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June, 2013

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services revised the administrative rule, N.J.A.C. 8:54-4, in 2008, with changes to include the requirement of new vaccines for school attendance for students attending or entering Grade 6 or a comparable age level unassigned grade.

The requirements include:

8:57-4.10 Diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and pertussis vaccines (Tdap)

Every child born on or after January 1, 1997 and entering or attending Grade Six or a comparable age level unassigned grade must receive one dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis) given no earlier than the 10<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Children entering or attending Grade Six on or after September 1, 2008 who received a Td booster dose less than five years prior to entry or attendance shall not be required to receive a Tdap dose until five years have elapsed from the last DTP, DTaP or Td dose.

8:57-4.20 Meningococcal vaccine

Every child born on or after January 1, 1997 and entering or attending Grade Six or a comparable age level unassigned grade on or after September 1, 2008 shall receive one dose of a meningococcal-containing vaccine, such as the medically-preferred meningococcal conjugate vaccine.

*\*Please note: This applies to students when they turn 11 years of age and attend Grade Six.*

Documentation of the required vaccines from your healthcare provider must be submitted on or before September, 2013.

**Failure to comply** with this requirement is cause for **exclusion from school**.

Thank you for your assistance with this requirement for attendance at school.

Sincerely,

Health Services