December 15, 2015

RE: Immunization Requirements

As the 2016-2017 school year approaches, we want to make sure that you are aware of the new immunization laws which will go into effect January 1, 2016.

In June 2015, Governor Jerry Brown signed Senate Bill 277 (SB 277) into law. This legislation no longer permits parents/guardians to submit a personal belief exemption for required vaccinations starting January 1, 2016. Personal Belief Exemptions submitted on or before December 31, 2015 will be in effect until the student enters the next grade span:
- Birth to Preschool
- Transitional Kindergarten/Kindergarten to Sixth Grade
- Seventh to Twelfth Grade

The new law does allow for a medical exemption. The medical exemption may be obtained through a licensed physician medical doctor (M.D.) or a doctor of osteopathic medicine (D.O.). There is not a medical exemption form, but the exemption should come from the doctor in a letter. The exemption letter must include the following information:
- That the physical condition or medical circumstances of the child are such that the required immunization(s) is not indicated
- Which vaccines are being exempt
- Whether the medical exemption is permanent or temporary
- The expiration date, if the exemption is temporary

Students who do not have proof of meeting this requirement will not be allowed to attend school until the immunization requirement is met.

If you have specific questions about the required immunizations and your child’s needs, please consult with your medical provider. If you have additional questions regarding the new law, please visit the California Department of Public Health website at http://www.shotsforschool.org/laws/sb277faq/.

It is our goal to provide information in a timely manner to maximize student learning and meet the needs of our community.

Sincerely,

James Hartley
CMP Student Services Coordinator