Immunization Requirements for 2017-2018 School Year

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Student Immunization records are on file from last year, but students going into the 7th grade are required, per Oklahoma Statute §70-1210.191, to receive:

- **Tdap Booster** (See the attached documents for more information)

***If your child is not entering the 7th grade during the 2017-2018 school year, there are not any immunization requirements for re-registration. The immunization requirement will automatically be approved for students entering all grades except 7th grade.

**PLEASE NOTE:** One dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) vaccine will be required for all students entering the 7th grade beginning with the fall semester 15-16 School year. Proof of immunizations must be submitted before a student is allowed to enter the seventh grade: no grace period is allowed.

**Proof of immunization consists of:**
- A record of Tdap vaccination which includes the name of the vaccine and the date of the vaccine administration, signed or stamped by a doctor, nurse, clinic or other health care provider, or a record from the Oklahoma State Immunization Information System (OSIIS).

**Exemptions:**
- Oklahoma law allows for immunization exemptions if a student has a valid medical, religious or philosophic reason for not being vaccinated. A new exemption form for Tdap is not needed for students with existing DTaP exemptions on file.
- If you wish to be exempt for any of these reasons listed above, please contact the school for an exemption form.

Please return documents to:

Fax: 405-259-8332

Email: ovcaefax@k12.com
Guide to Immunization Requirements in Oklahoma - 2016-17 School Year

All children two months of age and older must present an immunization record or file for an exemption before they are allowed to attend childcare or school in Oklahoma. Please read the bullets below for essential information. For more information refer to the School Administrator’s Guide to Oklahoma’s Immunization Law at: http://www.ok.gov/health/Disease_Prevention_Preparedness/Immunizations/Vaccines_for_School/index.html.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VACCINES</th>
<th>CHILDCARE Up-to-date for age</th>
<th>PRE-SCHOOL PRE-KG</th>
<th>KG-6th</th>
<th>7th - 12th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis)</td>
<td>4 DTaP</td>
<td>Total doses</td>
<td>5 DTaP</td>
<td>5 DTaP &amp; 1 Tdap booster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCV (pneumococcal conjugate vaccine)</td>
<td>1-4 PCV</td>
<td>Not required for school</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPV/OPV (inactivated polio/oral polio)</td>
<td>3 IPV/OPV</td>
<td></td>
<td>4 IPV/OPV</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type b)</td>
<td>1-4 Hib</td>
<td>Not required for school</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HepB (hepatitis B)</td>
<td>3 HepB</td>
<td></td>
<td>3 HepB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HepA (hepatitis A)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 HepA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varicella (chickenpox)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 Varicella (2nd dose recommended at KG entry)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- If the 4th dose of DTaP is administered on or after the child’s 4th birthday, then the 5th dose DTaP is not required.
- The number of doses of PCV and/or Hib may range from 1 to 4 depending on the age of the child when the first dose was given.
- If the 3rd dose of IPV/OPV is administered on or after the child's 4th birthday, then the 4th dose of IPV/OPV is not required.
- Children may be complete with 3 or 4 doses of Hib vaccine depending on the brand of vaccine used.
- Students 11 through 15 years of age who have not received any HepB vaccine previously may receive a 2 dose series of Merck® Adult Hepatitis B vaccine to comply with this requirement. All other children (younger or older) must receive 3 doses of pediatric hepatitis B vaccine.

The table above lists the vaccines that are required for children to attend childcare, preschool, and kindergarten through twelfth grade in Oklahoma. Additional vaccines may be recommended, but are not required. For example, a 2nd dose of varicella vaccine is recommended before entering kindergarten, but not required by Oklahoma law.

