

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Effective August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017, the Pennsylvania Department of Health is strengthening school immunization requirements. These changes are intended to further ensure that students are adequately protected against potential outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases.

**Beginning in the 2017-2018 school year, students who do not meet the new vaccine requirements within five days of the start of school will not be permitted in school until the vaccine requirements are met.**

Highlights of the vaccine requirement changes include:

- ALL Students: Four doses of the polio vaccine are now required, with the last dosage administered on or after the fourth birthday and at least six months after the previous dose (previously three doses were required).
- MCV and Tdap vaccine for all students in 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Second MCV for students entering 12<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Students who have not completed the required doses, need additional doses, and the next dose is not medically appropriate, must submit a medical plan within the first five days of school for obtaining the required immunizations or risk exclusion.

Please click on the links below to review vaccine requirements.

<http://www.health.pa.gov/My%20Health/Immunizations/Documents/SIR8.pdf>

[http://www.health.pa.gov/My%20Health/Immunizations/Documents/NewSchoolVaccination\\_parents\\_required%20vaccinations\\_Spanish.pdf](http://www.health.pa.gov/My%20Health/Immunizations/Documents/NewSchoolVaccination_parents_required%20vaccinations_Spanish.pdf)

[Please click here for a copy of the PA Department of Health Immunization Medical Certificate.](#)

It is critical that students meet all vaccine requirements for the start of the 2017-2018 school year. If you have questions about your child's vaccination record, please consult your physician. Your school nurse is also available to answer any questions you may have.