



November 14, 2008

Dear Colleague:

The American Association of School Administrators (AASA) has been addressing the health and wellness of children for over 30 years. Our focus is to ensure that every child is healthy and ready to participate in public education and once students enter school, that the needs of the total child are addressed. Because of this commitment to children, AASA now partners with *Every Child by Two* (ECBT) to promote timely immunizations of children and the use of computerized immunization information systems.

As you know, annual immunization assessments to ensure that every schoolchild remains protected from vaccine-preventable diseases can be time consuming and cumbersome tasks. However, with the advent of immunization information systems, commonly called immunization registries, this burden on school districts can be eased significantly.

Immunization registries are free, confidential, computerized information systems that collect and store vaccination data of children and adolescents. As of 2006, immunization records for 65 percent of U.S. children were stored in local registries, and eighteen states reported capturing more than 81 percent of their children's records. This ability to research and locate immunization records in local registries will dramatically reduce the time spent verifying immunization coverage of your students.

We urge you to review the enclosed brochure to learn more about how your district can save time and valuable resources by using computerized registries to verify immunizations. Please visit *Every Child by Two's* website at www.ecbt.org for more information and to locate the contact in your state that can assist your district in accessing immunization records from your local registry.

Sincerely,

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Rosalynn Carter
Former U.S. First Lady
Cofounder, Every Child By Two

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