

St. Mary Parish School Board

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, February 16, 2009

**New Legislation Affects 2009-2010 Immunization
and School Entrance Requirements**

Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, Acts 152 and 342 will require additional immunizations for all students entering Pre-K, kindergarten, daycare, and Head Start programs. Prior to entry, students must have documented proof of the following immunizations:

2 doses	MMR	Measles-Mumps-Rubella
3 doses	HBV	Hepatitis B
2 doses	Varicella	Varicella
4 doses	Hib	Haemophilus Influenza Type B
Boosters	DTaP*	Diphtheria Tetanus Acellular Pertussis
Boosters	Polio*	Polio

*Booster doses of DTaP and Polio vaccines must be administered on or after their 4th birthday and prior to school entry.

Additionally, beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, any student who is age eleven (11) in any grade or as a condition of entry into the sixth grade must also provide satisfactory evidence of current immunization against meningococcal disease (MCV-4) along with any other age appropriate vaccine. Immunizations may be obtained from your local healthcare provider or at the St. Mary Parish Public Health Unit in Morgan City located at 1200 David Drive. Please call ahead (985-380-2441) for an appointment.

Further legislation requires the school board to provide parents or legal guardians with information regarding the recently approved HPV vaccine. In accordance with Act 210, parents and legal guardians of students in grades 6-12 will be receiving more information detailing the HPV vaccine and risks associated with the Human Papillomavirus Virus in the coming months. Questions or concerns related to the new legislation may be directed to the Office of Public Health, Immunization Program at 504-838-5300 or the Louisiana Department of Education toll-free at 1-877-453-2721.