

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Another school year is here and influenza season will be upon us. Influenza is a contagious virus that may cause fever/chills, sore throat, muscle aches, fatigue, cough, headache, and a runny/stuffy nose. The best way to keep our students healthy is to immunize them against influenza (flu). The Juneau County Health Department is working with your child's school to give the seasonal influenza vaccine to children at school. This vaccine will protect against the influenza strains that are expected to circulate this year.

The flu vaccinations (**Fluzone Trivalent Preservative Free shots**) will be provided <u>FREE</u> of charge from the Juneau County Health Department and the Wisconsin Immunization Program as part of a mass immunization exercise. Not only is this a way to vaccinate a significant number of children against the seasonal influenza, the exercise will serve as practice and testing of the area public health response in the event of a sudden and serious public health emergency.

We anticipate holding school influenza vaccination clinics in October/November. Routine influenza vaccination is recommended for all persons age 6 months or older. Depending on whether they've received influenza vaccines in the past, some children younger than nine years of age will need two doses of vaccine spaced about 4 weeks apart.

If you have any questions about the vaccine or the vaccination clinics, please call the Health Department at 608-847-9373. Please visit the CDC's influenza website at http://www.cdc.gov/flu and scan the QR code below for seasonal influenza vaccine information statements.



Stay Healthy,

Sadie Webber, RN, BSN

PHN

Please complete and return consent form <u>ONLY</u> if you want your child to receive the influenza vaccine.

