Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA) requires that students have up-to-date vaccines for tetanus, diphtheria, polio, measles, mumps, rubella, meningococcal disease (meningitis), pertussis (whooping cough) and varicella (chickenpox – for those born on or after January 1, 2010).

If your child has not received some (or all) of these vaccines due to medical, conscience or religious beliefs, you must provide **one** of the following to Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health (WDGPH):

- **Statement of Medical Exemption** form (enclosed) signed by your child's physician or nurse practitioner. A copy of this form is included in the package. The original signed document must be returned to WDGPH. Make a copy of this document for your personal records. (A Vaccine Education Certificate is not required.)

- **Statement of Conscience or Religious Belief Exemption** form and **Vaccine Education Certificate.** Parents are responsible for the following:

    1. Complete an in-person immunization education session at WDGPH. Please call 1-800-265-7293 to book an appointment. Once complete you will receive a Vaccine Education Certificate.

    2. Complete the enclosed Statement of Conscience or Religious Belief form and have it notarized by a Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (see a list of commissioners on the next page).

    3. Make a copy of both documents for your personal records.

    4. Submit both the signed original Statement of Conscience or Religious Belief form and a Vaccine Education Certificate to WDGPH at the same time.

The following commissioners are authorized to sign affidavits for a conscience or religious exemption. Please note there may be a fee for this service.

- Clerks, deputy clerks or treasurers of local municipalities
- Heads of municipal council, reeves or deputy reeves of towns, members of city council
- Administrative heads (building standards, welfare, assessment or planning)
- Barristers and solicitors entitled to practice law in Ontario
- Judges or justices of the peace

If you wish to cancel an existing exemption on file, please contact vaccine records at 1-800-265-7293 ext. 4396. You also need to provide a copy of your child's immunization record.

For the protection of your child and the school community, you need to be aware that your child may be unable to attend school in the event of an outbreak or threatened outbreak of disease.

For more information and office locations please visit wdgpublichealth.ca. If you have any questions regarding vaccines or exemptions, call 1-800-265-7293 ext. 4746 to speak with a public health nurse.

Sincerely,

Marlene Jantzi-Bauman RN, MPH, BScN, BHSc, CIC
Manager, Vaccine Preventable Disease Program
Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health