



OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR

Knox County Health Department
140 Dameron Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37917-6413

July 24, 2017

Dear Parent,

For the 13th year, the Knox County Health Department (KCHD) will offer flu vaccinations to children 6 months to 18 years of age in Knox County schools. **This year, only the flu shot will be offered** due to recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). It's important to remember that the flu vaccine helps:

- Reduce illness
- Reduce the spread of the flu
- Keep children in school and families healthy

No child will be vaccinated without a completed, signed and returned consent form. The consent form can be completed online at www.knoxcounty.org/health/schoolflu. If you choose, you can complete the paper consent form, available at the schools or printed from the above mentioned website. Please fill out the form completely, sign it and submit it online or return it to your child's teacher this week.

Please be sure to complete the insurance section of the consent form; insurance status will not determine whether a child is vaccinated. If you do not have insurance, mark the "No Insurance" box. If you have insurance, KCHD will bill your insurance to help support this program. Please note:

- There is no cost to you for this vaccination
- You will not be billed
- You will not have a co-pay

Please check KCHD's website (www.knoxcounty.org/health/schoolflu) or your school's website for the date and time of your school's clinic. If your child misses the school's flu clinic, you may call KCHD at 865-215-5500 to schedule a free flu vaccination at one of our clinics. Children under the age of nine, who have not received at least two doses of flu vaccine before, will need two (2) doses separated by at least 28 days. If this is the case with your child, we will return to the school to give the second dose.

We strongly encourage getting the flu vaccination to help keep our community healthy. If you have questions about the flu vaccine, you may contact your doctor's office, call us at 865-215-5150 or visit www.cdc.gov/flu or www.knoxcounty.org/health/schoolflu.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Martha Buchanan, MD, written in a cursive style.

Martha Buchanan, MD
Director and Public Health Officer

A blue ink signature of Kelly Cooper, MD, MPH, written in a cursive style.

Kelly Cooper, MD, MPH
Director, Clinical Services