

[EXT] Dental examination requirement

Mary Lynn Salazar <mlynn12@me.com>

Mon 5/11/2020 12:20 PM

To:FeedBack, Rule, PED <Rule.FeedBack@state.nm.us>;

I understand this is crucial to student's health, but could we first tighten up the requirements for entering school without immunizations? We currently have two directives that counter each other. One says we enroll students no matter what. We do not deny them an education. If they do not have immunizations they can provide proof of having an appointment to acquire them and still be admitted to school. They can get a note from their religious organization exempting them from immunizations. Another rule says we are not to enroll them without immunizations. As educators we run the risk of bringing home chicken pox, mumps, and all the others to our immune suppressed family members despite us being immunized ourselves. For example: I carry strep. I have never had strep throat in my life, but every time one of my students has it my husband gets it. This happens despite the fact that I change clothes as soon as I get home. In light of our current circumstances it would make more sense to work on tightening up this loop hole to enforce the rules and laws we already have rather than invent new ones.

What is the PED putting in place to ensure that when a vaccine for COVID-19 comes out students and educators are properly protected?

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Mary Lynn Salazar

[EXT] 6.12.13 NMAC, Student Dental Examination Requirements for Enrollment,

Jennifer Brown <jbrowndms@bacavalley.com>

Fri 5/22/2020 9:05 PM

To:FeedBack, Rule, PED <Rule.FeedBack@state.nm.us>;

6.12.13 NMAC, Student Dental Examination Requirements for Enrollment,

This rule would be very burdensome for parents in rural regions where dental is not available. Even when we do have a dentist within an hour drive, they may not provide child services. With the COVID-19 shut down, it will be even harder for families to comply with this rule. Do we require that children have visited a regular doctor every year? Why would we require this? While I agree that a dental checkup is essential to health, I disagree that this should be a requirement for students entering school.

Jennifer Brown

Concerned parent and educator