

Important Information Regarding the H1N1 Flu Vaccination

October 21, 2009

Dear North Putnam Community School Corporation Parent/Guardian:

As you may already know, the Putnam County Health Department is providing students an opportunity to receive a free vaccination against H1N1 influenza. The enclosed handouts provide important information regarding H1N1 vaccinations. Below, please find a summary of the enclosed information, and information about vaccination clinics:

- Vaccines are completely voluntary
- Vaccines are free
- Children are considered a “high priority” group by the Centers for Disease Control
- North Putnam Community School Corporation will serve as a host site for administering the vaccine (as will all school corporations in the county)
- Exact vaccination dates have not been set because the health department does not know when they will receive the vaccine
- The vaccine should arrive within the next couple of weeks
- Only students whose parents give **written permission** will receive the vaccine

North Putnam Middle and High School students:

- The vaccine will be given during school hours in the gymnasium at North Putnam Middle School.
- Parents may accompany their children to a separate evening session if they prefer.

Bainbridge and Roachdale Elementary students:

- Vaccines will be given during an evening session at North Putnam Middle School to allow parents to accompany their children.

Parents of all students:

- Should sign and return the consent form to their child’s school as soon as possible indicating whether or not you want your child to receive the vaccine.
- We will send home additional details once the clinic dates are confirmed.

The school corporation is simply facilitating the administration of this vaccine. If you have specific questions about the vaccine itself, please contact the Putnam County Health Department at 653-5210. If you have questions about how the school corporation will be helping with the process, feel free to contact me directly at 522-6218. In the meantime, you may refer to North Putnam Community School Corporation website for information about precautions to take to help prevent the spread of influenza and other viruses.

Thank you for your consideration about this important health matter.

Sincerely,

Kevin Emsweller
Assistant to the Superintendent
School Safety Specialist