- Children attending licensed childcare facilities must be up-to-date for their age for the vaccines listed in the “Childcare” column. Refer to this web page for information on when doses are due and past due for children attending childcare: http://www.ok.gov/health/Disease_Prevention_Preparedness/Immunizations/Vaccines_for_Childcare/index.html.
- Hib and PCV vaccines are not required for students in pre-school, pre-kindergarten, or kindergarten programs operated by schools unless the facility is a licensed child care facility. Hib and PCV vaccines are required for children attending licensed child care facilities.
- Doses administered 4 days or less, before the minimum intervals or ages, are counted as valid doses.
- The first doses of measles, mumps and rubella (MMR), varicella, and hepatitis A vaccines must be administered on or after the child's first birthday (or within 4 days before the birthday) or they must be repeated.
- If a parent reports that their child had chickenpox disease, the child is not required to receive varicella vaccine. Record that the child had the disease.
- It is not necessary to restart the series of any vaccine if a dose was given late or if a dose is past due. Longer than recommended intervals between doses do not affect final immunity.
- Children may be allowed to attend childcare and school if they have received at least one dose of all the required vaccines due for their age or grade and the next doses are not yet due, but they must complete the remaining doses of vaccine on schedule. These children are “in the process” of receiving immunizations.
- For information on completing the DTaP series with Tdap for children 7 years of age and older please refer to this information sheet: http://www.ok.gov/health2/documents/MMM_School_CompletingDTaPSevenOlder.pdf.

For more information call the Immunization Service at (405) 271-4073 or visit our website at: http://imm.health.ok.gov.  
Revised 11-09-2015 IMM 400
Vaccine-Preventable Diseases and the Vaccines that Prevent Them

**Diphtheria** (Can be prevented by DTaP & Tdap vaccines)

Diphtheria is a very contagious bacterial disease that affects the respiratory system, including the lungs. Diphtheria bacteria can be passed from person to person by direct contact with droplets when an infected person coughs or sneezes. When people are infected, the diphtheria bacteria produce a toxin (poison) in the body that can cause weakness, sore throat, low-grade fever, and swollen glands in the neck. Effects from this toxin can also lead to swelling of the heart muscle and, in some cases, heart failure. **In severe cases, diphtheria can cause coma, paralysis, and even death.**

**Hepatitis A** (Can be prevented by HepA vaccine)

Hepatitis A is an infection of the liver caused by hepatitis A virus. The virus is usually spread person-to-person through the fecal-oral route. In other words, the virus is taken in by mouth from contact with objects, food, or drinks contaminated by the feces (stool) of an infected person. Symptoms include fever, tiredness, loss of appetite, nausea, abdominal discomfort, dark urine, and jaundice (yellowing of the skin and eyes). An infected person may have no symptoms, may have mild illness for a week or two, or may have severe illness for several months that requires hospitalization. **In the U.S. about 100 people a year die from hepatitis A.**

**Hepatitis B** (Can be prevented by HepB vaccine)

Hepatitis B is an infection of the liver caused by hepatitis B virus. The virus spreads through exposure to blood or other body fluids, for example, from sharing personal items, such as razors or during sex. Hepatitis B causes a flu-like illness with loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, rashes, joint pain, and jaundice. **The virus stays in the liver of some people for the rest of their lives and can result in severe liver diseases, including fatal cancer.**

**Human Papillomavirus** (Can be prevented by HPV vaccine)

Human Papillomavirus also known as HPV, is a very common virus that is spread by skin-to-skin contact during any type of sexual activity with another person. About 79 million Americans, most in their late teens and early 20s, are infected with HPV. HPV is so common that nearly all sexually active men and women get it at some point in their lives. It is a major cause of cervical cancer in women and genital warts in women and men. **Every year in the U.S. about 4,000 women die from cervical cancer caused by HPV and about 8,000 men get cancers caused by HPV.**

**Measles** (Can be prevented by MMR vaccine)

Measles is one of the most contagious viral diseases. Measles virus is spread by direct contact with the airborne respiratory droplets of an infected person. Measles is so contagious that just being in the same room after a person who has measles has already left can result in infection. Symptoms usually include a rash, fever, cough, and red, watery eyes. Fever and rash can last for up to a week, and the coughing lasts about 10 days. **Measles can lead to pneumonia, seizures, brain damage, and death.**

