

JAMES M. HARRELL
Superintendent



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Gateway Unified School District

Providing Excellence in Learning: Every Student, Every Day

4411 Mountain Lakes Blvd. ■ Redding, CA 96003 ■ (530) 245-7900 ■ (530) 245-7920
www.gateway-schools.org

April 27, 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Starting January 1, 2016, parents or guardians of students in any school or child-care facility, whether public or private, will no longer be allowed to submit a personal or religious beliefs exemption to a currently-required vaccine. Personal beliefs exemptions on file for a child already attending school or child care facility will remain valid until the immunization checkpoint at Transitional Kindergarten, Kindergarten or 7th grade. For instance, if you have a child now in the 6th grade with a personal exemption, they will now be required to have their first series of immunizations before entering the 7th grade.

Gateway Unified School District has always respected parent’s rights to exempt their children from immunizations based on personal or religious reasons, however Senate Bill (SB) 277 law now states the only exemption that can occur is a medical exemption. Medical exemptions will be accepted by a M.D. or D.O. that specifically state the following: “That the physical condition or medical circumstances of the child are such that the required immunization(s) is not indicated. Which vaccines are exempt? Whether the medical exemption is permanent or temporary, and the expiration date, if the exemption is temporary.”

For more information about SB277, please visit www.shotsforschool.org or contact our district nurse, Dani Byrum at 275-7020. SB277 information will also be available in the main office at all school sites. School sites will also be calling parents to inform them of these changes.

Please check with your child’s doctor to see if they are up-to-date on their immunizations during the summer so they will be ready for school this August.

Respectfully,

James M. Harrell
Superintendent

**BUCKEYE SCHOOL
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3407 Hiatt Drive
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(530) 225-0420

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(530) 275-7000

**SHASTA LAKE
SCHOOL**
4620 Vallecito Street
Shasta Lake, CA
96019
(530) 275-7020