A <u>new immunization law</u> requires all students entering 7th through 12th grades in the 2011-2012 school year in California to be immunized with a pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine booster called Tdap.

Pertussis is a very contagious respiratory disease that can be severe and last for months. The immunity received from either early childhood immunization of pertussis disease wears off over time, leaving older students and adults susceptible again to pertussis. Immunization with Tdap can protect students, schools and communities against this disease.

The new law requirement affects all students – current, new, and transfers – in public and private schools. The vaccine is readily available through your child's Doctor or local health clinics.

Verification of a Tdap booster must be obtained by October 7, 2011. Students who have not received the vaccine will not be allowed to attend school after this date.

** If immunization is against your religious or personal beliefs, you may request an exemption for your child. A waiver form is available and must be signed. You may contact Ric Dahlin, Cucamonga School District, at 909 987-8942 x8231 to request the waiver form.