

## ***Illness***

If your child has a fever or is vomiting, please keep him/her at home. If you are in doubt as to your child's fitness to return to school, contact your family physician or your student's health office. A doctor's note may be required if a student has been ill and absent for more than three days.

If your child becomes ill or injured during the school day, he/she will be sent to the office for minor first aid. Cuts and abrasions are cleaned with mild soap and water and a sterile dressing or Band-Aid applied. If the illness or injury warrants, you will be called to come and pick up your child. Children under the age of 16 or those who cannot transport themselves should be picked up within 30 minutes of being called and are never sent home unless there is supervision for the child. Please make sure your child's emergency card has at least three back-up emergency numbers of nearby relatives, neighbors, or friends whom we can contact in the event we cannot reach you.

If your child is tired, has a headache or just doesn't feel well, please send him/her to school. School staff will contact you if your child is too ill to remain at school.

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## ***Injuries***

It is the policy of TUSD to notify parents if their child is injured during the school day unless it is an apparent minor injury. Please be sure your child's emergency information card is current with back-up phone numbers listed. Many times children hurt themselves during the school day and do not report their injury to school staff. Parents are requested as soon as practicable to contact the school office and advise us as to the nature and extent of any injury.

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## ***Home and Hospital Instruction***

The Home and Hospital Instruction Program serves students who incur a temporary disability which makes attendance in the regular classes or alternative education program impossible or inadvisable. This instruction applies to students incurring a physical, mental or emotional disability after which they can reasonably expect to return to regular day classes or an alternative program without special intervention. This is a service, not a school placement. If a student becomes temporarily disabled, it is the parent/guardian's responsibility to notify the district of the student's current temporary disability. The TUSD Request for Home and Hospital Instruction form, completed by the parent and physician, must be submitted to the site principal for consideration of such instruction. Students attending TUSD schools on an interdistrict transfer will be returned to their home district if they require Home Hospital services to more readily serve and meet the student's educational needs. [E.C. 48206.3 and 48980(b), AR 6183]

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## ***Hospitals Outside of School District***

If, due to a temporary disability, your child is in a hospital or other residential health facility which is located outside TUSD, he/she may be eligible to attend the school district in which the hospital is located. If this situation should arise, you should notify both the district where you reside and the district where the hospital is located so that individualized instruction, if possible, can be provided.

[E.C. Section 48207, 78208, AR 6183]

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## ***Physical Education - Medical Excuse***

Due to an illness or injury, a student may be excused from specific activities inhibited by that illness or injury. If a student is excused in grades 7 – 12 at TMS or THS, he/she will dress out and participate in a modified activity or complete a reading/writing assignment on a related activity. If excused from participating in a fitness test, he/she must make the test up at another date.

If the illness or injury is serious enough to last beyond three days, a note from a physician/chiropractor/nurse practitioner is required specifying what physical modifications are needed and the duration that the modifications should take place.

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## ***HEALTH AND WELLNESS***

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### ***Wellness Policy***

Templeton Unified School District recognizes the link between student health and learning, and has developed a Wellness Policy for the District to promote student health through nutrition education, nutrition guidelines, and physical activity. The District is committed to providing a school environment that promotes and protects children's health, wellbeing, and ability to learn by supporting healthy eating and physical activities through the District's health and wellness policies. This includes replacing certain foods with others that have been prepared without the use of trans fats or are lower in sugar and calories than previously served foods. In addition, sweetened, carbonated beverages are no longer sold on any District campuses. Parents are encouraged to support the District's efforts and to consider healthy alternatives when packing their child's lunch. When planning school/student parties, food provided for students shall be pre-approved by the classroom teacher, must be store bought and include an ingredient label. Class parties shall be on a limited basis and at the discretion of the teacher to be held after the lunch period. District staff reserves the right to curtail food access in school facilities due to allergies of students. For information on the District's Wellness Committee meeting schedule, see the District's main web page.

