

Fairfax County Public Schools
Fairfax, Virginia

New Virginia Immunization Requirement
for
Tetanus, Diphtheria, Acellular Pertussis
(Tdap)

Dear Parent or Guardian of a Rising Sixth Grade Student:

Section 32.1-46 of the Code of Virginia has been amended. **Effective July 1, 2006, the Commonwealth of Virginia requires that all students receive a booster dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis) vaccine prior to entering sixth grade** if at least five years have elapsed since the last dose of tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine (DTP, DTaP, DT, or Td). This change is in accordance with the Immunization Schedule developed and published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Please see the attached CDC *Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap) Vaccine* fact sheet.

Please check your child's immunization records carefully, and if your child has not had a tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine (DTP, DTaP, DT, or Td) in the last five years, please provide documentation of a booster Tdap to the school office. Documentation, which includes month, day, and year, is required prior to school entry for the 2006-07 school year.

All Immunizations required for school are free of charge at the Fairfax County Health Department or you may take your child to his or her physician.

It is very important that you attend to this matter immediately in order for your child to return to school in the fall. Please contact your school public health nurse if you have any questions. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

School Principal

Attachment