



# ENTERPRISE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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*Empowering every child, every day to create a better world*

October 3, 2021

Dear EESD Families,

By now you have no doubt heard about Governor Newsom's announcement on Friday regarding a student vaccination mandate. Once fully authorized by the FDA, COVID-19 vaccinations will be required in California for both public and private in-person learning students. The first phase will apply to students in grades 7-12 and is expected to include staff. Most likely this will not take effect until next school year or July 2022. The second phase will include students in grades K-6, but that vaccine has not yet received emergency authorization, and then would still need FDA approval. That timeline is not known.

This decision was based on data from the CDC that indicates that California has the lowest rates of COVID cases and youth hospitalizations while also experiencing the highest vaccination rate of all states. Widespread vaccination would help alleviate the tasks of broad-scale COVID-19 testing and contact tracing that currently challenge schools and will provide a pathway to review current masking requirements, which remain a point of dispute for many.

We know this announcement will cause strong reactions in our community. The advance notice of implementation will allow time to process and prepare. Once approval is granted, the California Department of Public Health will develop details of the requirement and the scope of exemptions.

That is all we know at this point, but we will continue to keep you informed as we learn more.

Sincerely,

Heather Armelino, Superintendent