January, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has set forth new regulations that are effective for the 2019-2020 school year. Parents and guardians are required to show proof of their child’s immunization records for all incoming TK/K-12 students and/or students advancing to the 7th grade in a California school.

The new regulations have eliminated age-based restrictions and now require 2 doses of MMR, 2 Varicella, and 3 Hepatitis B doses at admission or transfer more uniformly throughout TK/K-12th grade. All students advancing to the 7th grade must meet the dosing requirement of an additional dose of pertussis-containing vaccine (Tdap) on or after the seventh birthday and two doses of Varicella (Health and Safety Code section 120335, subdivision (c)). For more specific information about immunization requirements, please visit www.shotsforschool.org or contact the county office of education at (858) 569-5300.

In accordance with Senate Bill 277, the regulations also state that exemptions for immunizations based on personal/religious beliefs are no longer accepted for all incoming TK/K students and students advancing to the seventh grade. Students with a temporary medical exemption may be valid for no longer than a 12 month period of time. Current students with existing personal/religious belief waivers and/or temporary medical exemptions are required to begin receiving any missing immunizations prior to advancing into TK/K and 7th grade. For more information about SB 277 frequently asked questions and shot schedules, please visit www.shotsforschool.org/laws/sb277faq/.

If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact the Health Technician at your child’s home school or your District Resource Nurse.

Respectfully,

Jodi L. Payne
Director, Special Education
Poway Unified School District
Phone: (858) 521-2816