

Every Student Matters, Every Moment Counts

Morton School District #214

Home of the Timberwolves!

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Morton Jr/Sr High School

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Morton Elementary School

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May 11, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian(s),

The way schools collect immunization records and comply with immunization rules will be different beginning with the 2020-21 school year. Effective August 1, 2020, a state rule change will affect three areas of immunization compliance:

- The definition of "conditional status" has been clarified. Students must turn in their immunization paperwork on or before the first day of attendance.
- All new immunization records from students need to be medically verified.
- The Tdap vaccine requirement for 6th through 12th graders has been changed to a 7th through 12th grade requirement.

<u>Students without immunization paperwork on the first day of school should not start school until the required paperwork is turned in</u>. These students are not considered in conditional status. These changes were <u>approved by the Washington State Board of Health in 2019</u>. Below is additional information that will help you implement the new rule change.

CONDITIONAL STATUS

In the past, students had 30 days from the first day of attendance to turn in their immunization documentation to the school. The new rule clarifies that students without immunization paperwork should not start school until the required paperwork is turned in to the school. If they are missing vaccine doses, they must get any doses they are eligible to receive **before** starting school. Once they have provided the required paperwork to the school that they have received all vaccines they are currently eligible to receive, they can start school. If more doses are needed in a series that require spacing for dosing purposes, the student is considered in conditional status, and can be in school while completing the vaccine series. Children in conditional status must be making progress toward meeting the immunization requirements. Read details in RCW 28A.210.080.

The Morton School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Title IX Coordinator/ADA Coordinator/Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator and Superintendent John Hannah, 152 Westlake Avenue, Morton, WA, 98356, 360-496-5137, bbrooks@morton.k12.wa.us

MEDICALLY VERIFIED RECORDS

Starting on August 1, 2020, the revised rule requires medically verified immunization records for school and child care entry. A medically verified record includes one or more of the following:

- A Certificate of Immunization Status(CIS) printed from the Immunization Information System (IIS)
- A physical copy of the CIS form with a healthcare provider signature
- A physical copy of the CIS with accompanying medical immunization records from a healthcare provider verified and signed by school staff
- A CIS printed from MyIR

TDAP REQUIREMENT CHANGE

The requirement for a Tdap dose is changing from grade 6-12 to grade 7-12. This means all students entering 7th through 12th grades must have one booster dose of Tdap vaccine. In the 2020-2021 school year, all students in 7th grade must have received their Tdap dose on or after age 10 years. Students in 8th through 12th grades must have received their Tdap dose on or after age 7 years.

If you have any other questions, contact Kim Inocencio, school nurse at kinocencio@morton.k12.wa.us. You can also access the Washington State Department of Health at:

• https://www.doh.wa.gov/YouandYourFamily/Immunization/SchoolandChildCare/RuleChanges

Thank you,

Kim Inocencio,BSN,RN School Nurse