**Meningococcal Disease** (Can be prevented by MCV vaccine)

Meningococcal disease is caused by bacteria and is a leading cause of bacterial meningitis (infection around the brain and spinal cord) in children, teens and young adults. The bacteria are spread by droplets from the nose and throat through coughing, sneezing or kissing. Symptoms include nausea, vomiting, sensitivity to light, confusion and sleepiness. Meningococcal disease also causes blood infections. About one of every ten people who get the disease dies from it. **Survivors of meningococcal disease may lose their arms or legs, become deaf, have problems with their nervous systems, become developmentally disabled, or suffer seizures or strokes.**

**Mumps** (Can be prevented by MMR vaccine)

Mumps is an infectious disease caused by the mumps virus, which is spread in the air by a cough or sneeze from an infected person. A child can also get infected with mumps by coming in contact with a contaminated object, like a toy. The mumps virus causes fever, headaches, painful swelling of the salivary glands under the jaw, muscle aches, tiredness, and loss of appetite. **Severe complications for children who get mumps are not common, but can include meningitis (infection of the covering of the brain and spinal cord), encephalitis (inflammation of the brain), permanent hearing loss, or swelling of the testes, which can lead to sterility in men, although this is rare.**

**Pertussis (Whooping Cough)** (Can be prevented by DTaP & Tdap vaccines)

Pertussis is caused by bacteria spread through direct contact with respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs or sneezes. In the beginning, symptoms of pertussis are similar to the common cold, including runny nose, sneezing, and cough. After 1-2 weeks, pertussis can cause spells of violent coughing and choking, making it hard to breathe, drink, or eat. This cough can last for weeks. **Pertussis is most serious for babies, who can get pneumonia, have seizures, become brain damaged, or even die. About two-thirds of children under 1 year of age who get pertussis must be hospitalized.**

**Polio** (Can be prevented by IPV vaccine)

Polio is caused by a virus that lives in an infected person’s throat and intestines. It spreads through contact with the feces (stool) of an infected person and through droplets from a sneeze or cough. Symptoms typically include sudden fever, sore throat, headache, muscle weakness, and pain. In about 1% of cases, polio can cause paralysis. **Among those who are paralyzed, up to 5% of children die because they become unable to breathe.**

**Rubella (German Measles)** (Can be prevented by MMR vaccine)

Rubella is caused by a virus that is spread through coughing and sneezing. In children rubella usually causes a mild illness with fever, swollen glands, and a rash that lasts about 3 days. Rubella rarely causes serious illness or complications in children, but can be very serious to a baby in the womb. If a pregnant woman is infected, the result to the baby can be devastaging, including miscarriage, serious heart defects, mental retardation, and loss of hearing and eye sight.

**Tetanus (Lockjaw)** (Can be prevented by Tdap vaccine)

Tetanus is caused by bacteria found in soil. The bacteria enter the body through a wound, such as a deep cut. When people are infected, the bacteria produce a toxin (poison) in the body that causes serious, painful spasms and stiffness of all muscles in the body. This can lead to “locking” of the jaw so a person cannot open his or her mouth, swallow, or breathe. **Complete recovery from tetanus can take months. Three of ten people who get tetanus die from the disease.**

**Varicella (Chickenpox)** (Can be prevented by varicella vaccine)

Chickenpox is caused by the varicella zoster virus. Chickenpox is very contagious and spreads very easily from infected people. The virus can spread from either a cough or a sneeze. It can also spread from the blisters on the skin, either by touching them or by breathing in the viral particles. Typical symptoms of chickenpox include an itchy rash with blisters, tiredness, headache and fever. **Chickenpox is usually mild, but it can lead to severe skin infections, pneumonia, encephalitis (brain swelling), and even death.**
Tdap School Requirement:
Information for Schools

What is the Requirement?
One dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) vaccine will be required for all students entering the 7th grade beginning with the fall semester of the 2011-2012 school year. Proof of immunization must be submitted before a student is allowed to enter the seventh grade; no grace period is allowed.

