

## **TO PARENTS OF STUDENTS ENTERING THE 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE :**

### **Important changes to Immunization Requirements to take affect for the 2009-2010 school year.**

On March 5, 2009 revisions were made to the immunization requirements for students in Texas public schools.

The changes to the requirements were made in order to update the Texas elementary and secondary school immunization requirements so that they adhere more closely to the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PICK-UP THEIR 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE SCHEDULES DURING “DRAGON CAMP” AT DMS ON AUGUST 17, 2009 AND/OR ATTEND SCHOOL WITHOUT PROOF OF IMMUNIZATION COMPLIANCE.**

**Bring documentation of immunization compliance to your school nurse as soon as possible to prevent long lines at the check-in table.**

The **new requirements** for students who will be entering the 7<sup>th</sup> grade in August 2009 are:

#### **Varicella Vaccine:**

Beginning August 1, 2009, all students entering the 7<sup>th</sup> grade will be required to have 2 doses of varicella vaccine.

A written statement from a parent (legal guardian or managing conservator), school nurse, or physician attesting to a child's positive history of varicella disease (chickenpox), or of varicella immunity, is acceptable in lieu of either dose of varicella vaccine.

#### **Tetanus, Diphtheria and Acellular Pertussis-containing Vaccine (Tdap):**

Beginning August 1, 2009, all students entering the 7<sup>th</sup> grade will be required to have one dose of Tdap vaccine.

Students in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade will be required to have a booster dose of Tdap (only if it has been five years since their last dose of a tetanus-containing vaccine).

Td is acceptable in lieu of Tdap if a contraindication to pertussis exists.

#### **Meningococcal Vaccine:**

Beginning August 1, 2009, all students entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade will be required to have one dose of meningococcal vaccine.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ASK YOUR SCHOOL NURSE AND VISIT:**

[http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/school/SchoolRules\\_FAQ.pdf](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/school/SchoolRules_FAQ.pdf)

<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/school/SchoolChangesMemo.pdf>