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For Immediate Release

MENINGITIS VACCINE REQUIRED FOR SEVENTH GRADERS THIS FALL

Carson City, Nev. (May 2, 2017) — Under a new requirement by the state of Nevada, the meningococcal vaccine (MCV4) will be required for all Nevada seventh graders or new students entering school in grades 7-12. The requirement takes effect beginning July 1, 2017, in time for the 2017-18 school year.

To help students and parents prepare for the new requirements, the **Carson City Health and Human Services** will be available every Thursday from 8:30 -11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:30 p.m., no appointment needed, walk in welcome. They are located at 900 East Long Street in Carson City. You may contact them at 775-887-2190.

Additionally, the **Carson City School Based Health Center** will be available for immunizations every Tuesday and Thursday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 618 West Musser Street (Behind Gleason School) in Carson City. You may contact them at 800-787-2568. For established patients, walk in are welcome. For new patients, please make a new patient appointment.

The MCV4 vaccine prevents infection of the four types of bacteria, which cause the disease: A, C, W and Y. Symptoms of meningitis include headaches, stiff neck, light sensitivity, seizures, a rash, nausea and vomiting. Meningitis is contagious and can strike without warning, even among healthy people.

“Nevada is one of about 40 states requiring it,” said Sheila Story, chief nurse for Carson City School District. “Meningitis is more common in adolescents and young adults, so they should get vaccinated before they get into that age range.”

Story said the first dose of the meningitis vaccine is available for all children after the age of 10 with a follow-up booster dose 5 years later.

Additionally, all students age 23 and younger enrolled as a freshman at Nevada universities will need to provide proof they received the meningitis vaccine on or after their 16 birthday, according to Immunize Nevada.

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ABOUT CCSD

Located in Nevada's capital, CCSD offers public education to approximately 7,600 students in Carson City. The district includes 6 elementary schools, 2 middle schools, 1 alternative high school and 1 comprehensive high school. CCSD boasts many successes including impressive graduation rates, strict safety measures, programs for gifted students and advanced-placement classes, among several others. In a joint venture with Western Nevada College, the CCSD Jump Start College program allows students to complete their senior year of high school and freshman year of college simultaneously.

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