

Dedham Public Schools
Home of America's First Tax-Supported Free Public School

Michael J. Welch
Superintendent
Tel. No. (781) 310-1011
Fax No. (781) 320-0193

Samuel A. Rippin
Assistant Superintendent
for Business and Finance
Tel. No. (781) 310-1023
Fax No. (781) 320-8913



Cynthia A. Kelly, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent
Tel. No. (781) 310-1020
Fax No. (781) 320-8798

Elizabeth L. O'Connell
Director of Special Education
Tel. No. (781) 310-1025
Fax No. (781) 320-8798

Dear Parents or Guardian:

In order to comply with the Department of Education's data requirements we must update all student records at the school and district level. It is imperative that each parent or guardian completes this information to assure your child's records are up to date.

The Federal government has ruled that cities and towns may be reimbursed through the **MassHealth Insurance Program** for the money spent delivering health related services in our school district. This means that a significant amount of funds can come back to our district, but we need your help. As you may know, it costs the school system a great deal of money to provide these necessary and important services.

Dedham Public Schools is requesting the use of the **MassHealth** number that may be assigned to your child. **THIS WILL BE AT NO COST TO YOU.** The Office of Medicaid has given to the State Department of Education written assurance that the claim for Federal reimbursement under Medicaid for health-related services provided under Special Education Law 603 CMR 28.00 (formally Chapter 766) *"will not result in any financial loss to a parent or child... In addition, no financial loss or reduction in available benefits* will be experienced by a parent or child in any other program operated by Medicaid by reason of their participation in the Municipal Medicaid Project."

You are not required to allow us to use your child's MassHealth number, but by agreeing to do so, you are helping our district to be reimbursed for the cost of these vital services. This authorization is for reimbursement purposes only. Again, this will be at no cost to you. **Thank you for your support!**

School districts in Massachusetts are required to report to the Department of Education student data by race and ethnicity, using categories that are set by the federal government. The Department of Education does not report individual student data to the federal government, but does report the total number of students in various categories in each school. These reports keep track of changes in student enrollments and ensure that all students receive the educational programs and services to which they are entitled. For more information about the student data reporting categories, please see this web site: http://www.doe.mass.edu/infoservices/data/guides/race_faq.html

The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children deals with the challenges of military children and their frequent relocations. In support of the children of our military we must report our students' eligibility for assistance as a member of a military family as defined by this compact. Information about this can be found at this web site: <http://www.mic3.net>

Sincerely,

Michael J. Welch
Superintendent of Schools

The Dedham School System does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, national origin or handicap in its educational activities or employment practices.

Administration Building, 100 Whiting Avenue, Dedham, MA 02026 • (781) 310-1000 www.dedham.k12.ma.us