



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE**
Thomas R. Frieden, MD, MPH
Commissioner

Immunization Compliance Update

December 2, 2008

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Assistant Commissioner
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Bureau of Immunization
2 Lafayette Street, 19th Fl.
New York, NY 10007

Dear Principal:

This is to provide you with an update on the progress toward achieving our goal to assure that a minimum of 98.5% of New York City's school age children are fully immunized with all vaccines required for the 2008-09 school year. As of November 25, city-wide compliance of public schools with New York State Public Health Law §2164 was 92.8%.

This letter will serve as a "First Warning Letter" to those schools at less than 95% compliance and/or with more than 50 excludable students. Compliance data for individual schools will be reviewed again in January 2009. The principals of those schools failing to demonstrate significant progress toward the 98.5% goal will receive a "Second Warning Letter" indicating that they are in violation of New York State Law.

Please act immediately to ensure that all children in your school are appropriately immunized and that all immunization records are regularly updated in ATS and maintained in the child's file. It is the responsibility of the principal to exclude those students who lack documentation of the required vaccinations. The Citywide Immunization Registry can assist your staff in quickly determining a student's immunization status. Please see the attached flyer for details. The upcoming school holidays will provide an excellent opportunity for children to visit their pediatrician or medical home to receive any missing vaccinations. Inform the parents/guardians of excludable children that their child will not be allowed to return to school without the proper documentation.

Parents of students who are without a medical provider (or medical home) can call 311 for a referral to an immunization clinic. If you have any questions or need technical assistance, please call our Schools Team Leader, Betty Sanchez, at (212) 442-6794. Thank you for your usual excellent cooperation.

Sincerely,

Jane R. Zucker, MD, MSc
Assistant Commissioner

cc: Dr. Roger Platt, Assistant Commissioner – School Health
Dr. Oxiris Barbot, Director – Bureau of School Health
Ava J. Mopper, Department of Education
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District 75, 79, and District 84 Coordinators
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