

CLIFFSIDE PARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Office of the Superintendent
The Municipal Complex
525 Palisade Avenue
Cliffside Park NJ 07010

Michael J. Romagnino
Superintendent of Schools

TEL: 201-313-2310
FAX: 201-943-7050
E-MAIL: mjr@cliffsidepark.edu

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Dear Parent or Guardian,

The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services has recently revised the immunization requirements for school attendance in September 2008. The amended regulations involve the diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and pertussis and meningococcal vaccines and state the following:

Diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and pertussis vaccine:

Every child born on or after January 1, 1997, and entering or attending Grade Six, or a comparable age level special education program with an unassigned grade on or after September 1, 2008, shall have received one dose of Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis) given no earlier than the 10th birthday.

Children entering or attending Grade Six on or after September 1, 2008, who received a Td booster dose less than five years prior to entry or attendance shall not be required to receive a Tdap dose until five years have elapsed from the last DTP/DTaP or Td dose.

Children born on or after January 1, 1997, and transferring into a New Jersey school from another state or country after September 1, 2008 shall have received one dose of Tdap, provided at least five years have elapsed from the last documented Td dose.

Meningococcal vaccine:

Every child born on or after January 1, 1997, and entering or attending Grade Six or a comparable age level special education program with an unassigned grade on or after September 1, 2008, shall have received one dose of a meningococcal-containing vaccine, such as the medically-preferred meningococcal conjugate vaccine.

Every child born on or after January 1, 1997, and transferring into a New Jersey school from another state or country on or after September 1, 2008, shall have received one dose of meningococcal vaccine.

Parents of fifth grade students should be aware that these revisions will be strictly enforced as of *September 1, 2008*. A child whose parent or guardian has not submitted evidence of the above immunizations will be excluded from school until the requirement is met. Please contact your physician and send documentation to my office as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact your school nurse.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Romagnino
Superintendent of Schools
MJR/mm