

FREE BACK-TO-SCHOOL IMMUNIZATIONS

PUSD to partner with Glendale Fire Department to get kids ready for school

WHO: Elementary and high school students

WHAT: Glendale Firefighters will administer free immunizations

WHEN: Saturday, Aug. 13 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

WHERE: Cactus High School, 6330 W. Greenway Road, Glendale.

GLENDALE, Ariz. – July 27, 2011 The Peoria Unified School District (PUSD) and the Glendale Fire Department will host a free immunization clinic from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 13 in the cafeteria at Cactus High School, 6330 W. Greenway Road, Glendale.

In partnership with the Maricopa County Health Department, the Glendale Fire Department will provide free immunizations for students attending school in the Peoria Unified School District this year. School nurses will be on hand to answer immunization questions and assist families in determining what their child needs. The Glendale Fire Department recommends that children come to the clinic after eating a good meal and that the parents bring their children's immunization records. Appointments are not necessary.

Arizona State Law requires that a child, upon entering school, have a record of immunizations against preventable childhood diseases as listed below:

- Preschool students must be current with the DTap/DTP/DT, Polio, MMR, Hepatitis B, and Varicella (Chicken pox) vaccines. They must also be current with Hepatitis A and Hib immunizations.
- Kindergarten students must have 4-5 doses of DTap/DTP/DT, 4 doses of Polio (IPV), 2 doses of MMR, 3 doses of Hepatitis B and 1 dose of Varicella (Chicken Pox) vaccines.
- 6th, 7th, or 8th grade students or students who are 11 years or older are required to have the above immunizations (incoming kindergarten) and also one dose of the Meningococcal Vaccine (MV), two doses of the Varicella vaccine (**if** the first dose was given at age 13 or later) and 1 dose of the Tdap vaccine if 5 or more years have passed since their last DTap/DTP/DT or Td.

“Health and wellness is an important part of back-to-school preparation,” said Cindy Staggs, Peoria Unified School District’s Lead Nurse. “We are thrilled to partner with the Glendale Fire Department in a great community service initiative that will help ensure many of our students are ready for the start of the new school year.”

The Peoria Unified School District, located in the West Valley, serves more than 36,000 students in 32 elementary schools, 7 high schools and one alternative school. With ongoing open enrollment and alternative educational opportunities, the District boasts a 94 percent high school graduation rate. PUSD is the third-largest school district in Arizona and prides itself on excelling schools, award-winning teachers, high AIMS test scores, specialized signature programs and championship sports programs. The Vision of the Peoria Unified School District is “Every student, every day, prepared to meet tomorrow.” For more information, visit the District’s website, www.peoriaud.k12.az.us.

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