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**For Immediate Release**

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**Additional Immunizations for 2010-2011 School Year for Kindergarten and 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Entry**

Additional state required vaccinations for 2010-2011 school year will affect children entering kindergarten and 7<sup>th</sup> grade. These include:

- tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (Tdap) booster requirement for 7<sup>th</sup> grade
- 2<sup>nd</sup> dose of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine for Kindergarten entry
- final dose of polio vaccine on or after child's 4<sup>th</sup> birthday for Kindergarten entry.

Tdap vaccine helps protect children from tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (whooping cough). A second dose of Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine helps protect children from chickenpox.

To help with the new vaccination requirements, the Zanesville-Muskingum County Health Department urges parents to plan ahead, and get the requirements met as soon as possible.

**To receive these required vaccines and other recommended vaccinations, parents should: check with their child's medical provider, or call the Zanesville-Muskingum County Health Department to schedule an appointment for immunizations.** The Health Department is open Monday-Friday from 8am to 4:30pm. Evening appointments can be arranged on request.

As these are required immunizations, parents must provide the school with proof the child has received the vaccines when they enroll in school. Failure to provide documentation, will temporarily keep children from attending school until the immunization requirements are met.