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### ***Confidential Medical Services***

According to the Education Code, school authorities may excuse any student in grades 7 - 12 from school for the purpose of obtaining confidential medical services without the consent of the student's parent or guardian. School districts are permitted to grant such excuses, but are not required to do so. [E.C. 46010.1, TUSD BP 5113]

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### ***Dietary Supplements***

In an effort to keep the schools free from dietary supplements, because of the adverse effects caused by misuse, these substances are banned. Students who possess these items will have them confiscated and the student in possession will be suspended. This includes, but is not limited to, weight gain, muscle building, and weight loss supplements.

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## ***Immunizations***

Official documentation showing the student is up-to-date on immunizations is required before they may attend school. Under SB 277, beginning January 1, 2016, exemptions based on personal beliefs, including religious beliefs, are no longer an option for immunizations that are currently required for entry into school in California. Personal beliefs exemptions on file before January 1, 2016 for a child already attending school remain valid until the child reaches the next immunization checkpoint at 7th grade. Some very limited medical exemptions are allowed. As of January 1, 2021, medical exemptions will only be granted through the CDPH CAIR Medical Exemption Site in conjunction with your child's pediatrician.

Additional information regarding required immunizations can be found at [www.shotsforschool.org](http://www.shotsforschool.org). The County Public Health Department and your student's physician can also provide information regarding required immunizations. Your student may qualify for "conditional admittance" if your student is in the process of their immunization schedule, but immunizations must be given within the timed intervals determined by the California Department of Public Health. Failure to provide documentation of these immunizations on the due date will result in exclusion from school until the requirements are met. If you have any further questions, please contact the TUSD Health Office at your child's school.

In today's society, students are more prone to contracting measles, whooping cough, TB, Varicella or Hepatitis B. If your child has a personal beliefs exemption or a medical exemption and is not up-to-date on the required immunizations, if an outbreak of a communicable disease occurs in the school district, the non-immunized student will be excluded for their own safety until such time as directed by the County Public Health Officer in conjunction with the TUSD District Administration. [Health and Safety Code section 120335, TUSD BP/AR 5141.31]

If your child does not meet the immunization requirements for school and does not have a personal beliefs exemption or medical exemption on file, the only option available is to attend home school (K-8) without classroom instruction (including field trips and extracurricular activities). For more information regarding this option, please contact the TUSD Alternative Ed office at (805) 434-5833. [Health and Safety Code Section 120335, TUSD BP/AR 5141.31]

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## ***Indoor Air Quality***

Indoor air quality can negatively affect students and staff who suffer from allergies and other health concerns. We ask that students and staff refrain from bringing common irritants, such as furred or feathered animals, stuffed toys that may collect dust mites, scented candles, incense, or air fresheners and from using perfumes or cologne, scented lotion or hair spray, nail polish or nail polish remover, or other personal care products that are not fragrance-free in classrooms or other enclosed areas or buildings. [TUSD AR 3514]

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## ***Kindergarten and First Grade Physical Exam***

State law requires that, upon enrolling a child in first grade, the parent must present a certificate, signed by a physician, verifying that the child has received a physical examination within the last 18 months prior to entry into first grade or within 90 days thereafter. If your child does not receive this exam, you must file a waiver on a

form developed by DHCS with the school district stating the reasons you are unable to obtain such service. Your child may be sent home if you fail to provide the certificate or waiver. These services may be available to you at no cost through the Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP). For additional information, you may contact the County Health Department (Paso Robles – 805-237-3050). [Health and Safety Code Sections 323.5, 324.2, 324.3; Sec. 48211, 49450, TUSD AR 5141.32]

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## ***Mandated Reporters***

All District staff members (teachers, bus drivers, yard duty aides, etc.) are required reporters for any suspected child abuse or neglect. Mandated reporters shall make a report whenever, in his/her professional capacity or within the scope of his/her employment, he/she has knowledge of or observes a child whom the mandated reporter knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse or neglect. Staff are encouraged to err on the side of caution by reporting any suspicious incident to Child Welfare Services. (Penal Code 11166)

Any mandated reporter who has knowledge of or who reasonably suspects that a child is suffering serious emotional damage or is at a substantial risk of suffering serious emotional damage, based on evidence of severe anxiety, depression, withdrawal, or untoward aggressive behavior toward self or others, shall make a report to the appropriate agency. (Penal Code 11166.05, 11167)

