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## TK – 5th Grade School Entry Requirements-Health

Dear Parent or Guardian:

As your child prepares to enter school, it is also the time to take a look at your child's health. About 10% of children entering school have a health problem that is unknown to their parents. Below are the health requirements that California law requires for school entry.

### 1. **Health Examination Requirement (CHDP) Child Health and Disability Program**

A thorough health examination is required for all children entering school. This health check-up may be completed any time from 18 months before entering first grade to 90 days (and no later) after starting first grade. The "Report of Health Check-up for School Entry" form must be completed and signed by your child's doctor and returned to the school health office. In order to save time parents, are urged to have their child examined before starting kindergarten since immunization boosters are needed at this time.

**NOTE:** All children who are eligible for Medi-Cal are eligible for this health check-up at no cost. Some children are eligible to receive a CHDP health check-up at no cost to their family, depending on the family's size and income. If you want to find out if your child is eligible, call the Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency (**CHDP**) at **(831) 763-8100**.

2. **Oral Health Examination:** To make sure your child is ready for school, California law, *Education Code* Section 49452.8, now requires that your child have an oral health assessment (dental check-up) by May 31 in either kindergarten or first grade, whichever is his or her first year in public school. Assessments that have happened within the 12 months before your child enters school also meet this requirement. The law specifies that the assessment must be done by a licensed dentist or other licensed or registered dental health professional. The following resources will help you find a dentist and complete this requirement for your child:

- Medi-Cal/Denti-Cal's toll-free number or Web site can help you to find a dentist who takes Denti-Cal: 1-800-322-6384; <http://www.denti-cal.ca.gov> . For help enrolling your child in Medi-Cal/Denti-Cal, contact your local social service agency at (831) 454-4165.
- For additional resources that may be helpful, contact the local public health department at (831) 454-4000.

### 3. **Immunization Requirements**

At registration, you will need an **immunization record** showing that your child has received all the required immunizations to enroll, or a Medical Exemption letter from your child's doctor.

**4 Polio** (3 doses if 3<sup>rd</sup> dose given on or after 4<sup>th</sup> birthday)

**3 Hepatitis B**

**5 DPT** (4 doses if 4<sup>th</sup> dose given on or after 4<sup>th</sup> birthday)

**2 Varicella** or documentation of Chickenpox

**2 MMR** (both doses must be given on or after 1<sup>st</sup> birthday)

disease