

FOR RELEASE ON MARCH 27 IN ALL PLUMAS PAPERS

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Kindergarten registration and health screening is coming up, and the age for enrollment has changed again. Children must be five years old on or before October 1, 2013. State law changes the date each year until 2014.

Kindergarten Roundup as it's called is an opportunity for parents to register their child for fall 2013, and children can receive all of the necessary physical exams at no cost. Teachers will be available to offer helpful information. Future kindergartners will also receive a backpack filled with school supplies from the Early Education & Child Care Council.

Roundup is scheduled at 9:00 am to 10:30 am at Chester Elementary on April 18; C. Roy Carmichael on April 25; Pioneer-Quincy Elementary on April 30 and Greenville Elementary on May 2.

Parents must provide a copy of the child's birth certificate and immunization record. Registration packets will be available at the elementary schools. Parents should pick up the packet, complete the information and bring it to registration at their school.

If parents have questions or concerns, they can call any kindergarten teacher or school principal. School staff are ready and willing to help parents and children experience a friendly and complete enrollment process.

Local elementary schools can be reached at 283-6520 (Quincy); 284-7195 (Greenville); 258-3194 (Chester); or 832-0211 (Portola). The health screening and kindergarten registration are supported by Plumas Unified School District, First 5 Plumas, Plumas County Public Health Agency and the Early Education & Child Care Council.

Children will be more likely to enjoy and succeed in kindergarten if they arrive with the following skills: following directions; recognizing some letters and numbers; learning to work well with other children; sitting and listening to a complete short story; willingness to try new things. Parents who would like to know more will find a complete skills list and transition plan at www.first5plumas.com.

Family activities that prepare a child for kindergarten include lots of opportunities to use pencils, crayons, scissors and play dough; counting and sorting objects; reading to the child; playtime with other children of the same age; talking and listening to the child; and limiting exposure to television or computers.