



River Forest
Public Schools

Administration Building

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December 15, 2021

Dear River Forest District 90 Families,

As you may know, the Omicron variant of COVID-19 has reached Cook County and is expected to become more prevalent in the coming weeks. Research indicates that children and young adults carry the virus at much higher rates than other age groups. Although current data indicates that individuals in these age groups do not often experience severe complications, they can bring the virus home and infect siblings and vulnerable family members who may be at risk of severe disease.

If your child is not yet vaccinated and is eligible, please consider having your child vaccinated against COVID-19 as soon as possible. Procuring a student vaccination will help to protect your child, your family, our schools, and our community against an increased risk of illness from COVID-19.

The COVID-19 vaccine has been extensively studied and has been designated as safe and effective for children 5 years and older. Pediatricians in our community are strongly encouraging that all children 5 years and older be vaccinated, barring unique medical circumstances. We trust the outstanding medical professionals in our community with the many health decisions we already make for our children about other health matters. Please contact your child's pediatrician with any questions you may have about the safety and appropriateness of the vaccine for your child if you have any questions or concerns.

We also encourage you to view trusted sources of information, such as:

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/groups/families-children.html>);
- The Illinois Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (ICAAP) website, which has links to **webinars** and other resources (<https://illinoisAAP.org/family-immunization-resources/>);
- The Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH)'s website, which contains printable and downloadable informational resources, in several languages: (<https://cookcountypublichealth.org/communicable-diseases/covid-19/>)

Thank you very much for your ongoing support and partnership during these challenging times. District 90 is committed to providing a safe and supportive learning environment for all students, staff, and families, and remains dedicated to our goal of maintaining high-quality in-person instruction for all learners.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed Condon".

Ed Condon, Ph.D.
Superintendent

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