



Department of Public Health

Monroe County, New York

Maggie Brooks
County Executive

Andrew S. Doniger, M.D., M.P.H.
Director

July 17, 2009

Dear Principal:

You are likely seeing news reports about plans to vaccinate school children against influenza A H1N1 this Fall. The MCSKIPP team thought it would be a good idea to keep you up to date on what we learn over the summer.

At this point there are no changes to the recommendations for seasonal influenza vaccine, and we do not expect any. Most of the seasonal vaccine (injections and nose spray) has been manufactured and will be available for our program and usual influenza vaccine efforts.

Therefore, we plan to proceed exactly as planned with notifications to parents, and clinics as scheduled.

It is likely that vaccine against the novel influenza AH1N1 will be available toward the end of the year. We don't know how it will be distributed in Monroe County. MCSKIPP is part of both the Monroe County Department of Public Health pandemic planning group and the Monroe County Immunization Coalition and therefore will stay current on the situation.

We will plan to utilize you (Principals) as our primary contact during the summer months. If you prefer us to use someone else please let us know by contacting Kim DiMattia at kdimattia@monroecounty.gov.

Also, if you hear from a commercial vaccine company asking to give flu vaccines in your school, we would appreciate knowing about that, because that would affect our program.

Thank you again for all that you, your staff, and parents have done to get this project off to a great start.

Sincerely,

Andrew S. Doniger, M.D., M.P.H.
Director of Public Health

CC: Superintendents, Althea Mix-Bryan, Sue Lombardo, Beth Smith, Jacquelyn Roblin, Phillip Oberst, Donna Hill, Andrew MacGowan