

John Hellerstedt, M.D. Commissioner

April 15, 2019

RE: Required 7th Grade Immunizations for the 2019-2020 School Year

Dear Parents/Guardians of Upcoming 7th Grade Students in Texas Schools:

State law requires students in all grades in Texas schools to be immunized against certain vaccinepreventable diseases. In addition to vaccines your child has already received, state law requires one dose of the meningococcal conjugate (MCV4) vaccine and a dose of the tetanus-diphtheria-acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine for students in 7th-12th grades. The full vaccine requirements for 7th grade students can be found on the DSHS Immunization Unit website at https://www.dshs.texas.gov/immunize/school/.

We also want to remind you to get your child's vaccinations early— before the busy back-to-school season. Getting your child vaccinated not only protects your child's health, but also that of the community. Without the proper documentation of required vaccinations or a valid medical or conscientious exemption, students will not be allowed to attend school.

Should you have any questions about vaccines, please consult your healthcare provider. You can also visit the DSHS Immunization Unit website at <u>www.ImmunizeTexas.com</u>, call us at (800) 252-9152, or email us at <u>immunization.info@dshs.texas.gov</u>.

Thank you for keeping your child immunized and free from vaccine-preventable diseases. We wish you a rewarding and productive 2019-2020 school year!

Sincerely,

Diane M. Romnes

Diane M. Romnes Interim Immunization Unit Director