



Dear Parent/Guardian of an incoming 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grader for the new school year,

Texas Department of State Health Services has revised the immunization requirements that take effect at the beginning of the school year. The following are the changes that are being implemented:

**7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade additional requirements:**

- Booster dose of tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis containing vaccine for entry into 7<sup>th</sup> grade, if at least 5 years have passed since the last dose of a tetanus- containing vaccine (or when 5 years from last dose has passed).
- Meningococcal vaccine – one dose for entry into 7<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Varicella vaccine – two doses of varicella vaccine received on or after the 1<sup>st</sup> birthday for entry into 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

After reviewing your child's immunization record, we have noted on the Health Checklist the immunization (s) that will be required for your child to attend the first day of school.

It is our recommendation that these immunizations are obtained as soon as possible and a copy of the physician validated immunization record is turned into the school office/clinic for proper documentation.

The immunization changes are statewide, and we anticipate immunization clinics to be quite busy. Please note that if your 8<sup>th</sup> grader is already up-to-date on their immunizations, no additional shots are needed.

Thank you for your prompt attention.