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## ***Medical Insurance***

The District does not provide or make available medical and hospital care or insurance for students who are injured while participating in physical or athletic activities or practice. Literature offering student insurance is provided at the beginning of the school year and it is up to the parent/guardian whether they wish to purchase such insurance. [E.C. 49470, 49471, 47472, 47473, 48980, TUSD BP 5143]

## ***Covered California***

Through Covered California, a program from the state of California, qualified legal residents of California and their families can compare health insurance plans and enroll in the one that works best for their needs and budget. Financial assistance is available to qualifying individuals and families to help them pay health insurance premiums. This means the federal government may pay a portion of the health insurance premium. Individuals and families may also qualify for Medi-Cal benefits. Visit [CoveredCA.com](http://CoveredCA.com) to learn more, compare health insurance plans, choose the one that best fits your needs and enroll online. For free, confidential, in-person help, visit <http://www.CoveredCA.com/get-help/local> or call (800) 300-1506 or Sacramento Covered at (916) 414-8333.

The open-enrollment period to enroll in Covered California health insurance plans happens once a year. Once the open-enrollment period closes, you may enroll in a Covered California health plan only if you have a qualifying life event that makes you eligible to apply. Some examples of qualifying life events are: losing your health coverage, getting married, moving outside your plan's coverage area, having a baby and turning 26. To see if you qualify, visit [www.coveredca.com/individuals-and-families/getting-covered/special-enrollment](http://www.coveredca.com/individuals-and-families/getting-covered/special-enrollment). To

enroll during this time, you must apply within 60 days to your qualifying life event. For more information and to find free, confidential, in-person help in your area, visit [www.CoveredCA.com/get-help/local](http://www.CoveredCA.com/get-help/local) or call (800) 300-1506 or Sacramento Covered at (916) 414-8333.

Undocumented and non-citizen or permanent-resident parents should not fear that applying on behalf of their children or dependents, who may be eligible for health coverage, will result in deportation or other immigration-related actions. For more clarification, read the Immigrations and Customs Enforcement memo on health enrollment and immigration at [www.ice.gov/doclib/ero-outreach/pdf/ice-aca-memo.pdf](http://www.ice.gov/doclib/ero-outreach/pdf/ice-aca-memo.pdf) in English and [www.ice.gov/espanol/factsheets/aca-memoSP](http://www.ice.gov/espanol/factsheets/aca-memoSP) in Spanish.

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## **Medication**

In most instances the parent is encouraged, with the help of a family physician, to work out a schedule of administering medication outside of school hours. If medication must be taken during the school day, including prescription and over-the-counter medication, such as Tylenol, it is necessary to secure a written statement from the student's physician detailing the method, amount and time schedules by which such medication is to be taken. The current Approval to Administer Medication form is available in all school offices and must be signed by the parent/guardian and completed by the student's physician and completed annually. The Approval to Administer Medication authorization is valid for the current school year only and ongoing medication regimens must be re-submitted each year and if changes occur to the medication order during the school year. All prescription medication, including routine PRN (as needed), short-term and emergency medications, must be in a container from the pharmacy clearly labeled with the student's name, medication name, physician's name, dosage amount, time(s) to be given, route and expiration date. A student may be assisted by the school nurse or other designated school personnel, if necessary. [E.C. Sections 49423 and 49480]

Parents/guardians are responsible for supplying the school with all medication(s) your child must take during the school day. Medication must be brought to school by a parent, relative or guardian. All medications must be counted with a school staff member and documented upon arrival at the school. Exemptions are the following emergency medications that may be carried in backpacks with a current physician's order on file with the health office: Glucagon, EpiPen, Asthma Inhalers and Diastat. When filling out field trip forms, you must indicate if your child will require medication while on the field trip.

