLY IMMUNIZATION DOCUMENT THAT WILL BE ACCEPTED!**

**Immunization Requirement Summary:  
Tennessee Department of Health Rule 1200-14-1-.29**

(New Requirements Underlined, Effective Dates Italicized in Parentheses)

**All children entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade (including currently enrolled students):**

- **Tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis booster ("Tdap")**: not required if a Td booster dose given less than 5 years before 7<sup>th</sup> grade entry is recorded on the DTaP/Td line (*no later than October 1, 2010*)
- **Verification of immunity to varicella: 2 doses** or history of disease (*July 1, 2010*)

**Children who are new enrollees in a TN school in grades *other than Kindergarten or 7<sup>th</sup>*:**

- Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (DTaP, or DT if appropriate)
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella (2 doses of each, usually given together as MMR)
- Poliomyelitis (IPV or OPV): final dose on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday now required
- Varicella (2 doses or history of disease): previously only one dose was required
- Hepatitis B (HBV): previously only for Kindergarten, 7<sup>th</sup> grade entry

**Children with medical or religious exemption to requirements:**

- **Medical**: Physician or health department authorized to indicate specific vaccines medically exempted (because of risk of harm) on the new form. Other vaccines remain required.
- **Religious**: Requires a signed statement by the parent/guardian that vaccination conflicts with their religious tenets or practices. *If* documentation of a health examination is required by the school, it must be noted by the healthcare provider on the immunization certificate. In that case,

*Tennessee Department of Health Immunization Program: Last Updated March 2, 2010*