

News Release

November 20, 2009

Beauregard Parish School Board
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463-5551

H1N1 vaccination to be given in Beauregard schools during December

The Beauregard Parish School Board is working with the Office of Public Health (OPH), Lake Charles Regional Office Strike Force Team to make the H1N1 flu vaccine available to students in Beauregard Parish schools, according to Supervisor Zack Shirley.

“The Central Office and BPSB school nurses are currently making plans in conjunction with the OPH Strike Force Team to begin vaccinations in December,” Shirley explained.

Students will be able to receive the H1N1 vaccination at no cost, but a signed parental consent form will be required for any student to receive the vaccine. The consent form will be sent home with students and must be returned to the school by December 1, 2009.

An H1N1 vaccination information packet will be sent home with students to help answer questions parents may have about the vaccination, according to Shirley.

Students will be given the nasal vaccine unless the child has a health condition that would prohibit taking the nasal form of the vaccine. Once a child has received the vaccine, he/she will be closely monitored for 15 minutes to ensure no adverse reactions. Acadian Ambulance will be on standby for each day of the program, and a deputy from the Sheriff’s Department will be on hand at each site.

The Strike Force Team, school nurses, LPN student nurses from Lamar Salter, and parent volunteers will conduct the program at each school site.

Children nine years of age or younger will need to receive a booster vaccination after 28 days of the initial vaccination. The Strike Force Team will return to the parish to administer the boosters. A second parental consent form will be required for the child to participate. These forms will be sent home through the schools.

The Strike Force Team will be in Beauregard Parish schools the week of December 8th according to the following schedule:

Tuesday, December 8 – South Beauregard High School and South Beauregard Elementary

Wednesday, December 9 – Singer High School

Thursday, December 10 – Merryville High School

Friday, December 11 – East Beauregard Elementary and East Beauregard High School

Saturday, December 12 – at K.R. Hanchey gymnasium for KHR, Carver Elementary, and Pine Wood Elementary students

On Saturday, December 12th, parents will need to provide transportation to K.R. Hanchey Elementary at 611 Frusha Drive in DeRidder between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. for students to receive the vaccine. Parents are reminded that students will need to be observed for 15 minutes after receiving the vaccine, said Shirley.

Students in DeRidder High School, DeRidder Junior High School, Beauregard Alternative School, and Beauregard Career Center will be scheduled to receive the vaccination during January.