Kathy Cooper

From:

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Subject: Non-immunized children document 6-336 IRRC #: 3146

I have many concerns about the new immunization regulations.

Five days for a provisional enrollment period is quite unrealistic. While I'm sure school nurses will get this information out to parents and ask that they receive the updates as soon as possible (before then end of this school year), with 24 years of experience dealing with this, I believe many parents will wait until the summer to have the shots done and most likely will send the documentation with their child on the first day of school. How are nurses expected to get through all of these records when the beginning of the year is so busy? How will we have time to notify all of these parents of their immunization needs and imminent exclusion? I do not have secretarial help and honestly have many more pressing matters concerning the immediate health needs of students at the beginning of the year. I believe that we need at least 2 months of a provisional period.

These guidelines came out too close to the end of a school year. Changing the length of the provisional period in itself, is enough to deal with. Adding a new requirement for a grade level and expecting nurses to do a check back on the 4th dose of polio is also quite unrealistic.

I don't understand why out of state or out of the country transfers are being allowed 30 days to present their immunization record. Those students would seem to me more of a threat of not being adequately immunized that our own district's students.

There are no guidelines for the medical plan. I'm told that it should be done within a reasonable amount of time--I'm not exactly sure what that means, leaving this wide open for individual interpretation. If a child is ill and can't get he required shot, does this plan just keep being extended?

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