



Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery County

Reibold Building, 117 South Main Street, Dayton, Ohio 45422-1280
(937) 225-5700 • www.phdmc.org



Regarding: Preventing Measles

February 13, 2024

Dear School Administration:

A case of measles has been identified in *Montgomery County*. Measles is highly contagious. To date, no cases have been identified in your school. To prevent the spread of infection, it is critical for you to ensure that students have the age-appropriate number of doses of measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) vaccine or other evidence of immunity to measles. We request your assistance in helping to avoid a measles outbreak at your school. It is important that your school carry out the following recommendations:

- Review immunization records of all your students and make sure that all children are in compliance with state MMR vaccination requirements unless they have other presumptive evidence of measles immunity which includes laboratory evidence of immunity or laboratory confirmation of disease.
- Compile a list of students who do not have two doses of MMR vaccine. In Ohio, two doses of measles vaccine are required for all pupils in grades K – 12. In accordance with section 3313.671 of the Revised Code, if a student in your school develops measles, any school student who cannot show proof of two (2) properly administered measles vaccinations, even if they have a religious or medical exemption, must be excluded from school attendance until such proof of vaccination is provided. Children with written waivers or exemptions shall be excluded for 21 days after the onset of the last known case in the affected school.
- Recommend that all staff have documentation of immunity to measles, for their health and well-being and to ensure adequate staffing for school learning. Staff members who are exposed to measles will be quarantined by public health for 21 days if they cannot show documented proof of immunity to measles.

If a case of measles is identified in your school, all children without documentation of two doses of measles vaccine are required to be immediately excluded from school. Schools are required to implement and enforce the following exclusion requirements-

- For students with zero doses of measles vaccine- If the student receives one documented dose of MMR within 72 hours after their initial exposure to the case-patient, they may return to school immediately. A second dose of MMR will need to be given 28 days later. Unvaccinated students (zero doses) who do not receive a dose of MMR within 72 hours, including those who have a medical or other exemption to vaccination, must be excluded from school through 21 days after the onset of the last known case in the school building.

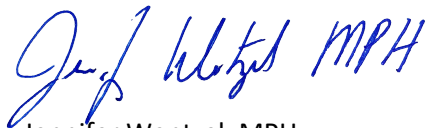
- For students with one dose of measles vaccine- If the student receives a second documented dose of MMR at any time, they may return to school immediately upon receipt of documentation of the second dose.
- Immediately contact Public Health – Dayton & Montgomery County If you learn of any students or staff with measles in your school, at (937) 225-4508 so that we can help to ensure that control measures (including quarantine and isolation) are implemented.
- Public Health will contact all identified individuals exposed to measles in school or other settings with quarantine guidance. Any students or staff exposed to measles will be quarantined for 21-28 days if they cannot show documented proof of immunity to measles. For students, in some cases, the duration of school exclusion (per the Ohio Revised Code) may be longer than the required quarantine period.

If a case of measles occurs in your school, the attached “Principal to Parent Notification Letter” can be modified, placed on school letterhead, and shared with students and their families. Your help ensuring that students are vaccinated and that proper outbreak control measures are taken is critical in preventing the spread of measles.

The attached documents provide additional guidance regarding measles prevention and response measures in schools.

Thank you for your cooperation. Please contact Public Health with any further questions.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Wentzel, MPH
Health Commissioner



Dr. Becky Thomas, MD, MPH
Medical Director