

# Pleasanton Council



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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** **October 1, 2009**

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### **Pleasanton PTA Council says *Let's Fight Flu Together!* with Handwashing Campaign & Flu Shot Clinic**

**Pleasanton, CA** - Pleasanton PTA Council announced new efforts to help keep children healthy and in school -- combining two of the most successful defense methods in combating disease -- effective handwashing and seasonal influenza vaccination. Influenza (flu) season is fast approaching and receiving an annual vaccination is the best defense in preventing this serious disease.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) now recommends that all children from six months through 18 years of age be immunized.\* This is why PTA and the National Association of Elementary School Principals are working with Flu Busters, a leading provider of on-site vaccinations, and Novartis Vaccines, to host a community vaccination clinic.

"PTA is committed to helping keep children, parents, school staff and Pleasanton community members healthy this school season," said Joan Laursen, Pleasanton PTA Council President. "Recognizing the consequences of this disease, we are thrilled to offer our community the convenience of affordable immunizations at one of our school sites."

#### **Where to Receive a Vaccination**

Influenza vaccinations will be administered by a qualified health professional on-site at:

**Fairlands Elementary School, 4151 W. Las Positas Blvd, Pleasanton.  
October 29th, 2009 from 2:00 pm to 6:30 pm.**

**Make your appointment at [www.pleasantonpta.org](http://www.pleasantonpta.org) today!**

Each vaccination will cost \$25 for the shot, and \$30 for nasal spray. Appointments must be made in advance in order to receive the nasal spray. Walk-in's will be accepted for the shot, although at an additional cost. Medicare Part B will be accepted from those who are eligible.

For more information about the *Let's Fight Flu Together!* program, visit the national PTA web site at [www.pta.org/flushotclinics](http://www.pta.org/flushotclinics) or call (866) 782-3014. For more information about preventing the flu, visit [www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu).

In addition, in a joint venture with the Pleasanton Unified School District & Valleycare Medical Center, the Pleasanton PTA Council Wellness Committee

will train & supply parent volunteers to conduct lessons on proper hand washing technique. The vivid demonstrations utilize equipment that illuminates simulated germs. Combined with video material on how easily germs are transmitted and discussions of proper respiratory etiquette, as recommended by the CDC, we feel these lessons will help reduce the transmission of disease and keep our students and staff healthy. Fewer student absences will result in increased learning opportunities and will help our school district keep more attendance funding from the state.

### **About PTA**

As the nation's largest volunteer parent organization, PTA comprises more than 5 million members, including parents, students, educators, school administrators, and business and community leaders. Membership in PTA is open to anyone who is concerned about the education, health and welfare of children and youth.

*\*Influenza vaccines are not currently approved for children under six months of age and may not prevent the disease in 100 percent of individuals. Persons should consult their healthcare providers to determine if they have a condition that precludes them from receiving the vaccine. All vaccines have side effects. The most common side effects of influenza vaccines include local reactions and mild general symptoms.*

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