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August, 2021

Dear St. Patrick Community,

We are all blest to be a part of this special family and look forward to beginning the new school year together.

We know that evolving information about the Delta variant is bringing many questions to light. As we are working hard to prepare for a new school year, today's message is a follow-up on our vaccination expectations, physical exam requirements and our *2021-22 Covid-19 Guidelines and Policies* (please find an attachment).

The best tool we have in our toolkit to stop the spread of COVID-19 and prevent serious illness from it is vaccination. **The most important thing you can do today to keep our community safe and our students learning at their best, which happens in an in-person learning environment, is to protect yourself and your family through vaccination, and submit your documentation as soon as possible.** According to the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Policy Lab, "Vaccination of school staff, students (currently ages 12 and above, and eventually all children), and family members is the most reliable intervention for ensuring safety during the upcoming school year and quickly returning schools to pre-pandemic activities." **By August 25, we require that every age-eligible student, faculty, and staff member submit their proof of vaccination or notify us of their vaccination plans. Parents should submit either:**

- **proof of vaccination** for COVID-19 (e.g., photo or scan of vaccination record) by emailing it to our school nurse Mrs. Lin. Her email address is llin@stpatsri.org;
- notice of planned vaccination dates (e.g., screenshot of appointment dates);
- or if you have no planned vaccination for your age-eligible child, submission of a statement, and our nurse will reach out to you for discussion and to provide forms for religious or medical exemption if applicable. Those who are eligible but unvaccinated will be required to mask (regardless of school-wide masking policy), test frequently, and quarantine longer, among other possible accommodations.

Thank you very much to those who have already vaccinated themselves and their age-eligible children and those who will do so today. It is our goal to get as close to 100% as possible. By vaccinating, you are helping to protect your family and our community. Of course, we know there may be some who have questions about the vaccinations, and we encourage you to contact our nurse Mrs. Lin as you need.

A physical exam and immunization records are required in 9th grade and 12th grade, as well as for any new students entering St. Patrick in 10th and 11th grade. In addition, any student interested in participating in an organized sport at St. Patrick will be required to have a physical exam. The Physical Exam Forms are available at the link below.

[Physical Form](#)

Take good care and stay safe,

E. Christopher Myron
Principal

Mrs. Lin
School Nurse