

MT. DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
JAMES W. DENT EDUCATION CENTER
STUDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT
1936 Carlotta Drive
Concord, CA 94519-1397

PERTUSSIS IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENT

FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES SEVEN THROUGH TWELVE

Assembly Bill 354 was signed into law in September 2010. As a result, students entering or advancing to grades seven through eleven in the 2011-12 school year are required to be immunized with a pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine booster called Tetanus Toxoid, Reduced Diphtheria Toxoid and Acellular Pertussis (Tdap). The new requirement goes into effect July 1, 2011, for one year and affects all students - current, new, and transfers - in public and private schools.

The law has two phases:

- **For school year 2011-2012, all students entering, advancing, transferring into 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th grades will need proof of an adolescent whooping cough booster immunization (called "Tdap") before entry into school in the fall.**
- **For school year 2012-2013, and all future school years, all students entering, advancing or transferring into 7th grade will need proof of a Tdap immunization**

Students may register for school before they have completed the requirement but **cannot attend class** until the requirement has been met. (www.shotsforschool.org/tdaplaw.html)

This informational report will detail the efforts Student Services administrators and school staff have made to notify parents of the new state requirement. This has been a collaborative effort engaging Student Services, specifically the Health Services Division of Student Services (Nurses), Student Achievement and School Support Department (SASS), and Sites. Additionally, outside agencies have informed the public through a various means of communication.

Listed below are the communication efforts and activities completed and/or in progress:

STUDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION:

- The Assistant Director and School Nurses participated in a webinar, 2010, sponsored by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). The purpose of the webinar was to inform Districts about AB 354 and to clarify any questions that Districts had or could anticipate regarding the requisite implementation of AB 354.
- Felicia Stuckey-Smith, Director of Student Services sent a letter to all site principals informing them of the new law.
- In conjunction with the Student Achievement and School Support Department, Student Services informed all sites of the Tdap Requirement.
 - The informational was publicized in the Monday memo that is e-distributed weekly in the form of a newsletter by the Directors of Secondary and Elementary Education, respectively.

- Principals were informed about the Tdap law and its requirements at K-Adult, HSAC and MSAC meetings.
- School Messenger calls were made to inform parents/guardians about the Tdap requirement
- Informational presentation given at School Climate/Coordinated School Health Council meeting
- Tdap requirement reminders were distributed at
 - Student Attendance Review Board (SARB)
 - Positive Behavior Team Meetings (PBT)
 - Student Transition Meetings and Hearings (i.e. Section 504 Meetings, Individual Educational Plan (IEP) Meetings, Readmission Hearings)
- Child Welfare and Attendance liaisons (CWAs) have assisted to inform parents/guardians, particularly parents/guardians of Foster and Homeless Youth, about the Tdap requirements

STUDENT SERVICES NURSES:

- Distributed *Got Tdap* buttons at sites.
- Provided reminder notices issued to students during Hearing/Vision screening and during Scoliosis examinations
- Posted announcement on Student Services Department's Health Services website
- Posted announcement on Middle and High School websites.
- Posted announcement on the PFC/PTA news sites
- Published announcements in the elementary school newsletters
- Posted flyers at school sites about public vaccination clinics
- Maintained rosters of students who have not met the Tdap requirement.
- Checked and confirmed student records for those students who have not returned vaccination information using the California Immunization Registry (CAIR)
- Provided in-service to and supported office staff regarding the mandate and how to document on the Blue State Immunization card.
- Provided in-service to and supported office staff regarding the Waiver process – how it works and the need for *official waiver requests* to be signed at the school sites.
- Reviewed and input information regarding Tdap compliancy into Aeries.
- Answered questions of parents/guardians at the school site.
- Made phone calls to parents/guardians to request confirmation of records.
- Contacted sites and district to verify and confirm information documented on records.
- Posted flyers at school sites and distributed to students flyers about public vaccination clinics.

SCHOOL SITES:

- Principals included Tdap notification in Report Cards and Progress Reports
- Principals notified parents/guardians through their newsletters.
- Principals sent School Messenger calls to parents/guardians
- Principals/Site Administrators included information about the Tdap requirement on their websites.
- Principals/Site Administrators made morning announcement reminders
- Principals provided flyers to students with locations of public vaccination clinics.
- Sites displayed the Tdap requirement on their School Marquee Boards

OUTSIDE AGENCIES:

- Local television stations and radio stations have informed the public through their broadcasts about the Tdap requirement
- Kaiser Permanente sent letters to all their student patients informing them of the Tdap requirement. They also provided students an immunization record to present to their schools as verification of meeting the Tdap immunization requirement.
- Contra Costa Health Services is providing a *Clinic for Teens*
 - Starting Monday, June 13 – Monday, August 15, 2011 (Mondays only)
- Public Health Teen vaccinations given on Thursdays at Todo Santos Plaza Park Farmer's Market 6-8pm
- Some websites detailed information and Questions and Answers (Q & A's):
 - www.shotsforschool.org
 - Podcast by Tom Torlakson, State Superintendent of Schools
 - www.cdhp.ca.gov/healthinfo
 - www.cchealth.org
 - List of clinics and resources available to assist parents/guardians in obtaining Tdap for students prior to beginning of school year
 - www.cchealth.org
 - Podcast by William Walker, MD, Director, Contra Costa Health Services
 - Transcript by William Walker, MD is available

NEXT STEPS – SUMMER:

