

TALBOT COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Talbot County Health Department (TCHD) is again working with your child's school to give **FREE** seasonal flu vaccine. The Flu vaccine is the best protection against the flu.

We want to make sure you're aware of an important flu vaccine-related action taken by the Centers for Disease Control's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). ACIP reviewed several years' data showing that inactivated influenza vaccine (Flu Shot) is more effective than FluMist in protecting your child from the flu viruses. Therefore, the flu vaccine available for this year's flu clinics will be by **injection only**.

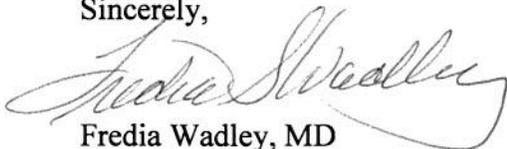
We are encouraging you to have your child vaccinated at any doctor visits you may have over the next few months. Children can receive the flu vaccine starting in August to be protected for the 2016-2017 flu season.

We are working to schedule multiple after school clinics and a Saturday clinic for our elementary aged students. A parent or guardian must be present for children from grades Pre-K through 5 to be vaccinated with the flu shot. A nurse will review your Flu form to determine if your child will need a second dose. For children in grades 6-12 a parent or guardian does not need to be present for the flu shot injection. The TCHD will offer the vaccine during the school day to all children who have turned in a completed Flu form to their school nurse.

Please look for a schedule of clinic dates and forms to be sent home with your child starting the end of September. The clinic dates and forms will also be available on the TCHD website and the TCPS website.

If you have questions about the vaccine or the vaccination clinics, please call the school nurse or TCHD at 410-819-5600. The information will also be available in Spanish at TCHD, 100 South Hanson Street, Easton or on our website www.talbothealth.org

Sincerely,



Fredia Wadley, MD
Health Officer

