



# Center Joint Unified School District

## Health Services

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

Whooping cough (pertussis) has been widespread in California. Many students have had to miss school because they were sick.

To help protect your children and others from whooping cough, a new California law now requires students to be vaccinated against whooping cough.

**For the 2011-12 school year only, all students entering 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades** will need proof of an adolescent whooping cough booster shot (Tdap) before starting school.

**Thereafter, in future school years, only students entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade** will need proof of an adolescent whooping cough booster shot (Tdap) before starting school.

By law, students who do not have proof of receiving a Tdap booster shot will not be able to start school until proof is provided to the school. (The tetanus-diphtheria booster shot, Td, will not meet the requirement.)

Attached you will find a flyer with more information about Tdap vaccine and this immunization requirement.

We want to make sure your child starts school on time. I urge you to:

**1. Review the attached flyer.**

**2. Get your child's Tdap shot now.**

A large number of students need a Tdap shot between now and the start of school next year. Make an appointment with your child's doctor or clinic for your child to get a Tdap booster shot now. Avoid the back-to-school rush.

**3. Save your proof of immunization.**

Be sure to keep the written proof of your child's Tdap booster shot in a safe place. Your child will need to provide proof of immunization in order to start school.

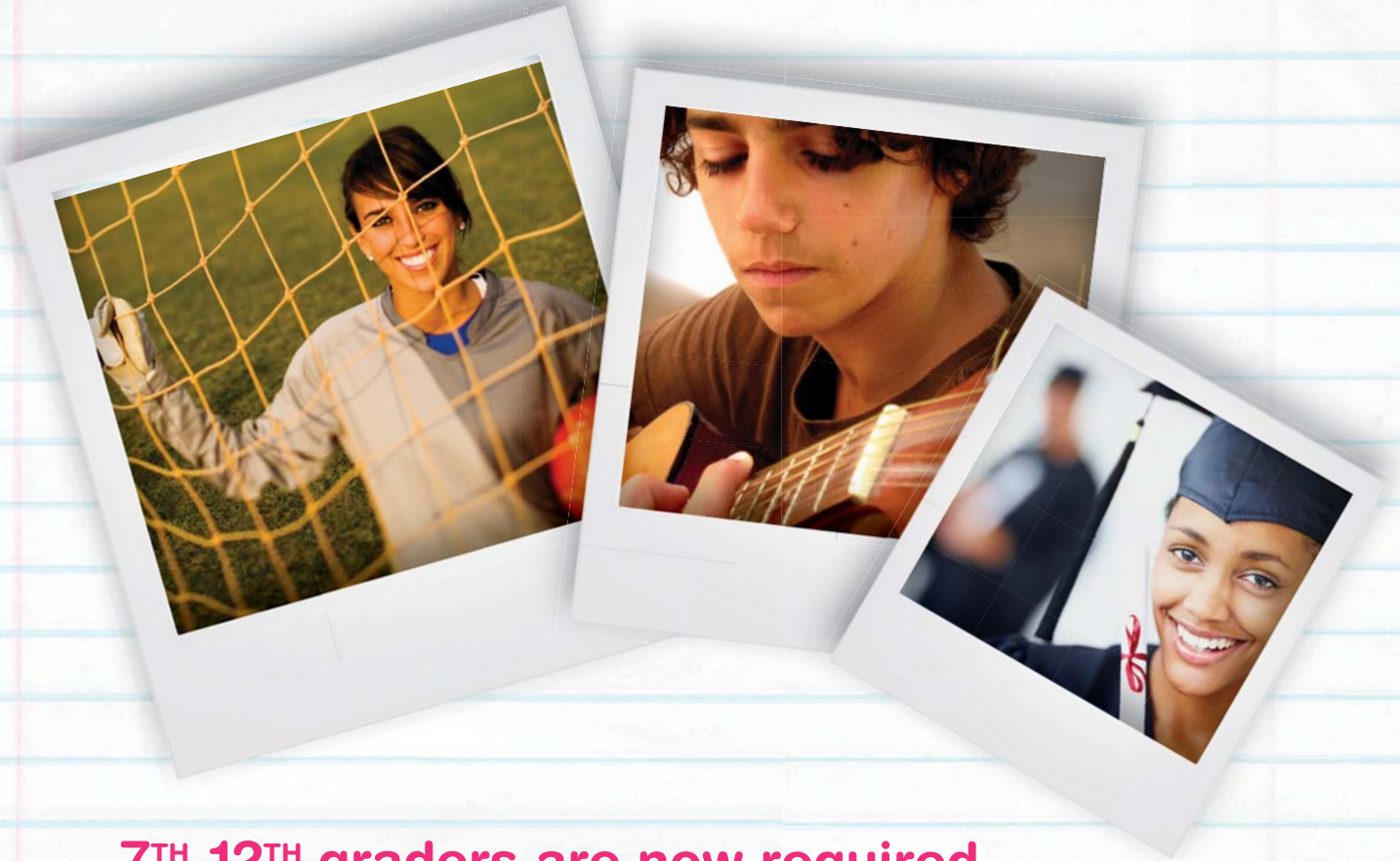
Getting the adolescent whooping cough shot now will not only help protect your child against the ongoing threat of whooping cough but will also meet the new school requirement.

