



August 1, 2010

Dear Concord Christian Parents,

Greetings. We pray that God has blessed your family with special memories together this summer.

New Hampshire laws mandate the need for schools to record current information about student immunizations, medications, and current health status. The school must partner with parents to ensure that health records are up-to-date. When health records are accurate and complete, the school is better able to provide appropriate health services for your student. **And healthy students are better able to achieve academic success.**

Please review each of the following, as this is important information!

1) **IMMUNIZATIONS:** All schools are required by New Hampshire state law to document that students are properly immunized. Otherwise, parents **must** provide a signed and notarized form indicating that their child is not immunized based on medical or religious grounds. This form can be obtained from Kris McLaughlin at the school. Students without proper immunization documentation can be excluded from school according to state law. We must work together to ensure your child is up-to-date with his/her immunizations. For a complete list of state required immunizations check the school website, www.concordchristian.org, under Forms then Health/Medical Forms, or you may call the school or your child's physician. Each time your student receives any immunization or booster, please send a copy of the updated immunization record to the school. This will save so much time for all of us. We will notify parents by letter of any upcoming required immunizations for your student. All students must have current immunization documentation on file in the Health Office by Aug. 30th, at the very latest.

2) **STUDENT HEALTH PHYSICALS:** New Hampshire state law also requires that new students have documentation of a recent physical examination on file at school. All new students must provide a completed Pupil Medical Survey Form, found on the school website, or a completed school physical form supplied by your student's physician. This form must be on file by Aug. 30th.

3) **MEDICATION PRESCRIPTION PACKET:** All students must provide the school with appropriate and completed medication permission forms by Aug. 30th. Each student must have a completed Over-the-Counter Medication Administration Parent Permission Form on file at the school. Please check the school website, www.concordchristian.org, under Forms then Health/Medical Forms, and download the complete Medication Administration Packet. This includes all the necessary forms, and an instruction sheet. See below for more information.

3) **PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS:** State laws are very strict about medication administration at school. Parents should request that medication be given at school only if absolutely necessary. Please be sure to bring inhalers, epi-pens, insulin, migraine medications, etc. to the school receptionist on the first day of school, Aug. 30th. **This is essential for your child's safety and well-being!** And remember, for any prescription medications to be given at school, parents must bring the medication in the original pharmacy-labeled container and include very specific information/orders from the physician. It is essential that the school follows these laws to prevent medication errors, loss of medication en route to the school, or medication falling into the wrong hands and putting children at risk. Please review and return the

Physician's Medication Statement and parent Administration of Prescription Medications permission form found in the Medication Administration Packet on the school website, with the required written directions and signatures, if your student is required to take a prescription medication during school hours. State laws also require that medication be kept in an original pharmacy-labeled container for field trips, containing **ONLY** the dose(s) needed for the field trip. Most pharmacies are pleased to provide an additional labeled container upon request. Also, by law, **all medication, including over-the-counter medication, must be kept in the School Office**, in the original container, except in a rare physician ordered circumstance. ****Please do NOT** send any medication in your student's pocket, purse, or backpack for them to carry around with them. Check with your students' classroom teacher regarding student-carried-inhalers or epipens, as exceptions may be made with these medications.

4) **OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICATIONS:** The school does provide a small number of OTC medications for students as needed, and as approved by parents. Please refer to the school website for instructions and a copy of the Over-the-Counter Medication Administration Parent Permission Form, found in the complete Medication Administration Packet. It is important for each student to provide a completed copy of this permission form to the Health Office by Aug. 30th. This will save much time and many phone calls. And remember, by state law, students are **NOT** allowed to carry prescription or OTC medication on school property. All medication must be kept in the School Office, in the original container. This requirement is for the safety of all students.

5) **CHRONIC HEALTH ISSUES:** If your student has a chronic health condition that may require supportive care or emergency care during the school day, please contact your student's classroom teacher by letter, e-mail, or phone. This includes conditions such as asthma, allergies/anaphylaxis, diabetes, seizures, migraine headaches, ADHD, etc. You will need to set up an appointment to discuss your child's health condition and individual health care plan. Confidentiality is very important and is taken very seriously. However, release of pertinent medical information to certain school staff is necessary for a student's well being at times. This can be vital for students with a chronic health condition and will be discussed at your appointment. We also ask that you would download and complete the asthma or allergy (for students with food, insect, latex, or medication allergies) information forms, if this applies to your student, and return the form by Aug. 30th.

6) **EMERGENCY INFORMATION FORM:** In addition to health, immunization, and medication information, schools need accurate information on how to contact parents or other responsible adults in case of emergency. You will be receiving a school information/emergency form. **PLEASE complete and return this form for each of your children by Aug. 30th!!** This is such a vital form!

All parents should also remember to keep your student's classroom teacher up-to-date on any new health problems or change in an ongoing health condition. Communication and collaboration is vital.

Communication is necessary for success in every area of your child's education, including his/her physical and emotional health and well being. God's plan for the coming 10/11 school year will be exciting to watch unfold as we follow His direction and His path together.