



**Date: June 20, 2018**

**FOR RELEASE THE WEEK OF:  
Immediate Release**

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### **Schedule Your Back-to-School Vaccines Early**

Summer has only just begun but now is the time to schedule your child's back-to-school vaccines. The Iroquois County Public Health Department recommends scheduling your appointments early to beat the August rush. "Most parents and students don't want to think about the next school year in June and July," says Vonda Pruitt, Director of Nursing at the Iroquois County Public Health Department, "but if you wait until August to schedule your child's school vaccinations, you may not be able to obtain an appointment before the first day of school." Pruitt says that so many people wait until a couple of weeks before school to call for their child's immunization appointment that it becomes impossible to get everyone scheduled prior to the start of the school year.

"We strongly encourage anyone who has a child needing immunizations to call for an appointment today," Ms. Pruitt said. If you are not sure whether or not your child needs vaccinations, you should contact your physician's office or bring your child's immunization record to the health department for staff to review. Parents should not wait until school registration time to determine if their child is going to need a vaccination.

The Iroquois County Public Health Department is located in the Iroquois County Administrative Building at 1001 E. Grant Street in Watseka. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call 815-432-2483.