Proof of immunization consists of:
- A record of Tdap vaccination which includes the name of the vaccine and the date of vaccine administration signed or stamped by a doctor, nurse, clinic or other health care provider, or a record from the Oklahoma State Immunization Information System (OSIIS).

Or
- A record of DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis) vaccination at 7 years of age or older.

Both Tdap and DTaP provide protection against the same diseases. The major difference between the two vaccines is the age group for which they are licensed. DTaP is given to children younger than 7 years of age and Tdap is given to children, adolescents, and adults 7 years of age and older.

Students who have already received a dose of Td (tetanus and diphtheria vaccine) at age 7 years or older must still receive a dose of Tdap. There is no minimum amount of time one needs to wait between receiving Td and Tdap.

Implementation
The Tdap requirement will be implemented incrementally over a six year period. The requirement will expand from 7th grade the first year of implementation to 7th through 12th grade by the sixth year of implementation (2016-2017 school year). The following table illustrates implementation of the Tdap requirement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Year</th>
<th>Grades affected by Tdap Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011-2012</td>
<td>Grade 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-2013</td>
<td>Grades 7 and 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-2014</td>
<td>Grades 7, 8, and 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-2015</td>
<td>Grades 7, 8, 9, and 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-2016</td>
<td>Grades 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-2017</td>
<td>Grades 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exemptions
Oklahoma law allows for immunization exemptions if a student has a valid medical, religious or philosophic reason for not being vaccinated. A new exemption form for Tdap is not needed for students with existing DTaP exemptions on file.

All schools should maintain a small supply of exemption certificates (Oklahoma Department of Health Form 216-A) for parents who request an exemption to any or all vaccines. The latest version of the exemption certificate is dated 11/08. Requests for forms may be made to the Immunization Service by fax (405) 271-6133 or email: immunize@health.ok.gov.

Why we need a Tdap requirement:
Tdap is a vaccine used to boost immunity to pertussis (whooping cough), tetanus, and diphtheria. A dose of Tdap is recommended for all adolescents at age 11-12 years because protection provided by the DTaP shots they received as children wears off after 5 to 10 years.
- Immunity to whooping cough wears off over time. Preteens, teenagers, and adults are at risk for whooping cough, tetanus, and diphtheria 5 to 10 years after their last DTaP shot.
- Whooping cough has been increasing in the United States especially among teens (10–19 years of age) and babies younger than 6 months of age. In 2010, several states reported an increase in whooping cough cases, including a statewide epidemic in California.
- California reported over 7,000 cases of whooping cough and 10 deaths in babies in 2010.
- Texas reported more than 2,000 cases.
- High immunization levels will help prevent an increase in the number of cases of whooping cough in Oklahoma.

Whooping cough, or pertussis, is an illness that causes coughing fits so intense and rapid that the air is gone from the lungs and patients have difficulty breathing. The lack of oxygen to the brain during coughing fits may lead to brain damage, especially in babies.

Although whooping cough is usually a mild disease in adolescents, it can be serious for people of any age. Whooping cough can place a significant burden on families, as a person with whooping cough may be asked to stay home from work or school while receiving at least 5 days of antibiotic treatment so they won’t spread the disease to others. Most deaths occur in babies who are too young to be fully vaccinated.

**Tdap Recommendations for Adults**
One dose of Tdap is also recommended for adults, especially those having close contact with infants. Teachers and school personnel should consider getting this vaccine.

**Sources of Additional Information:**
Adolescent Vaccination.Org
http://www.adolescentvaccination.org/

Vaccines for Teens NBA and WNBA Cares: http://www.vaccinesforteens.net/index.html

Oklahoma State Department of Health, Acute Disease Service
Public Health Fact Sheet on Pertussis:
http://www.ok.gov/health/documents/Pertussis%202010.pdf
Public Health Fact Sheet on Tetanus
Public Health Fact Sheet on Diphtheria
http://www.ok.gov/health/Disease,_Prevention,_Preparedness/Acute_Disease_Service/Disease_Information/Dipthe
ria.html

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention web site:
Pertussis (Whooping Cough) Vaccination: http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/pertussis/default.htm