



**Bell County Public Health District**  
<http://www.bellcountyhealth.org>

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Bell County, Texas:**

As Bell County families prepare to send their youth back to school the Bell County Public Health District would like to remind parents to properly immunize your family. Vaccine preventable diseases such as pertussis and chickenpox are circulating throughout Texas and in our community. There are also sporadic outbreaks of dangerous vaccine preventable diseases like mumps and measles which can be introduced into our communities without warning. To best protect your family from possible dangerous disease consequences see your primary medical provider and update immunizations for each family member.

It is important to understand vaccine helps to build an immunity in most of us under controlled conditions without the level of complications or severe side effects from the disease itself. In most cases, vaccine provides immunity for your children as they grow into adults. The Bell County Public Health District urges you to keep clear of those who are sick and never knowingly expose your children or yourself to an active preventable disease such as chicken pox for any reason. We never recommended exposure of unvaccinated children or adults to diseases like chicken pox through “pox parties” because disease severity can vary and the virus can present as shingles later in life.

Returning to school is also a good time to discuss how to prevent the spread of illness. The Bell County Public Health District recommends using all the tools we have to stay healthy: use good hand washing techniques, cover your cough or sneeze, and stay home when you are sick to prevent the spread of illness within our communities.

For more information visit the Bell County Public Health District public health professionals at 254-773-4457.

For more information about Bell County Public Health Districts services visit our website at: [www.bellcountyhealth.org](http://www.bellcountyhealth.org) and you can also follow us on Twitter @BellcountyPUBH and like us on Facebook.