November 18, 2019

Dear Superintendents:

Subject: Annual School Entry Survey and ImmPRINT

The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), in collaboration with the Alabama Department of Education (ALSDE), encourages all superintendents to follow up with their schools to ensure each child in school has an up-to-date Certificate of Immunization, Medical Exemption, and/or Religious Exemption from ImmPRINT based on the School Immunization Law and Rules, http://www.alabamaadministrativecode.state.al.us/docs/hlth/420-6-1.pdf. The only approved forms are those printed from ImmPRINT. In addition, each school needs to complete ADPH’s Annual School Entry Survey.

Schools who use ImmPRINT only need to complete the first page of the survey, found at https://epiweb.adph.state.al.us/redcap/surveys/?s=7MTWJXKMAF. ADPH will pull the data from ImmPRINT. Schools not using ImmPRINT need to compile the data and submit it using the survey link above.

Traditionally, ADPH conducts and compiles the annual survey by county and by school and releases only the county results. As you may know, several media outlets requested this past year’s school survey results by county and by school. Before the data was released, our respective General Counsel offices worked together to confirm the release of the data was appropriate.

A few media outlets are requesting this year’s survey results as soon as possible. ADPH has told media outlets that the data will be compiled after the first of the year. To ensure schools have enough time to get all records in and from ImmPRINT, ADPH will extend the due date for the school survey until December 15, 2019.

For ImmPRINT users, ADPH has created two new enhancements to assist schools to comply with state laws and rules. The first enhancement includes granting access to school nurses to create new student records in ImmPRINT, in addition to entering historical doses. The second enhancement allows medical aides, who register with ImmPRINT, to enter historic doses. There is no liability for any staff, including nurses, to enter historical doses into ImmPRINT. The use of both enhancements remains a local education agency decision. A future enhancement will include auto assignment of children based on files from ALSDE. We know this enhancement will save your staff a lot of time.
Thank you for protecting Alabama’s students from vaccine-preventable disease and cancer. If you have any questions, please contact Cindy Lesinger, ADPH Immunization Division Director, at 334-206-2018 or cindy.lesinger@adph.state.al.us or Jennifer Ventress, ALSDE Nurse Administrator, at 334-242-8174 or jventress@alsde.edu.

Sincerely,

Scott Harris, M.D., M.P.H.
State Health Officer
Alabama Department of Public Health

Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
State Superintendent
Alabama Department of Education

SH/CL/CM