AMENDMENT TO REGULATIONS
GOVERNING THE IMMUNIZATION AND
TREATMENT OF NEWBORNS, CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

WHEREAS, The Board of Health recognizes the need to protect children and adolescents from preventable diseases; and

WHEREAS, Childhood and adolescent immunizations are an effective method of reducing morbidity and mortality caused by vaccine-preventable diseases; and

WHEREAS, Susceptible children and adolescents are subject not only to the effects of communicable diseases, such as meningococcal infection, varicella, and pertussis, but may also be responsible for the transmission of disease to other susceptible persons in the school; and

WHEREAS, Title 6 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled “Health Code,” authorizes the Department of Public Health, in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Board, to require the immunization of any person against any communicable disease designated by the Board as one for which immunization is effective; and

WHEREAS, Implementing an immunization requirement for middle school and high school entry is an important and effective strategy for assuring that pre-adolescent and adolescent children receive necessary vaccines; and

WHEREAS, Implementing an immunization requirement for middle school and high school entry is an important and effective strategy for preventing outbreaks of infections in schools;
NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Health hereby amends the Board’s Regulations Governing The Immunization and Treatment of Newborns, Children And Adolescents to read as follows (additions in **Bold** and deletions in *Strikethrough*):

REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE IMMUNIZATION AND TREATMENT OF NEWBORNS, CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

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2. IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ATTENDING SCHOOL

(a) Required for School Entry Into Kindergarten or First Grade and for Attendance at Any Grade Level. The following immunizations, whether administered as single vaccines or as components of US Food and Drug Administration approved combination vaccines, given in compliance with the minimum intervals and schedules required for each component vaccine, are required for entry into school and attendance at the kindergarten or first grade level and for attendance at all grade levels:

1. *Hepatitis B.* Three properly-spaced doses of hepatitis B vaccine or a history of hepatitis B immunity proved by laboratory testing.

2. *Diphtheria.* Four or more properly spaced doses of diphtheria toxoid, which may be administered as a single antigen vaccine, in combination with tetanus toxoid or in combination with tetanus toxoid and pertussis vaccine. One dose must have been administered on or after the 4th birthday.

3. *Tetanus.* Four or more properly spaced doses of tetanus toxoid, which may be administered as a single antigen vaccine, in combination with diphtheria toxoid or in combination with diphtheria toxoid and pertussis vaccine. One dose must have been administered on or after the 4th birthday.

4. *Pertussis.* Four properly spaced doses of pertussis vaccine in combination with diphtheria and tetanus toxoids, or a physician’s documentation of a medical contraindication to pertussis vaccine. One dose shall be administered on or after the 4th birthday.
(5) Poliomyelitis. Three Four or more properly spaced doses of any combination of oral polio vaccine or enhanced inactivated polio vaccine. One dose must have been administered on or after the 4th birthday and at least 6 months after the previous dose was given.

(6) Measles (rubeola), Mumps, Rubella (german measles). Two properly spaced doses of live attenuated vaccine, as the combination vaccine Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) or as Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Varicella (MMRV), according to the routine recommended schedule, or a history of measles, mumps, and rubella immunity proved by serological evidence. The first dose of vaccine must have been given no sooner than 12 months of age, and the second dose at 4-6 years of age, with a minimum interval of 28 days between doses. Immunization with single antigen vaccines for measles, mumps, and rubella is also acceptable, provided two doses of each were administered at appropriate intervals.

(7) Varicella (chickenpox). One of the following:

(i) Two doses of varicella vaccine, administered as the single antigen Varicella (V) or as the combination vaccine Measles, Mumps, Rubella Varicella (MMRV). The first dose of vaccine must have been given no sooner than 12 months of age, and the second dose at 4-6 years of age, with a minimum interval of 3 months between doses.

(ii) A history of chickenpox immunity proved by laboratory testing or a written statement of history of chickenpox disease from a healthcare provider.

