



October 5, 2021

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Approval of Mandatory Vaccination Requirements for all Eligible Cambridge Public School Students

Recommendation: That the School Committee approve mandatory vaccination requirements for all currently age eligible Cambridge Public School students effective November 22, 2021, and further, that as additional students become age eligible for vaccines the same mandate will apply to these students at a date to be determined once the vaccine expansion is announced.

Description: Cambridge Public Schools has been a leader in establishing a strong response to the COVID virus. Led by an advisory group consisting of scientists, medical doctors, educators, parents and administrators, we have developed a robust COVID testing program for students and staff, an in school contact tracing program, provided hundreds of thousands of safe, effective masks, educated our community about the spread of the virus and initiated a district wide review and repair program of building ventilation systems. Most recently, we have announced a mandatory vaccine policy for all staff.

As the virus remains a present threat to the health of us all, we have learned that the best tool in defeating the virus is vaccination. As the variant progresses, data has shown that while there may be breakthrough cases of the virus in vaccinated individuals, vaccinated individuals are less likely to require hospitalization or die from the virus.

With these facts in mind I am recommending that the School Committee approve my request to implement mandatory vaccine requirements for all age eligible CPS students. We cannot sit by and let the virus destroy the futures of our young people who have already experienced such a negative impact on their academic, social and emotional development.

Effective November 22, 2021 all age eligible students must be vaccinated. This mandate will also apply to younger students once a vaccine has been developed for children under 12. While this mandate will not be used to exclude Cambridge students from Cambridge Public Schools, failure to obtain a vaccination will place limits on students who are not in compliance. Effective Monday, November 29, 2021 no unvaccinated, age eligible CPS student will be allowed to participate in the following CPS extra-curricular activities:

Athletics, including club and intramural sports

Student Government

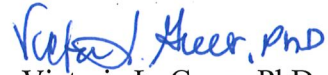
Visual and Performing Arts

All school clubs that meet out of the school day

School sponsored social events

The School Committee's approval of this request will be the most effective tool we have to prevent the spread of COVID 19.

Respectfully Submitted,



Victoria L. Greer, PhD

Interim Superintendent of Schools