It is required that you notify a district designee, school site office, or school nurse if your child is on a continuing medication regimen for a non-episodic condition with the medication name, dosage, and supervising physician. [E.C. Section 49480, TUSD BP/AR 5141.21]

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## **Oral Health Assessment**

To ensure your child is ready for school, California law 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. If your child does not receive this exam, you must file a waiver with the school district stating the reason you are unable to obtain this exam. If you do not have a regular dentist, contact the County Oral Health Program at (805) 781-5503 for assistance and referral. [E.C. 49452.8]

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## ***Pregnant and Parenting Students***

Pregnant and parenting students shall retain the right to participate in the regular education or educational alternative program. The classroom setting shall be the preferred instructional strategy unless an alternative is necessary to meet the needs of the student and/or the student's child.

Any alternative education program, activity, or course that is offered separately to pregnant or parenting students, including any class or extracurricular activity, shall be equal to that offered to other district students. A student's participation in such programs shall be voluntary. (Education Code 221.51; 5 CCR 4950)

If required for students with any other temporary disabling condition, the Superintendent or designee may require a student, based on pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or related recovery, to obtain certification from a physician or nurse practitioner indicating that the student is physically and emotionally able to continue participation in the regular education program or activity. (Education Code 221.51; 5 CCR 4950; 34 CFR 106.40)

To the extent feasible, the district shall provide educational and related support services, either directly or in collaboration with community agencies and organizations, to meet the needs of pregnant and parenting students and their children. Such services may include, but are not limited to:

1. Child care and development services for the children of parenting students on or near school site(s) during the school day and during school-sponsored activities
2. Parenting education and life skills instruction
3. Special school nutrition supplements for pregnant and lactating students pursuant to Education Code 49553, 42 USC 1786, and 7 CFR 246.1-246.28
4. Health care services, including prenatal care
5. Tobacco, alcohol, and/or drug prevention and intervention services
6. Academic and personal counseling
7. Supplemental instruction to assist students in achieving grade-level academic standards and progressing toward graduation

Pregnant or parenting students may be excused for absences for medical appointments and other purposes specified in BP/AR 5113 - Absences and Excuses.

A student shall be excused for absences to care for a sick child for whom the student is the custodial parent. A note from a physician shall not be required for such an absence. (Education Code 48205)

A pregnant or parenting student shall be entitled to eight weeks of parental leave in order to protect the health of the student who gives or expects to give birth and the infant, and to allow the pregnant or parenting student to care for and bond with the infant. Such leave may be taken before the birth of the student's infant if there is a medical necessity and after childbirth during the school year in which the birth takes place, inclusive of any mandatory summer instruction. The Superintendent or designee may grant parental leave beyond eight weeks if deemed medically necessary by the student's physician. When a student takes parental leave, the attendance supervisor shall ensure that absences from the regular school program are excused until the student is able to return to the regular school program or an alternative education program. A pregnant or parenting student shall not be required to complete academic work or other school requirements during the period of the parental leave. (Education Code 46015)

Any complaint alleging discrimination on the basis of pregnancy or marital or parental status, district noncompliance with the requirements of Education Code 46015, or district noncompliance with the requirement to provide reasonable accommodations for lactating students shall be addressed through the district's uniform complaint procedures in accordance with 5 CCR 4600-4687 and BP/AR 1312.3 – Uniform Complaint Procedures. [BP 5146]

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### ***Physical Examinations***

During school hours or at school-sponsored events, students may become sick or injured. When this occurs, school staff, including a school nurse or certified athletic trainer, may carry out a limited physical examination. Examples include: listening to lungs, palpating an affected area of the body, doing a simple neurological check, taking a temperature or checking a scalp for lice. A parent or guardian having control or charge of any child enrolled in the public schools may file annually with the principal of the school in which the child is enrolled a statement in writing, signed by the parent or guardian, stating that the parent will not consent to a physical examination of the child. Thereupon the child shall be exempt from any physical examination, but whenever there is a good reason to believe that the child is suffering from a recognized contagious or infectious disease, the child shall be sent home and shall not be permitted to return to school until the school authorities are satisfied that any contagious or infectious disease does not exist. [E.C. Section 49451, BP 5141.3]

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### ***Resuscitation Orders***

The Board believes that staff members should not be placed in the position of determining whether or not to follow any parental or medical “do not resuscitate” orders. Staff shall not accept or follow any such orders unless they have been informed by the Superintendent or designee that the request to accept such an order has been submitted to the Superintendent or designee, signed by the parent/guardian, and supported by a written statement from the student's physician and an order from an appropriate court.

