

## Parents/Guardians Letter

### Seeking Advanced Consent for Vaccination

Date: 09/01/2013

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Dawson County Health Department is working with the Dawson County School System to have the seasonal influenza vaccine available to your child for the upcoming flu season. The influenza vaccine will help protect against influenza strains that are expected to circulate this year. We will hold vaccination clinics beginning this fall, and your child's school will let you know the specific dates. Depending on whether they've received influenza vaccines in the past, children through age 8 may need a second dose approximately one month after the first dose.

- *The Dawson County Health Department will return in one month to the school where your child was vaccinated to provide the second dose.*

The vaccine consent form includes options allowing you to either accept or refuse the vaccination for your child. If you refuse, the vaccination will not be given to your child.

#### To accept the vaccination for your child, please follow the steps below:

- 1) **Read the "Vaccine Information Statement" included with this letter about the disease and the vaccine.**
- 2) **Sign and date the included consent form to accept vaccination for your child.**
- 3) **Return the consent form to the school.**
- 4) **If you accept vaccination, the vaccine will be given to your child during the scheduled vaccination clinic.**
- 5) **School staff will let you know when the vaccination clinic will take place about [weeks] before the clinic.**

Please understand that participation and receipt of the influenza vaccine through this program is completely voluntary. If you have any questions about the vaccine or the vaccination clinics, please call: **706-265-2611** from **8-5 Monday through Friday**. Your child's health care provider can also answer your questions regarding the influenza virus and will be able to give your child the seasonal influenza vaccine. For additional information please visit the CDC's influenza web site at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/> and also <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/parents>.

Sincerely,

Dawson County Health Department 706-265-2611