Dear Families -

The health and well-being of New York City students, families, and staff are critical priorities for the Department of Education and our program. We would like to share important information about a recent increase in measles cases in your area. On April 9, the Health Commissioner <u>ordered</u> (PDF) every adult and child who lives or works in ZIP codes 11205, 11206, 11211 and 11249 and has not received the measles, mumps and rubella vaccine to be vaccinated. Vaccination is the best way to prevent measles. Anyone who has received two doses of the MMR vaccine is highly unlikely to get this infection.

As a reminder, New York State Public Health Law requires all students, except those with approved exemptions, to be vaccinated or show immunity to measles to attend school. You can see the <u>school immunization requirements here</u> or visit www.nyc.gov and search immunization requirements.

Measles is a viral infection that causes fever and a rash. Complications from this infection include pneumonia, brain swelling, hospitalization and potentially death. It is highly contagious and anyone who is not vaccinated against the virus can get it at any age.

We encourage you to make sure all family members are vaccinated against measles. If you are unsure about your child's vaccination history, check with your child's medical provider to confirm that they are appropriately vaccinated or immune to the measles. To find out how families can get vaccinated, visit an <u>immunization clinic</u> or call 311.

If you have any questions, please contact <u>earlychildhoodpolicy@schools.nyc.gov</u>.

Thank you.

DOE Division of Early Childhood Education

