



# Perris Union High School District

*"Growing Together Through Education"*

**District Superintendent**  
Jonathan L. Greenberg, Ed. D.

155 East Fourth Street  
Perris, CA 92570-2124  
Main Office No.  
951- 943-6369

Faxes: Superintendent's Office – 951-940-5378  
Business Office – 951-940-5301  
Personnel Office – 951-943-9852  
Educational Svcs. Office – 951-943-6567

Website: [www.puhsd.org](http://www.puhsd.org)

Dear Parents,

Recently, the number of cases of Pertussis (whooping cough) in California and Riverside County has significantly increased. Pertussis is a contagious respiratory disease that can be passed easily from person to person. It is very serious for infants and can cause them to cough so much that they cannot breathe. Whooping cough can cause adults or teens to have severe coughing that can lead to broken ribs and hospitalization for pneumonia. The number of California cases in August 2010 was seven times greater than the same time in 2009, with several deaths. The Department of Public Health is now changing its recommendations for Pertussis vaccination for children and adults, and the Governor has signed Assembly Bill 354 into law, with the following requirements:

## **FOR THE 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR ONLY:**

All students entering 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades will need proof of a Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, acellular Pertussis) booster shot before starting school. Students not providing proof of immunization will be excluded from attending school, until verification of immunization is provided.

This requirement:

- Is effective July 1, 2011
- Requires that your child receive one dose of Tdap vaccine on or after his/her 7<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- Applies to all public and private schools.

## **BEGINNING July 2, 2012, AND BEYOND:**

- This requirement will apply only to 7<sup>th</sup> graders.
- All students entering the 7<sup>th</sup> grade will need proof of a Tdap booster shot after the age of 7 before starting school.

## **HOW YOU CAN PREPARE:**

The Perris Union High School District recommends that you see your family health care provider or visit your local community clinic at your earliest convenience to be sure your child is protected against Pertussis and meets the new immunization requirement by July 1, 2011.

Bring a copy of your updated immunization record to the Health Office at your child's school.

The Health Department is now recommending that you, as an adult, receive a single dose of Tdap to replace a single dose of Td (the "regular" tetanus shot that you should be receiving every 10 years) if you received your last tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine 10 or more years ago. Please consult your school's District Nurse or your health care provider for more information. We have included a copy of information "What Parents Need To Know" regarding AB 354.

Additional Resources: <http://cdc.gov/pertussis/> <http://www.rivoph.org/pertussis/>

Grant Bennett  
Director of Pupil Services  
951-943-6445 ext. 41102

## **Board of Trustees**

Joan D. Cooley

Randy Williams

William F. Hulstrom

Eric J. Kroencke

Carolyn A. Twyman