

Volunteerism in Plumas County Creates Thriving Communities and Schools



The Kindergarten Roundup is an annual collaborative effort of Plumas Unified School District and many county organizations to help incoming kindergartners and transitional kindergartners register for school, obtain their mandated physical and dental exams and have fun doing it! The roundups are orchestrated by the PUSD school nurses who work with local agencies to make the event a success.

There is no large budget for this event, rather these free health screenings are a collective effort of health care providers across the county that come together to volunteer their time and services to support the health of Plumas County Kids.

The first of four roundups was held on April 12th at Quincy Elementary School. Thirty-nine incoming Kindergartners were seen during the one and a half hour period. Each of these little ones received a tee shirt, a bike helmet, and a backpack with school supplies. They were treated to refreshments, parent information, help with registration, and a visit with a kindergarten teacher and the QES principal Lara Hollister. The Round-

up services are not just for PUSD students but for all Plumas County kids who are entering transitional kindergarten or Kindergarten. Plumas Charter School also had a booth with information and resources for parents.



The students rotated through stations where they had a vision/color screening, dental exam, and hearing test. They had their height, weight, blood pressure and hemoglobin taken and received a full physical exam by a Medical Doctor from Plumas District Hospital.

QES school secretary Lori Pini and School Nurses Emily Pruitt and Debi Bradfield, along with Registered Nurse Nancy Hemsley helped check students in and out, which involved collecting each student's paperwork, exam information, immunization records, and giving them any necessary to-do list for follow up exams or missing vaccinations. Jeanne Garland the Student Information Systems Specialist was there to help parents enroll their students online. Custodial help was provided by Javier Garcia, who helped set up and tear down, all within a time frame of after school breakfast and before lunch.



Dr. Sawyer was there providing dental examinations. PUSD Nurse Sylvia Garey, RN did vision screenings, which included a color screening with the assistance of LVN students from FRC. The Feather River College LVNS were accompanied by their Nursing Instructor Kristine Harrison. Hearing examinations were provided by Andrea Huggins

from Head Start. Dr. Ross Morgan and Physician Assistant Kim Homolak were present to provide the physical exams to each student. Linda DeWolf from Public Health did the Hemoglobin tests. Rachell Hines from Plumas First Five provided and handed out backpacks filled with school supplies and Megan Mansfield and Ruben Lopez from Plumas County Public Health distributed bike helmets and t-shirts to each student.

Kindergarten Roundup is a perfect example of the invaluable network of community support that defines Plumas County. PUSD is thankful to each organization and individual that volunteered their time and effort supporting the health and well-being of students in Plumas County.

Greenville had their roundup on April 19th. The remaining roundups are happening at Chester Elementary on April 26th and at C. Roy Carmichael on May 3rd.

