

Dear Parent/Guardians of Glen Lake Community Schools students:

This year the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department will be hosting **school-based immunization clinics** for students in grades 7-12 and for adults. 3 clinics will be held throughout the year to provide convenient access to recommended vaccines. The first is scheduled for **Tuesday, November 1 from 1:00-4:30.** Additional immunization clinics will be held on January 10 and May 9. Please read the information below for instructions on how to take advantage of this opportunity.

FOR STUDENTS

1. My child received vaccines before entering 7th grade. Does he/she need more?

YES. As you know, students entering 7th grade are required to be vaccinated against Tdap, Meningococcal disease and varicella (chickenpox). But there are other very important vaccines that are recommended to protect your child from potentially serious illnesses. These include:

- 2 doses of Hepatitis A vaccine, given 6 months apart
- 3 doses of HPV vaccine, given over 6 months
- 1 dose of Meningococcal vaccine given at age 16
- 1 dose of flu vaccine, given annually

2. Why are these vaccines important:

- In August of 2016 there were two outbreaks of Hepatitis A in the United States, one from frozen strawberries and one from scallops. These two outbreaks resulted in 341 infected individuals, 105 of whom were hospitalized.
- 550 cases of meningococcal disease were reported in the US in 2013, and young people between the ages of 16-23 are at higher risk. About 10%-15% of people with meningococcal disease die and many others are left with long term disabilities such as loss of limbs, deafness or brain damage.
- It is estimated that 11,771 new cases of HPV associated cancer are diagnosed in the US each year.
- Each year there are approximately 100 children under age 18 who die from the flu, 40% of these children were healthy prior to getting the flu. In addition, many students miss days of school and important school events (e.g. basketball games, choir concerts, etc) due to illness with the flu.

3. What will the vaccines cost?

There will be no cost to you for the vaccine. If your child has insurance, we will bill your insurance for the vaccines. If your child does not have insurance coverage, we have vaccine available through the Vaccines for Children program.

4. How do I know what vaccines my child needs?

Using MCIR, the health department staff is able to determine which vaccines your child needs. As a parent, you will give permission for all recommended vaccines to be administered, or you may opt out of some vaccines. If you have questions about what vaccines your child needs, please contact your health care provider or the health department at 256-0200.

5. How do I schedule my child to receive the vaccines at the clinic.

Just complete the Consent Form and turn it into the Secondary office by Monday, October 17. Vaccine specific information sheets are available in the Secondary office or can be downloaded from the health department website at www.bldhd.org.

*We will be able to some unexpected students, as long as they come to the clinic with a completed consent form.

6. Do I need to be with my child when he/she receives the vaccine?

No. As long as your child has the signed consent form we can administer the vaccines. We will send your child home with a record of the vaccines he/she received. Of course, you are welcome to accompany your child if you desire.

FOR ADULTS

1. What vaccines are recommended for adults?

Vaccines for adults protect not only the vaccinated adults, but also others who cannot be vaccinated - such as young babies.

- Tdap: Every adult should receive one dose of Tdap to protect against pertussis (whooping cough) as well as Tetanus.
- Flu vaccine: A flu vaccine every year protects against the most serious flu bugs

2. What do the vaccines cost?

We will bill your insurance for the vaccines. If you do not have insurance that covers vaccines, the Tdap can be provided for \$10 and the Flu vaccine is \$30.

3. How do I schedule an appointment at the immunization clinic?

No appointment is needed - you can come to the Laker Space at your convenience on November 1 between 1:00-4:30. However, if you complete the consent form ahead of time and turn it into the secondary office by Monday October 17, you will be pre-registered and it won't take as long to receive your vaccine.

4. What do I need to bring with me to the immunization clinic?

Please bring your insurance card with you. If you do not have insurance and will be paying for the vaccines, we can accept cash or check. The Tdap is \$10 and the flu vaccine is \$30.

5. How long will it take to get my vaccine?

We hope to have no more than a 10 minute wait before your vaccine is administered. We do recommend that individuals wait to leave the area for 15 minutes after receiving the vaccine, however this is not mandatory for adults.

If you have any questions, please contact the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department at 231-256-0200, or email Michelle Klein at mklein@bldhd.org

SCHOOL-BASED IMMUNIZATION CLINIC
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1 1:00-4:30
GLEN LAKE SCHOOL
LAKER SPACE