



Roger Platt, MD  
Director  
Office of School Health  
49-51 Chambers Street  
Room 600  
New York, NY 10007

June 2009

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

The New York City Department of Education is writing to inform you of a requirement in the New York State immunization regulations that may affect your child.

For the 2009-2010 school year, all students entering 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade or a comparable age-level special education school or program and who are 11 years of age or older, must receive the tetanus booster "Tdap" vaccine which contains tetanus toxoids, diphtheria and acellular pertussis (Tdap).

If a student has received a tetanus booster vaccine (Td, DT, or DTaP) within the last two years, the student's vaccine may be deferred until two years have elapsed. However, you must submit proof of immunization to your child's school. Please remember that failure to have your child properly immunized may lead to exclusion from school.

Ten year old students who are entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade will not be required to receive a Tdap vaccine and will not be excluded from school, but they must be immunized when they turn 11 years old. Alternatively, ten year old students may receive the Tdap vaccine from their physician's office.

If you have any questions regarding this vaccine, please discuss them with your physician or contact the nurse at your child's school. Thank you for your cooperation in this regard.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roger Platt".

Roger Platt, MD, Director  
Office of School Health