Dear Parents/Guardians:

Lead poisoning is a significant environmental health threat to young children. Exposure to lead can cause developmental delays, learning disabilities, and/or behavioral disturbances.

Maryland law requires certain new entrants to pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and first grade to provide the school with documentation from their health care provider certifying that blood lead tests were done. (Pre-kindergarten means any public school program prior to kindergarten in which your child may be enrolled.) To comply with this law, parents/guardians must:

- Have your health care provider provide the dates your child had blood tests for lead poisoning on the attached form, or
- Certify that your child has never lived in the zip codes identified on the back of the attached form AND was born before January 1, 2015 by signing the attached form, or
- Certify that your child is exempt from lead testing on religious grounds by signing the attached form.

If your child has never had a blood lead test and needs one, please see your school nurse who will be able to assist you in obtaining the required test. If you have any questions, please contact your school nurse or the Office of Health Services at 443-809-6368.

Thank you for your cooperation in complying with this State requirement.

Sincerely,

Debbie Somerville, RN, MPH
Coordinator
Office of Health Services