(8) Required for School Attendance. The following immunizations, whether administered as single vaccines or as components of US Food and Drug Administration approved combination vaccines, given in compliance with the minimum intervals and schedules required for each component vaccine, are required as a condition for attending school at grade levels 2 through 12:

(1) Diphtheria. Three or more properly spaced doses of diphtheria toxoid, which may be administered as a single antigen vaccine, in combination with tetanus toxoid or in combination with tetanus toxoid and pertussis vaccine.
(2) **Tetanus.** Three or more properly spaced doses of tetanus toxoid, which may be administered as a single-antigen vaccine, in combination with diphtheria toxoid or in combination with diphtheria toxoid and pertussis vaccine.

(3) **Poliomyelitis.** Three or more properly spaced doses of either oral polio vaccine or enhanced inactivated polio vaccine. If a child received any doses of inactivated polio vaccine administered prior to 1988, a fourth dose of inactivated polio vaccine is required.

(4) **Measles (rubeola).** Two properly spaced doses of live attenuated measles vaccine, given as a single-antigen vaccine, or as a combination vaccine Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) or Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Varicella (MMRV), according to the routine recommended schedule, or a history of measles proved by serological evidence. The first dose of vaccine must have been given no sooner than 12 months of age, and the second dose at 4-6 years of age, with a minimum interval of 28 days between doses.

(5) **German measles (rubella).** One dose of live attenuated rubella vaccine administered as a single-antigen vaccine, or as a combination vaccine Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) or Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Varicella (MMRV), or a history of rubella proved by serological evidence.

(6) **Mumps.** One dose of live attenuated mumps vaccine, administered as a single-antigen vaccine, or as a combination vaccine Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) or Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Varicella (MMRV), or a history of mumps proved by serological evidence, or a physician’s diagnosis of mumps disease indicated by a written record signed by the physician or the physician’s designee.

(7) **Varicella (chickenpox).** One of the following:

(i) One dose of varicella vaccine, administered at 12 months of age or older.

(ii) A history of chickenpox immunity proved by laboratory testing or a written statement of history of chickenpox disease from a healthcare provider or parent.
(eb) Required for School Entry into Sixth Seventh Grade. In addition to the requirements listed as a condition of attending school at grade levels 2 Kindergarten through 12, the following immunizations, whether administered as single vaccines or as components of U.S. Food and Drug Administration-approved combination vaccines, given in compliance with the minimum intervals and schedules required, are required for entry at the sixth seventh grade level:

(1) Meningococcal. One dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine quadrivalent (MCV4).

(2) Pertussis, tetanus, diphtheria. One dose of pertussis vaccine administered in combination with tetanus and diphtheria toxoids (Tdap). This dose must have been administered on or after the 10th birthday. Students having received a Td-containing vaccine within two years prior to entering sixth-grade should not receive the booster dose of Tdap until two years have elapsed. Students who are not eligible to receive Tdap on this basis shall not be denied entry to 6th grade, but must receive the booster dose of Tdap when this two-year period has elapsed.

(3) Varicella (chickenpox). One of the following:

(i) Two doses of varicella vaccine, administered as the single antigen Varicella (V) or as the combination vaccine Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Varicella (MMRV). The first dose of vaccine must have been given no sooner than 12 months of age, and the second dose prior to entry to 6th grade, with a minimum interval of 3 months between doses, provided, however, that if the first dose is administered at the time of entry to 6th grade, the child shall not be denied entry to school, but shall receive the second dose after expiration of the minimum interval.

(ii) A history of chickenpox immunity proved by laboratory testing or a written statement of history of chickenpox disease from a healthcare provider or parent.

(c) Required for School Entry into Twelfth Grade. In addition to the requirements listed as a condition of attending school at grade levels Kindergarten through 12, the following
immunizations, whether administered as single vaccines or as components of U.S. Food and Drug Administration-approved combination vaccines, given in compliance with the minimum intervals and schedules, are required for entry at the twelfth grade level:

(1) *Meningococcal*. Two doses of meningococcal conjugate vaccine quadrivalent (MCV4). If the first dose of MCV4 was given at 16 years of age or older, the second dose is not required for entry onto 12th grade.

(2) *Pertussis, tetanus, diphtheria*. One dose of pertussis vaccine administered in combination with tetanus and diphtheria toxoids (Tdap). This dose must have been administered on or after the 10th birthday.

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