

## **Tdap BOOSTER IS REQUIRED FOR 6<sup>TH</sup> -12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE STUDENTS**

Dear Parents of Rising 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Students:

The 2006 Virginia General Assembly enacted a law which requires all 6<sup>th</sup> grade students to have *tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Tdap)* booster immunization **prior to school entry**. Each parent must provide the proper documentation prior to the start of the 2018-2019 school year for this immunization. Phone calls or notes from parents are not acceptable forms of meeting this requirement. Please meet this requirement by providing the school with one of the following by **July 16, 2018**:

- 1) *Proof of having the booster vaccine.*
- 2) *A notarized religious exemption form with a raised seal or registration number.*
- 3) *Medical exemption form signed by your physician indicating temporary or permanent exemption on the Virginia School Entrance Health Form.*

The school division has the right to exclude your child from school if this requirement is not met. **Teacher assignment or class schedules will not be mailed until this health information is shared with the school.** If you need a copy of your child's current school immunization record, please request a copy from the nurse at your school but understand it may take up to three days to receive it.

Please review your child's immunization record. This required immunization may be listed as any of the following: Tdap, Adacel or Boostrix. Please call your doctor or local health department if you have questions. Adacel and Boostrix can both be given at the age of 10.

The Tdap immunization can be received at your doctor's office, military clinic, or local health department. The local health department provides the immunization free for sixth grade school enrollment. The health department requires that you bring your most updated immunization record. The Health Department provides both the Boostrix and Adacel.

Your prompt attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Questions may be directed to the Bedford County Public Health Department 540-586-7952 or your child's physician.