

*Chelsea Public Schools* Almi G. Abeyta, Ed.D. Superintendent

November 10, 2021

Dear CPS Community,

I hope this message finds you safe and well as the sights and sounds of winter draw near. I am grateful for the health and wellness of our school community this year. Our high COVID-19 vaccination rates for our 12-18 year olds, and our current COVID-19 protocols including the new "Test and Stay" program are a few of the reasons why our schools have remained safe and open. Each and every family in Chelsea has played a part in our ability to stay in school, and the collective work being done to keep our students safe shows the strength of our community.

With that in mind, and now that the FDA and CDC have approved the COVID-19 Vaccine for Children 5 to 11 Years old, we have another opportunity to add another layer of safety to our schools. I'm pleased to share that there will be a **COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic for children (ages 5-11)** on Saturday, November 20, from 1:00-5:00pm at the Mary C. Burke Elementary Complex (300 Crescent Avenue). The clinic will also have the standard vaccine (for ages 12+) and booster shots available for anyone who attends. Attendees of this vaccination clinic will be able to return to the Mary C. Burke Elementary Complex for a second clinic on Saturday, Dec. 11, from 1:00-5:00pm to receive their second dose.

At next Saturday's clinic (November 20), there will be give-away items available for those who get vaccinated (while supplies last). No appointment is necessary to get vaccinated. Medical professionals will be on site to answer any questions parents may have about the pediatric vaccine.

In addition to our upcoming clinics, there are many vaccination sites across the state that have the pediatric COVID-19 vaccine available, including the <u>Chelsea Senior Center</u>. Many accept walk-in appointments, including CVS and Walgreens pharmacies, Market Basket and other grocery chains, and community health centers. More information on these sites, as well as safety information and helpful questions and answers, are all available at <u>www.mass.gov/covidvaccine</u>

As a reminder:

• The COVID-19 vaccine is free for all, and no ID or insurance is needed to be

vaccinated

• You can get vaccinated even if you are undocumented. Getting a vaccine will not impact you or your family's immigration status.

Getting your family vaccinated is the best way to protect yourself and your loved ones. We appreciate your help to keep all of our students, faculty, staff, and volunteers safe and healthy this fall and all year long.

Sincerely,

Almi LAber/a

Dr. Almi G. Abeyta Superintendent Chelsea Public Schools