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## News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### Back-to-School Immunizations

*- Get them now, get them early -*

**Fort Myers, FL** – School starts soon and in order to attend, all students must be current on their immunizations. The requirements have changed so parents need to check and verify their child is up-to-date on his/her immunizations.

Any student who will be new to the Lee County school system must verify they have received all the required immunizations. For students entering kindergarten and first grade a second vaccine for chicken pox (varicella) will now be required. Also, for students entering seventh grade they now need a tetanus booster (T-dap). Parents should also make sure their college-bound teenagers are up-to-date with required and recommended vaccines. If your child needs updated immunizations, get them soon since school starts August 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Students who do not have the required immunizations will be sent home from public schools on the first day, August 24<sup>th</sup>.** In addition, they will not be able to ride the bus or participate in sports, band or other extracurricular activities until the school has the DH 680 form showing that the shots were received.

These vaccinations can be gotten at the Lee County Health Department free of charge and are being given at two locations in Lee County.

#### **2009-10 Florida Immunization Requirements for School Attendance:**

##### **Kindergarten and Grades 1 – 6**

5 DTPs (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (Whooping Cough) (DTaP) vaccine

4 Polio

2 MMRs (2 Measles, 2 Mumps and 2 Rubella)

3 Hepatitis B

1 Varicella (chicken pox) **for Grades 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6**

**2 Varicella** (chicken pox) **Kindergarten and Grade 1**

**-MORE-**



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**2009-10 Florida Immunization Requirements for School Attendance:**

**Grades 7 – 12**

5 DTPs (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (Whooping Cough)

4 Polio

2 MMRs (2 Measles, 2 Mumps and 2 Rubella)

3 Hepatitis B

**1 Tdap** (Tetanus Diphtheria) **(grade 7)**

1 Tdap or Td (grades 8-12)

1 Varicella (chicken pox) for **Grades 7-8 students only**

3920 Michigan Ave location: walk-ins welcome from 7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

83 Pondella Rd location: appointment needed but same day service from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

For more information, please contact the Lee County Health Department's Office of Immunizations at 239-332-9601.

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