

News Release: PARENTS & CAREGIVERS: IMMUNIZE YOUR CHILD TODAY!

October 8, 2014

For Immediate Release

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UPPER MARLBORO, MD – Parents and Caregivers are responsible for ensuring that their children are in compliance with the State of Maryland's immunization requirements.

For the 2014-2015 school year, students enrolled in or entering **Kindergarten** must receive two (2) doses of the Chickenpox vaccine, which is also known as the Varicella vaccine.

Students enrolled in or entering **Grade 7** are required to receive a single dose of the Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis) vaccine and a single dose of the Meningococcal (Meningitis) vaccine.

All students in grades Pre-K – 12, are required to be immunized according to the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene immunization schedule that parents, caregivers and medical providers can access **here**.

(http://phpa.dhmh.maryland.gov/OIDEOR/IMMUN/Shared%20Documents/Vaccine-Requirements_School-Year_2014-2015.pdf)

Parents and caregivers have until Friday, October 31, 2014 to present medical verification that their child has received the required vaccinations to their school nurse.

If documentation is not presented by Friday, October 31, 2014, non-compliant students will **not** be permitted to attend school utilizing State Attendance Code A17-Health Exclusion.

If you have any further questions about immunization requirements for your child, please contact your child's pediatrician, the School Nurse at your child's school or the PGCPs Office of School Health Policy, Services and Innovation at 301-749-4722.

If your child does not have health insurance please contact the Prince George's County Health Department at **1-888-561-4049** ([file://localhost/tel/1-888-561-4049](tel://localhost/tel/1-888-561-4049)) to obtain additional information regarding immunizations.

Additionally, area pharmacies and store clinics are offering immunizations that maybe covered by health insurance, offered at full price or on a sliding scale.

There will be **FREE STUDENT IMMUNIZATIONS** offered at the following locations:

Prince George's County Health Department: Monday, October 6 – Thursday, October 30, 2014, from 4 – 7 pm at the **Cheverly Health Center**: 3003 Hospital Drive, Suite 3048, Cheverly, Maryland 20785.

Prince George's County Public Schools: Saturday, October 18, 2014 from 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. at

Northwestern High School: 7000 Adelphi Rd, Hyattsville, MD 20782

Oxon Hill High School: 6701 Leyte Dr, Oxon Hill, MD 20745

Crossland High School (Student Immunizations and Flu Clinic): 6901 Temple Hill Rd, Temple Hills, MD 20748

Please bring a copy of your child's immunization record as well as any immunization requirement documentation provided by your Principal and School Nurse.

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Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS), one of the nation's 20th largest school districts, has 201 schools and centers, more than 133,000 students and nearly 20,000 employees. The school system serves a diverse student population from urban, suburban and rural communities located in the Washington, DC suburbs. PGCPS is nationally recognized for college and career-readiness programs that provide students with unique learning opportunities, including dual enrollment and language immersion.

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