



WASECA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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November 2, 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian:

H1N1 influenza vaccination will be offered to your child soon. Waseca County Public Health and your school have been working together and, as soon as vaccine is received, will be offering vaccination clinics during the school day. These clinics could begin as early as November 16, beginning first with students in Kindergarten and 1st Grade, and as vaccine supply increases, vaccine will be provided to additional grade levels. These clinics could begin as early as November 16. There will be **no cost** to you.

Vaccination is the best way to protect your child from this potentially serious disease. However, participation is voluntary. Please carefully consider allowing your child to receive this vaccine. (Children from 6 months to 9 years old are expected to need two doses of vaccine spaced at least 4 weeks apart.)

We have learned that the majority of the vaccine for use in schools will be FluMist. This is an easy, pain-free way to be vaccinated – good news! Injectable vaccine will be reserved for those children determined to have pre-existing medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes, cancer, or diseases of the heart, kidney, liver, nerves or blood.

Attached you will find a consent form, Q/A paper and Vaccine Information Sheets. Read the Vaccine Information sheets thoroughly. Then, complete one consent form for each child you have in kindergarten through the 12th grade. **Consent forms must be returned to your child's teacher or school office before November 16 in order for your child to receive a vaccination.**

If you have questions, more information is available on the internet at: www.health.state.mn.us or you may call the Minnesota Department of Health Flu information line toll-free at 1-800-657-3903 from 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Sincerely,

Cheri Lewer
Director of Public Health

PLEASE SEE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON THE BACK OF THIS LETTER.