

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Rick Scott
Governor

John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS
State Surgeon General & Secretary

Vision: To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE FREE VACCINATIONS AT AREA SCHOOLS

Vaccination outreach will help ensure sixth-graders have required shots to enter seventh grade

Ocala—The Florida Department of Health in Marion County is partnering with Marion County public and private schools to hold free vaccination clinics at area schools.

The free vaccinations are for students who will enter the seventh grade in the upcoming 2015-2016 school year.

“We want to give parents every opportunity to ensure their children have the required vaccinations so they can start seventh grade on time this August,” said Mike Napier, acting health officer at the Florida Department of Health in Marion County. “Vaccinating your child is good for them so they don’t get sick, good for you as a parent so that you don’t miss work for a sick child, and good for everyone in the community because they won’t be exposed to contagious illnesses.”

“When your child is immunized, you ensure his or her safety to enter the classroom in a healthy manner, ready to learn,” says Superintendent of Schools George Tomyn. “This means on the first day of school, your child should be ready to enter class fully prepared to experience seventh grade.”

Department Immunizations and School Health staff will provide required vaccinations, including:

- Tetanus diphtheria and acellular pertussis booster, or Tdap
- Hepatitis B
- Polio
- Measles, mumps and rubella, or MMR
- Varicella

The following schools are scheduled:

March 10—Blessed Trinity Catholic School
 March 18—Dunnellon Middle School
 March 19—Bellevue Middle School
 March 25—Fort King Middle School
 April 8—Osceola Middle School
 April 9—Meadowbrook Christian School
 April 10—Fort McCoy School

May 12—Horizon Academy at Marion Oaks
 May 13—North Marion Middle School
 May 14—Lake Weir Middle School
 May 20—Liberty Middle School
 May 21—Howard Middle School
 July 23—Lake Weir Middle School

All vaccines are free. Parents or guardians need to be present to give consent for children to receive the vaccines.

For information on school immunization outreaches, call Mary Anne Jackson at 352-629-0137, ext. 2017.

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