



Department of Public Health

Monroe County, New York

Cheryl Dinolfo
County Executive

Michael D. Mendoza, MD, MPH, MS
Commissioner of Public Health

June 19, 2019

Dear Superintendent,

As you may be aware, New York State recently passed legislation to eliminate religious, non-medical exemptions from school vaccination requirements for children effective June 13, 2019. The United States is currently experiencing the worst outbreak of measles in more than 25 years. Earlier this year, seven cases of measles were documented in school-age children in Monroe County. Unvaccinated children often attend school where they may spread the disease to other unvaccinated students, some of whom cannot receive vaccines due to medical conditions. This new law will help protect the public amid this ongoing outbreak.

Per New York State law, children who are attending child day care or public, private or parochial school, and who had a religious exemption to required immunizations, must now receive the first age appropriate dose in each immunization series by June 28, 2019 to attend or remain in school or child day care. Also, by July 14, 2019 parents and guardians of such children must show that they have made appointments for all required follow-up doses. The deadlines for follow-up doses depend on the vaccine. It may be helpful for you to reach out to parents of previously exempt students so they can adequately schedule appointments for their children before the start of the 2019 – 2020 school year.

Children should receive their vaccinations from their Primary Care Physician/Pediatrician, but if that is not possible, the Immunization Clinic at the Monroe County Department of Public Health also offers appointments and walk in hours for vaccinations. Please find more information on our Immunization Clinic on the informational flyer attached with this letter.

If you have any questions, concerns, or would like additional information, please contact Acting Manager of Nursing Services Kathy Hiltunen by calling (585) 753-5123.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Mendoza, MD, MPH, MS
Commissioner of Public Health
Monroe County Department of Public Health

Kathy Hiltunen, RN, MBA
Acting Manager of Nursing Services
Monroe County Department of Public Health