

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 4, 2011

Get 'um while they're NOT hot! *Back-to-school immunizations available at the health district*

LAS VEGAS – The Southern Nevada Health District is urging parents and guardians to skip the back-to-school rush for immunizations. Immunizations are available at public health centers year round and the current demand and wait time is low. In addition to the health district public health centers, community clinics are being offered at various locations throughout the valley. The health district's immunization hotline is updated each week with current location information. To access the hotline call (702) 759-0850 and select option 5 after selecting your language preference. Clinic location information is also available on the health district website at: <u>www.SNHD.info</u>.

Families new to the Clark County School District should note that Nevada requires children to be immunized for chicken pox and hepatitis A – immunizations that are not required in every state. Parents must provide immunization records for each child at the time vaccines are being administered. Children with no records will have to begin the immunization sequence from the beginning. Non-custodial adults may accompany a child, however, written consent must be provided to the health district from the parent or guardian at the time of service. An administrative fee of \$16 per patient for one immunization or \$25 per patient for two or more immunizations will be collected. Some vaccines may require an additional fee.

The Clark County School District requires the following vaccinations for students enrolling in public or private school: chickenpox (varicella); hepatitis A; hepatitis B; polio; tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis (Tdap); and measles-mumps-rubella (MMR).

All children entering the Clark County School District for the first time are now required to have a second dose of the chickenpox vaccine and a fourth dose of polio vaccine. If the fourth dose of polio vaccine is given BEFORE the child's fourth birthday, it is invalid for school admission.

Children entering seventh grade must be immunized against Bordetella pertussis. The health district provides the Tdap (tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis) vaccine to meet the mandate. College freshmen younger than 24 years old who will live in on-campus housing at a Nevada college or university are required to receive the Neisseria meningiditis (Meningococcus) vaccine.

The Southern Nevada Health District also offers immunizations for teens and adults, travelers' immunizations, flu shots, and a workplace vaccination program.

Updated information about the Southern Nevada Health District can be found on Facebook <u>www.facebook.com/SouthernNevadaHealthDistrict</u>, on YouTube <u>www.youtube.com/SNHealthDistrict</u> or Twitter : <u>www.twitter.com/SNHDinfo</u>.

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