

# GRAND ISLAND CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT HEALTH SERVICES

March 2012

Dear Parent/Guardian of a 5<sup>th</sup> grader,

Students who are entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade and who are 11 years of age or older **must receive an immunization containing tetanus toxoids, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis (Tdap).**

Students who are 10 years old and entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade will not be required to receive the Tdap until they turn 11 years old. **Once they turn 11, they must provide documentation of a booster dose of Tdap or provide proof of an appointment for the booster dose within 14 days of their birthday.**

There are 2 immunizations currently available:

- Boostrix® (licensed for use with 10 – 64 year olds)
- Adacel® (licensed for use with 11 – 64 Year olds)

The only two exemptions from this requirement are either:

- A medical exemption written by a physician
- A statement of religious exemption written by the parents/guardian of the student which must be approved by the superintendent or principal of the school

**If your son/daughter is 11 years old and does not have this immunization prior to the first day of school, we will be required to exclude them from school, as per NYS Department of Health regulations.**

It is our hope that by providing you this information early on, you will be able to contact your healthcare provider and make the necessary appointment for this required immunization. Documentation of this immunization may be sent to your child's school nurse before the end of the school year or dropped off or faxed (773-8983) to the Middle School office over the summer.

Any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Sharpe, RN  
Middle School Nurse  
773-8838 / 773-8827