



CHULA VISTA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

84 EAST "J" STREET • CHULA VISTA, CALIFORNIA 91910 • 619 425-9600

EACH CHILD IS AN INDIVIDUAL OF GREAT WORTH

February 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Assembly Bill 354 is a **new law** in California that requires each student entering Grades 7 through 12 to provide proof of a Tdap booster shot against pertussis before starting school in the 2011-12 school year. Pertussis is highly infectious and is commonly known as whooping cough. It has become widespread in California. **Schools will not be permitted to allow students to attend class next year until they provide proof of immunization against pertussis.**

This requirement:

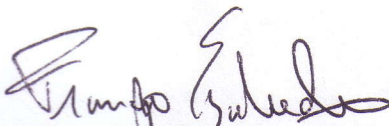
- Begins July 1, 2011.
- Can be met by receiving one dose of Tdap vaccine on or after the student's 10th birthday.
- Applies to all public and private schools.
- Does not affect students enrolled in summer school.

Whooping cough is best prevented by the vaccine. Children under age 10 have maximum protection if they were fully vaccinated (five shots) with a vaccine called "DTaP" prior to age 6. Children older than age 11 and adults are best protected if they have received the Tdap booster vaccine.

Beginning July 1, 2012, all students entering Grade 7 will need proof of a Tdap booster shot before starting school. The most common sign of whooping cough among older children and adults is a mild to severe cough (often worse at night) that lasts for many weeks. While coughing during these weeks, infected people are also spreading the disease to others. Young infants who get whooping cough get very ill. Infants get whooping cough from an infected adult or older child who may not realize he or she has the disease.

The County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency offers the vaccine at its clinics. Call (866) 358-2966 or access www.sdiz.org (click "New Pertussis Information") for immunization locations and more information. The Kids Care Express Mobile Medical Clinic also offers the vaccine at a cost of \$10 and visits District schools on a regular basis. For more information and the monthly schedule, please access <http://www.cvesd.org/DISTRICT/Pages/MobileMedicalClinic.aspx> or call (619) 515-2312. Appointments are available but not necessary. All primary care offices and community clinics offer these vaccines as well.

Sincerely,


Francisco Escobedo, Ed.D.
Superintendent

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