Dear Parent or Guardian of Fifth or Sixth grade students:

There is nothing more important than safeguarding your child’s health. The Oneida County Health Department would like you to know about vaccines available to protect your child.

It’s As Easy as 1, 2, 3

1 shot of Tdap vaccine  
2 shots of meningitis vaccine  
3 shots of HPV (human papillomavirus) vaccine

1 Tdap BOOSTER Shot – RECOMMENDED of students entering grade seven – first dose recommended for 11 or 12 years olds

WHY NOW?

- Preteens and teens are at risk from these 3 diseases (Diphtheria, Tetanus & Pertussis (also known as Whooping Cough), because the vaccines given earlier in life begin to wear off.
- Diphtheria and pertussis (whooping cough) is spread from person to person. Tetanus enters the body through cuts, scratches, or wounds. Protect your child today!

2 Meningitis Shots – RECOMMENDED of students entering grade seven effective September 1, 2016– first dose recommended at age 11 to 12, and a booster dose at age 16

WHY NOW?

- Meningitis is a very serious infection! Teens and young adults are at increased risk. Death can occur in as little as a few hours. In non-fatal cases, permanent disabilities can include hearing loss and brain damage. The bacteria spreads quickly when people are in close contact, especially if they are living in dorms and/or camps.
- The initial shot is given at age 11 through 12 years. A booster dose is now required at 16 years of age. If your older teen never received a meningitis shot, talk to their health care provider about getting it as soon as possible.

3 HPV Shots - RECOMMENDED for all 11 and 12-year-old boys and girls

WHY NOW?

- Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a common, widespread cancer causing virus. About 14 million people, including teens, become infected with HPV each year. HPV can be prevented.
- HPV vaccines, produce better immunity, and are more effective when administered at younger ages and before someone’s first sexual contact. The vaccines can be given as early as 9 years of age.

For more information: Call your Health Care Provider or The Oneida County Health Department at 798-5748 or visit:

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention  
American Cancer Society  
www.cdc.gov/std/hpv/  
www.cancer.org

The Oneida County Health Department will be offering summer evening immunization clinics  
Call 798-5748 to schedule an appointment!