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### ***Scoliosis Screening (Curvature of the Spine)***

Seventh grade girls and eighth grade boys may be screened annually for scoliosis (curvature of the spine). The parent/guardian will be notified in advance of the screening. The parent/guardian may submit in writing to the child's specific school site or the district office a denial of consent for any or all screenings. The parent/guardian of any student suspected of having scoliosis shall receive a notice which includes an explanation of scoliosis and describes the significance of treatment at an early age. This notice shall also describe the public services available for treatment and include a referral to appropriate community resources. [E.C. Section 49452.5 E.C. Section 35183.5]

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### ***Sun Protective Clothing***

Students, when outdoors, can wear sun protective clothing including, but not limited to, hats. Students may also apply sunscreen during the day without a doctor's note or prescription. [E.C. Section 35183.5]

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## ***Vision, Hearing, and Dental Screening***

Vision, hearing, and dental screenings will be done at various grade levels from preschool through 12th grade. Screenings will be done by a qualified credentialed school nurse or outside health care provider such as a volunteer optometrist or dentist. These screenings do not take the place of a complete examination by an outside health care professional. However, they can provide basic indications of deficits that may impact your student's ability to be successful in school. The parent/guardian may submit in writing to your child's school site or the district office a denial of consent for any and all screenings. If your student has deficits in hearing or vision, be sure to communicate this information to your student's teacher or the school's health office. [E.C. Section 49452]

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## ***Special Dietary Accommodations***

Students who wish to participate in the school meal program but have food allergies or dietary restrictions conflicting with the published cafeteria menu must submit the Medical Statement to Request Special Meals and/or Accommodations for Child Nutrition Programs form to their school site nurse, available at your school site office or the TUSD Food Service website. Meal accommodations will only be made for those students with this form on file. Parents who have submitted the form in prior school years do not need to submit a new one, however, please inform your site nurse if your student has outgrown an allergy or no longer requires any dietary accommodations.

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## ***Parent Volunteers***

Volunteers are an integral part of the classroom program. Site administration reserves the right to determine the volunteer location at their site. If you would like to volunteer at your student's school, please contact the school site directly. Parents are encouraged to chaperone field trips and other school activities. Parents are also welcome to attend any school assemblies or programs. To provide for the safety of students, all volunteers must adhere to the following requirements:

### ***Confidentiality***

Students, employees, and parents/guardians have the reasonable right and expectation of privacy. In your capacity as a volunteer you may have access to information related to students, parents/guardians, employees or Board members. This information includes any personally identifiable data, information, and records collected, used, known, or kept by the District about a student whether in writing or verbally. Such information is NOT public information and shall be kept confidential.

### ***Identification Badges***

Volunteers must wear identification badges and sign in daily while volunteering. A visitor's sticker must be obtained at the school office prior to going to a classroom.

### ***Tuberculosis Testing***

Adults will not be allowed to volunteer until they are able to provide a current TB clearance certificate from a district nurse, a doctor or county health department. Volunteers can pick up an authorization at the District Office for a district-paid TB test. No other tests, payments or reimbursements will be provided. The

Superintendent or designee may be exempt from tuberculosis testing requirements and/or examination of those volunteers whose functions do not require frequent or prolonged contact with students. (Education Code 49406)

***Fingerprinting***

If volunteer duties require the adult to be alone with students (e.g., driving on a field trip, coaching, etc.), a Department of Justice (DOJ) fingerprint clearance is required. Such fingerprint clearance is conducted by the County Office of Education and paid for by the District. Volunteers may obtain an authorization form at the District Office. The fingerprint check by the Department of Justice looks for the same things employees are checked for – convictions for drug crimes, sexual crimes, or violent felonies. Fingerprint clearance shall be used by the district to exclude a volunteer only if it indicates convictions for any offense which could endanger children including, but not limited to, child abuse related offenses. Any fingerprint clearance indicating violations will be delivered directly to the Human Resources Coordinator, who will keep all results absolutely confidential.

***For more information, see the complete [2023/24 Student Handbook & Annual Notice to Parents](#).***