If you have any questions, please contact \_\_\_\_\_  
at \_\_\_\_\_.

Sincerely,

Amrit Kajla, District Nurse  
Center Joint Unified School District

# NEW RULE SHOTS BEFORE SCHOOL



**7<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> graders are now required  
to get a whooping cough shot before  
starting the 2011-2012 school year**

**Call your doctor today**

**ShotsForSchool.org**



# 7TH – 12TH GRADE IMMUNIZATION CHART

## What Shots Does My Child Need?

As parents, we can't be near our children every minute. Immunizing our children is one thing we can do to protect their health for years to come.

REQUIRED vaccine for 7th – 12th graders 2011-2012 school year	What this means for YOUR child
<b>Tdap</b> (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis)	Tdap safely protects against 3 dangerous diseases: tetanus, diphtheria, and whooping cough (also called pertussis). Whooping cough has been increasing in the U.S. It continues to be widespread in California. For the 2011–12 school year only, children entering 7th–12th grade will need proof of a Tdap shot before starting school. For 2012-13 and beyond, only students entering 7th grade will need proof of a Tdap shot.

RECOMMENDED vaccines for 7th – 12th graders	What this means for YOUR child
<b>Meningococcal</b>	Meningococcal meningitis is easily spread by kissing, sharing drinks, coughing, or sneezing. This disease could cause your otherwise healthy child to lose an arm or leg, become paralyzed, or die. The shot can protect them from several types of this deadly infection.
<b>Chickenpox</b> (Varicella)	Chickenpox is usually worse for adolescents and adults than for kids. A total of two doses of chickenpox vaccine are needed if your child has never had chickenpox disease.
<b>Human Papillomavirus</b> (HPV)	This 3-shot vaccine series is recommended for girls to help protect them from cancer of the cervix (a part of their reproductive system) later in life. Boys ages 9 to 26 years may also receive the vaccine.
<b>Seasonal Flu</b>	The flu is a serious illness. Even young and healthy children need protection against the flu! This year's flu vaccine protects against 3 flu viruses, including the H1N1 flu virus.

Children should visit their doctor or health care provider to get their shots. Children 18 years old and younger who are uninsured or underinsured may qualify for the Vaccines for Children Program to get free or low cost immunization services. To find a provider near you, call [1-877-243-8832](tel:1-877-243-8832) or visit: [www.eziz.org/pages/vfc\\_locations2.html](http://www.eziz.org/pages/vfc_locations2.html). Some local pharmacies and Health Departments may also offer vaccines.

