

Initial Letter

Dear Parent/s:

Pursuant to Senate Bill 277, all students entering kindergarten (including transitional kindergarten) in the District or advancing from sixth to seventh grade in the District are required to comply with the immunization requirements of Health and Safety Code Section 120335(b). Additionally, all students newly enrolling in the District without a copy of a personal-belief exemption on file with another school in California prior to December 31, 2015, are required to comply with the immunization requirements of Section 120335(b). The only exemption to this requirement is if the student provides the District with a valid exemption from a licensed physician.

Our records indicate that you have not provided information showing that your student has met the immunization requirements in Section 120335(b). Please contact us if this is in error. However, our records also indicate that your student is a student entitled to special education and related services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Section 120335(h) of the Health and Safety Code and the California Department of Public Health have indicated that special education students should continue to receive all necessary services identified in their IEP regardless of vaccination status. Accordingly, the District will permit your student to continue to attend school despite not being in compliance with the immunization law.

However, the law requires parents and guardians to continue to provide immunization records for special education students to their schools, and schools are required to maintain and report records of immunizations that have been received for special education students. Special education students are not exempt from the immunization requirements of Section 120335(b).

Furthermore, because your student has not been fully immunized in accordance with the law, he or she may be unilaterally excluded from school if we believe that he or she has been exposed to one of the following diseases: (1) Diphtheria; (2) Haemophilus influenza type b; (3) Measles; (4) Mumps; (5) Pertussis (whooping cough); (6) Poliomyelitis; (7) Rubella; (8) Tetanus; (9) Hepatitis B; (10) Varicella (chickenpox); and (11) Any other disease deemed appropriate by the Department of Health and Human Services. If such an event were to occur, your student would not be permitted to return to school until the local health officer determined that the student was no longer at risk for transmitting the disease. In addition, the local health officer may order that your student be excluded for a period of time if there is a local outbreak of a contagious disease.

Please provide us with the immunization records for your student as soon as practicable, and please contact the District if you have any questions about this letter.