

April 2, 2009

Dear Parent:

RE: Changes in Texas Immunization Requirements

On March 5, 2009, the Executive Commissioner on Health & Human Services approved several revisions to the "Immunization Requirements for Children and Students in Texas Private Schools" (Title 25, Health Services, Chapter 97, Texas Administrative Code 97.61 and 97.63-97.77). This was done in order to update the Texas requirements so that they adhere more closely to the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).

PLEASE NOTE THAT IMMUNIZATION UPDATES NEEDED FOR YOUR CHILD ARE LISTED BELOW. THESE ARE NOW REQUIRED FOR ALL SEVENTH GRADERS UPON AUGUST 2009 ADMISSION.

- **Varicella (chicken-pox).** Beginning August 1, 2009, all students entering 7th grade will be required to have 2 doses of varicella vaccine. A written statement from a parent (or legal guardian) attesting to the child's positive history of varicella disease is acceptable in lieu of either dose of varicella vaccine.
Proof of vaccine or documentation of disease needed. Parent may fill out and mail-in the attached sheet if the child has had the disease.
- **Tetanus, Diphtheria and acellular pertussis-containing vaccine (Tdap):** Beginning August 1, 2009, all students entering seventh grade will be required to have one dose of Tdap vaccine. Student in the 7th grade will be required to have a booster dose of Tdap only if it has been five years since their last dose of tetanus-containing vaccine. TD is acceptable in lieu of Tdap if a contraindication to pertussis exists.
- **Menactra (meningococcal vaccine).** Beginning August 1, 2009, all students entering 7th grade will be required to have one dose of meningococcal vaccine.

******For the protection of the entire student body, staff and faculty no student will be allowed to remain in school without completed documentation on all health records.**

Please contact us if you have any questions, or to make sure that we have received copies of your child's updated records. Our phone and fax numbers are listed below. Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Annelle Adams RN, BSN
Coordinator of Health Services