[**Note:** Copy to School Letterhead]

August 2010

Dear Parent/Guardian:

New school immunization requirements are in effect for the 2010-2011 school year. All students are required to be up-to-date on their required immunizations in order to attend school in Wyoming, unless they have been approved for a religious or medical exemption from mandatory immunizations. Some of the updated requirements include:

- All students that have not had chickenpox must have two doses of the vaccine in order to attend school. If a student has had chickenpox, parents, guardians, school nurses, or physicians may sign a Varicella (Chickenpox) Verification Statement, which will be kept in the student's permanent school record. This form can be picked up from a school nurse or a local Public Health Nursing (PHN) office. The form can also be downloaded from the Immunization Section web site at www.immunizewyoming.com.

- Any student that is entering the seventh (7th) grade must have a Tetanus/diphtheria/acellular pertussis (Tdap) booster shot. This shot helps protects students against whooping cough, which has been on the rise.

- Any student with a religious exemption from mandatory immunizations must have their exemption reviewed prior to entry into the seventh (7th) grade. If a parent/guardian wishes to continue the religious exemption beyond the seventh (7th) grade, the parent/guardian must complete a new exemption form.

Parents need to provide proof of immunizations within the first 30 days after school starts. Any student who has not turned in an immunization record or is not up-to-date on their immunizations will not be allowed to attend school. Students who are in the process of completing a series of immunizations will be allowed to attend school.

Copies of the immunization exemption forms can be downloaded from the Immunization Section web site at www.immunizewyoming.com.

In the event that a student has a religious or medical exemption from mandatory immunizations and a disease outbreak occurs, that student will not be able to go to school until the outbreak has been resolved.

Please contact your School Nurse if you have questions regarding required immunizations for school attendance. Thank you for helping protect Wyoming students against vaccine-preventable diseases.

SAMPLE