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## NEWS RELEASE

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### Free Sunscreen Provided at Schools and Stadiums



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – The Houston County school district is offering free sunscreen at middle schools, high schools, all three stadiums and select offices, such as the maintenance department. Thirty-four sunscreen dispensers were installed this month at 18 sites.

This proactive, sun safety initiative is provided in partnership with First Choice Primary Care. The dispensers have been placed in areas convenient to outdoor activities, such as locker rooms, ball fields and stadiums. The dispensers are mounted on poles or the wall, with each high school receiving three dispensers and each middle school one.

The sunscreen is SPF-30 and safe for ages 6 months and up. It contains an all-natural blend of six percent zinc and six percent titanium.

The Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) cites skin cancer as the most common form of cancer in the United States. On average, 2,320 new cases of malignant melanoma, the most serious form of skin cancer, are diagnosed in Georgia every year. DPH, as well as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), recommends that schools help protect their students from the sun.

The specially-designed sunscreen dispensers were purchased and installed as part of the *Practice Safe Skin* program offered through Brightguard. Brightguard partners with IMPACT Melanoma to educate about skin cancer prevention. More than 4,000 sunscreen dispensers have been installed across the U.S.

For more information on skin cancer and prevention, please visit [www.impactmelanoma.org](http://www.impactmelanoma.org). For more information about the district's sun safety initiative, please contact Dana Rollins, Coordinator of Health Related Services, at 478-988-6200, ext. 27771.

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