

August 16, 2017

Dear School District of Philadelphia Parents/Guardians:

The Pennsylvania Department of Health has recently made changes to the immunization regulations that will be in place for the start of the 2017-2018 school year. These new requirements are necessary to ensure that children attending schools in PA are protected against outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases.

On the first day of school, unless the child has a medical or religious/philosophical exemption, a child **must** have had at least one dose of the required vaccinations or risk exclusion from school.

- All rising 12th grade students must have a second dosage of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4).
- All rising 7th grade students must have both meningococcal conjugate and Tdap vaccines.
- All students must have a 4th dosage of polio vaccine after their 4th birthday.

We cannot overstate the importance of making sure our students are attending school every day, on time, and are healthy and ready to learn. If students are sick and cannot attend school, they cannot learn and keep up with their classmates.

Call your child's doctor to make an immunization appointment. *If your child doesn't have a doctor, call the City District Health Centers at 215-685-2933 to set up an immunization appointment.* A list of health clinics is attached for your convenience. Please also see the attached flyer from the PA Department of Health, which outlines the requirements for each grade.

If you have any questions please visit <http://kids.phila.gov/index.php/new-school-immunization-requirements-frequently-asked-questions/>.

Sincerely,



Karyn T. Lynch, Chief
Office of Student Support Services

KTL/la
Enclosures (2)

c: All SDP Principals
All Assistant Superintendents
Charter School Office