

Plainfield Consolidated Community School District 202
J.F. Kennedy Middle School
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HEALTH OFFICE ALERT

January 2012

Dear Parents/Guardian,

The State of Illinois Department of Public Health has revised their guidelines for the Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus Vaccine. The incidence of whooping cough (Pertussis) has been on the increase. As of September 1, 2010 Illinois had reported 445 cases of Pertussis, with 45% of the cases occurring in school-age children. In an effort to protect the rest of the community, the IDPH has adopted the following new policy for **Tdap** vaccine.

STUDENT ENTERING GRADES 6 THROUGH 12 WHO HAVE NOT ALREADY RECEIVED Tdap ARE REQUIRED TO RECEIVE 1 Tdap DOSE REGARDLESS OF THE INTERVAL SINCE THE LAST Dtap, DT or Td DOSE. This new law will be enforced at the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year.

PLEASE check with your doctor to determine if your child's last vaccination was a **Tdap**. If it was not, your child will require another vaccination.

This is to be completed and proof forwarded to the school nurse before the first day of the 2012-13 school year. **If your child is 11 years old or older, and has not received a Tdap vaccination, please obtain it as soon as possible and forward proof to the school nurse this school year.**

REMINDER : INCOMING 6TH AND 9TH GRADE STUDENTS FOR 2012-13 MUST PRESENT A COMPLETED PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FORM/UP-TO-DATE IMMUNIZATIONS (INCLUDING Tdap) BEFORE THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL. 6TH GRADE STUDENTS ARE ALSO REQUIRED TO HAVE A DENTAL EXAMINATION FORM BE COMPLETED. SPORTS PHYSICALS are valid for ONE YEAR from the date obtained.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Mariann Miller, RN JK Bldg RN

Mary Lynn Ferone, RN, CSN