

[School Letterhead]

[Date]

## Polio Immunization

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Immunization is the best way to protect your child against certain childhood diseases. To be fully protected against these diseases, your child needs to receive the complete vaccination series for that disease. Immunity is built in phases, with each dose boosting your child's immunity for that disease. An incomplete vaccination series leaves your child less protected and at risk for contracting that disease.

To be completely protected from polio your child must receive:

4 doses of inactivated poliovirus (IPV) vaccine prior to their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Children who receive their 3<sup>rd</sup> dose on or after the 4th birthday do not need a 4<sup>th</sup> dose of polio vaccine.

If your child received the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> dose **before** his/her 4<sup>th</sup> birthday, they must receive a 5<sup>th</sup> dose to be fully protected.

If your child has not completed the series of IPV, they could potentially be excluded from school in the event of an outbreak, as referenced by the Maine Exclusion from School Law (Title 20-A MSRA Chapter 223 Subchapter 2 §6356).

For more information, please visit the Maine Immunization website at [www.immunizeme.org](http://www.immunizeme.org) or contact a Health Educator at 207-287-3746.

Thank you for your cooperation.