

**La Habra City School District  
Student Support Services**

February 22, 2011

TO: Parent(s)/Guardian(s)  
FROM: Student Support Services  
RE: Legal Mandate for Tdap Booster Immunization for Pertussis

A new California law (AB 354) requires students in grades 7-12 to receive a booster immunization (Tdap) for pertussis, commonly known as whooping cough. The law comes in response to a widespread whooping cough outbreak in the state last year.

**Therefore, before entering school for the 2011-2012 school year, all children in grades 7-12 will need proof of receiving the Tdap booster immunization. If your child has already received the Tdap booster immunization, please bring proof signed by your medical provider to your child's school site health office.**

**Legal Mandate:**

**2011-2012 school year only:**

- Law takes effect July 1, 2011.
- All students entering grades 7-12 will need proof of Tdap **prior** to beginning school.
- (Tdap) given on or after 7<sup>th</sup> birthday meets the above requirements.

**2012-2013 school year:**

- Law takes effect July 1, 2012.
- All students entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade will need proof of Tdap **prior** to beginning school.

Current studies have shown that children ages 7-9 have contracted the disease at a much higher rate than expected. Therefore, if a child is 7 years or older and has not received a Tdap, it is highly recommended that parents/guardians contact their medical provider or Orange County Health Care Agency for further guidance. Vaccinating children at an early age will protect children against the ongoing threat of contracting pertussis.

Immunizations may be obtained from your health care provider. Below is a list of other resources that may provide immunizations free of charge.

**Orange County Health Care Agency, Buena Park** - 6301 Beach Blvd., Suite 103, Buena Park

Telephone: 1 (800) 914-4887

**Orange County Health Care Agency, Santa Ana** - 1725 W. 17<sup>th</sup> St., Santa Ana

Telephone: 1 (800) 914-4887 or 1 (800) 564-8448

**St. Jude Neighborhood Health Center** - 731 South Highland Ave., Fullerton

Telephone: (714) 446-5100

**For further questions, please contact the District School Nurse at (562) 690-2323.**