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Superintendent

CARLSBAD MUNICIPAL SCHOOLS
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January 5, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Carlsbad Municipal Schools have received guidance from the New Mexico Department of Health regarding children missing immunizations for the 2020/2021 school year. We have a large number of middle school and high school students who are currently behind on their required immunizations. We also have a number of elementary students who have not received their required immunizations.

We are required to disenroll students who do not have their immunizations and we do not want to do so. We recognize that some parents may not be pursuing immunizations due to a fear of going to a medical office for vaccinations during the current pandemic. Additionally, some parents may not see the point in having their children vaccinated when students are in a remote learning environment. To avoid a more serious decline in coverage and the spread of other infectious diseases the district is urging parents to make sure their students' vaccinations are up-to-date. Additionally, the absence of up-to-date vaccinations will delay a student's return to in-person learning when that is allowed. If you are unsure of your child's vaccination status please contact your school's nurse to determine the current information we have on file.

Please contact your medical practitioner or the State Public Health Office to get your student's vaccinations up-to-date. All clinics have established safe vaccination practices with social distancing and masking. There is a very low risk to get vaccinated. While exemptions are available to keep children in compliance, immunization is always the preference.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gerry C. Washburn', is written over the printed name below.

Gerry C. Washburn,
Superintendent