

# Monthly Immunization Update

April 2023

Dear Ventura County Schools and Partners,

This newsletter is meant to keep you updated on issues related to vaccines quickly and easily and maintain our connection with all of you. We welcome your questions and comments. Please feel free to share this newsletter with your colleagues. Thank you!

## *Schools Almost Out, Time to Catch Up on Vaccines*

With spring break and summer vacation coming up students immunization status is often the last thing parents and guardians think about. California schools are required to check immunization records for all new student admissions at transitional kindergarten (TK)/Kindergarten through 12th grade and all students advancing to 7th grade before entry. Parents must show their child's Immunization Record as proof of immunization. Schools with low vaccination rates are at increased risk for outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases. Under the California School Immunization Law, to protect the public's health, children are required to receive certain immunizations in order to attend public and private elementary and secondary schools. Please share the [Parents' Guide to Immunizations Required for School Entry \(ca.gov\)](#) handout with your students families.



Summer is for no worries. Get those requirements out of the way!

### Inside this issue:

<i>Schools Almost Out Vaccines Are In</i>	1
<i>Are Your 6th Graders Ready for 7th Grade?</i>	1
<i>National Public Health Week</i>	2
<i>Announcements</i>	2

## *Are Your 6th Graders Ready for 7th Grade?*

Now is the time to get your current 6th graders, soon to be 7th graders, fully up to date with their T-dap vaccinations before entry. The Tdap vaccine can prevent tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis. Researchers have studied the Tdap shot very carefully and it is shown to be very safe. Like any vaccine or medicine, the Tdap shot can cause side effects. The most common side effects are mild and include redness and soreness in the arm where the shot was given, headache, fever, or tiredness. Please visit the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) website for more information on Tdap and a wonderful handout to share with parents in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

## National Public Health Week



During the first full week of April each year, APHA brings together communities across the United States to observe National Public Health Week (NPHW) as a time to recognize the contributions of public health and highlight issues that are important to improving our nation's health. This year NPHW will take place **April 3<sup>rd</sup>** through **9<sup>th</sup>**. For over 25 years, APHA has served as the organizer of NPHW. Every year, the Association develops a national campaign to educate the public, policymakers and practitioners about issues related to each year's theme. APHA creates new NPHW materials each year that can be used during and after NPHW to raise awareness about public health and prevention. This year they are going to be “Centering and Celebrating Cultures in Health” to ensure everyone, in all cultural communities, has a chance at a long and healthy life. If you wish to learn more about National Public Health Week feel free to visit their website <https://nphw.org/>.



### Announcements

The CDPH Immunization Branch has revised its Transitional Kindergarten FAQs to help address questions about which immunization requirements apply to younger TK students. For now, schools are recommended to conditionally admit these students and follow up with them once they turn 4 years old to ensure they meet the TK/K immunization requirements.

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We are on the web!

<https://vchca.org/immunization-program>

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