- Director, Student Services designed a reminder postcard that will be mailed to the parents/guardians of Middle and High School students during July 2011.
- Director, Student Services is requesting that the Superintendent send a School Messenger message to parents/guardians reminding them of the Tdap requirement.
- Director, Student Services is requesting all schools to put a Tdap reminder (e.g. *Got Tdap?*) on their Marquees.
- Director, Student Services is requesting that students participating in school sponsored organized activities (i.e. Athletics, Cheerleading, Debate, etc.) show proof of immunization prior to participation in activity.
- Director, Student Services is requesting that site administrators work closely with school nurses for accurate reporting of names of students who are non-compliant
 - Director, Student Services is requesting that additional personnel be assigned to sites to support students in obtaining the immunization and to provide assistance to sites with documentation
- Director, Student Services will monitor the number of students complying by running an Aeries query and provide this documentation to the site administrators in August

REPORTING

- By December 1, 2011, schools with students in 7th-12th grades will need to report to CDPH the numbers of students in each grade that have met the Tdap requirement by one of the following categories:
 - **Being immunized**
 - **Receiving a medical exemption**
 - **Declaring a personal beliefs exemption.**

SUMMARY

Please find attached a Q & A, *Pertussis Immunization Requirement—New School Immunization Law (Tdap)*, and a chart, *Status of Tdap by Next School (as of 6/6/11)*, indicating the total number of students per school who have received their Tdap immunization as required by law.

The chart is organized as follows:

Next School	No (not immunized)	Yes (immunized)	Total
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ALERT! ALERT! ALERT!

Despite the numerous efforts made by Student Services Administration, School Nurses, and Site Administrators, to date, *only thirty-three percent (33%) of our students have met the Tdap immunization* required by the law. Based on the current numbers, we have a critical concern around ADA, as the new law and student compliance with the new law directly affect our ADA.

Sixty-seven percent (67%) of students required to get Tdap immunization have not met the requirement. To ensure that we do not lose 67% of our ADA due to non-compliance with the law, it is critical that we, as a District, double our efforts immediately, now and into the new school year, 2011-2012. Equally critical, it is incumbent upon the District to carry the Tdap campaign throughout the 2011-2012 academic year in order to prepare the incoming seventh graders for the 2012-2013 school year, marking Phase II of the Tdap requirement.

We need 100% compliance for each phase, and it will take the effort of all to achieve the goal of 100% compliance.

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Pertussis Immunization Requirement-New School Immunization Law (Tdap)

MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

<p>What is the new law?</p>	<p>A <u>new school immunization law, Assembly Bill No. 354, requires all students entering 7th through 12th grades in the 2011-2012 school year in California to be immunized with a pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine booster called Tdap.</u></p> <p>The new requirement affects all students – current, new, and transfers – in public and private schools. The law has two phases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>For school year 2011-2012, all students entering, advancing, transferring into 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th grades will need proof of an adolescent whooping cough booster immunization (called “Tdap”) before entry into school in the fall.</u>• <u>For school year 2012-2013, and all future school years, all students entering, advancing or transferring into 7th grade will need proof of a Tdap immunization</u>
<p>What exemptions are available under California law?</p>	<p><i>California law describes two exemptions to student immunization requirements:</i></p> <p>Personal Beliefs Exemption: A parent or guardian may have a child exempted from required immunizations if immunization is contrary to his/her beliefs. Schools have standardized procedures for parents and guardians who request a personal beliefs exemption.</p> <p>Exemptions to immunization should not be taken because of convenience. Unimmunized students are at greater risk of contracting diseases and spreading them to their families, schools and communities. Schools</p>

	<p>should maintain an up-to-date list of students with exemptions, so that these students can be excluded from school quickly if an outbreak occurs.</p> <p>Medical exemptions: Physicians (MD or DO) may grant in writing an exemption for students for whom immunizations are not medically indicated, which occurs infrequently. (www.shotsforschool.org/faq.html#exemptions-1)</p>
What if a student does not have proof of a Tdap booster shot by the first day of school?	<i>Students who have not completed the Tdap requirement may enroll in school but cannot physically attend classes until the requirement is met.</i>
What if a student transferring into a school in California anytime during the school year does not have proof of a Tdap booster shot?	<i>Students who have not completed the Tdap requirement may enroll in school but cannot physically attend classes until the requirement is met.</i>
What if the student is homeless and subject to the McKinney-Vento Act?	<i>Children affected by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act are not specially exempt from the Tdap law vaccination requirements</i>
What if the student is in foster care?	<i>Children in foster care are not specially exempt from the Tdap law vaccination requirements.</i>
Are there any extensions or grace periods to the Tdap law?	<i>No. There are no extensions or grace periods allowed.</i>

Status of Tdap by Next School (6/6/11)

Next School	NO	YES	Total
Alliance	66	5	71
C.C.C	30		30
Calif State School for the Deaf	3		3
Clayton Valley High	1072	810	1882
College Park High	1036	947	1983
Concord High	1405	171	1576
Crossroads High	11	19	30
Diablo Community Day	31	3	34
Diablo View Middle	219	236	455
El Dorado Middle	561	130	691
Families First Day Treatment	2		2
Foothill Middle	382	266	648
Gateway High	16		16
Glenbrook Middle		1	1
Home And Hospital	10		10
Horizons Home Study	11	10	21
Horizons Indep Study	26	20	46
Mt Diablo High	970	681	1651
Non-Public Schools	78	2	80
Northgate High	1095	426	1521
Nueva Vista High	27	2	29
Oak Grove Middle	303	162	465
Olympic High	125	59	184
Pine Hollow Middle	266	237	503
Pleasant Hill Middle	396	154	550
Private School DIS	8		8
Prospect High	24	1	25
Riverview Middle	477	36	513
Sequoia Middle	458	163	621
Summit High	33	3	36
Transitional Learning Center	3	1	4
Valley View Middle	310	223	533
Ygnacio Valley Elementary	1		1
Ygnacio Valley High	1095	230	1325
Total	10550	4998	15548