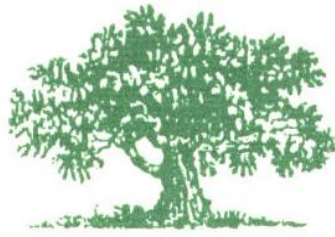


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Carmel Unified School District

April 1st, 2013

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Whooping cough (pertussis) has been widespread in California. The California Department of Public Health recommends that all Californians 10 years and older receive a booster shot (also known as “Tdap”) against pertussis. Moreover, Assembly Bill 354, now chaptered into California law, **requires** students to be immunized against pertussis.

The law **requires**:

- All students entering 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grades will need proof of an adolescent whooping cough booster shot (Tdap) before starting school.
- Please note, if your child has received a dose of Tdap on or after his/her 7th birthday, he/she will meet the school immunization requirement.

NO VACCINE NO SCHOOL

You may request an exemption from the pertussis immunization if such an immunization would be contrary to your beliefs. The personal beliefs exemption form is available from office staff. In addition, medical exemptions are also allowed by statute and regulations per a physician letter.

We strongly encourage you to contact your child’s doctor **now** to schedule an immunization appointment. We anticipate that a large number of students will require a Tdap shot before the start of school next year. Avoid the rush and make sure your child can start school on time!

If you have questions related to the Tdap vaccination or if you need assistance to determine if your child qualifies for free immunizations through the Vaccines for Children Program, please contact the Monterey County Health Department (Monday-Thursday) at (831) 755-4683.

Sincerely,

Heath L. Rocha
Director – Student Services