

**Mission:**

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



**Rick Scott**  
Governor

**Celeste Philip, MD, MPH**  
Interim State Surgeon General

**Vision:** To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

Dear Parents,

September 22, 2016

We wanted to notify you that unfortunately your school **will not be able to offer the Flu Mist** Intranasal Flu Vaccine in the schools this year. This program has been a huge success and such an easy way for families to get their children vaccinated and not lose time from work or disrupt the child's attendance. It has also reduced the amount of Flu circulating in our communities! However, we have been notified that the CDC (Centers for Disease Control) that they recommend **ONLY** the injectable flu vaccine this year.

The CDC committee continuously reviews childhood vaccinations every year to determine, any issues or concerns. I want to emphasize that the concern with Flu Mist is **not about safety** but rather that, it just hasn't worked well enough or provided enough protection these past couple of years. It wouldn't be wise to recommend something that isn't effective.

Until such time as the Flu Mist is revised and recommended again, CDC, The American Academy of Pediatrics and the Advisory Committee on Immunization practice all agree that it should not be given this year. On a positive note, we are reassured that vaccines are monitored closely and appropriate steps taken when needed.

***This change does not mean that you and your child should not be vaccinated. The Inactive Injectable Flu Vaccine is available at your doctor's office or call your local health department. You can also call your local school nurse for more information.***

Thank you and I hope you and your children have a Healthy, Happy School Year!!

Elizabeth G Powers, RN SCHNsg Director

Jeannie Norris, RN SH Supervisor