



# ST. GERARD CATHOLIC SCHOOL

4433 W. WILLOW HWY. · LANSING, MI · 48917

February 9, 2017

Dear Parents,

This letter is to inform parents of changes in the rules regarding St. Gerard School's responsibility in relationship to reporting immunizations to the Department of Community Health. The State of Michigan has made a few changes in regards to immunizations and in particular those parents that wish to waive their child's immunizations. Effective January 1, 2015, medical waivers are no longer accepted from schools. If you wish to waive a student from any immunization, please call the Ingham County Health Department at 517-887-4350. All waivers must be stamped by the health department. St. Gerard is required to have stamped waivers in place when we report to the State of Michigan at the following times:

- ~Three and four year old preschool students
- ~Kindergarten students
- ~Seventh grade students
- ~All new students entering our school as of fall of 2017.

Reminder that schools in Michigan are required to assess and report the immunization status of all 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. All 7<sup>th</sup> graders are required to be compliant NO LATER THAN the first day of school. This set of immunizations moved from 6<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> grade as of fall of 2015. There are three **NEW** immunizations requirements that incoming 7<sup>th</sup> graders are required to have. Parents of current 6<sup>th</sup> graders might want to start thinking of scheduling your child's next physical. Physical appointments in the summer can be hard to obtain. That being said, Eaton and Ingham County also hold open shot clinics throughout the summer. We hope having this information earlier will help our families with any timelines on your end. Please feel free to call us at school if you have any questions regarding these changes.

Sincerely,

Shelly Piecuch

\*Important to note: Schools in Michigan are required by Michigan Law to exclude any student from school whose immunizations are not complete or waived.