

River Dell Regional School District

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OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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October 5, 2021

Dear River Dell Community:

The first full month of school is now complete. I want to thank you and the students for a great start. While we experienced some COVID infections and quarantines, I am thankful that we continue to have no verifiable in-school transmission. I believe that is due to our students and staff who are adhering to our COVID protocols and the improving vaccination rates in our populations. Currently, ninety percent (90%) of staff and fifty-one percent (51%) of students have vaccine cards on file in our office.

During the few contact tracings performed thus far, we found that more students are now vaccinated than when we first opened Community Pass for the annual registration process. As a result, we will send a targeted e-mail to the families of the students without a vaccine record in our system. The e-mail will contain a direct link to upload cards so that we avoid duplicating records for those who submitted the information already.

We continue to develop plans to comply with the Executive Order 253 requiring all school employees to either provide adequate proof that they have been fully vaccinated or submit to COVID-19 testing at minimum one to two times weekly. This requirement shall take effect on October 18, 2021.

As a reminder, River Dell is uniquely positioned to enjoy a robust school year because almost our entire student population is eligible to receive a vaccine. While there is no vaccine or testing mandate for students, there are differences in the quarantine protocols for fully vaccinated individuals and those who are not. Please note that there are now four locations providing access to the vaccine – Walgreens and HNH Fitness in Oradell, CVS in River Edge, and New Bridge Medical Center in Paramus.

Finally, if your student is sick, please keep them home from school. If someone in the household is exhibiting symptoms of COVID, please keep your student home from school. As a rule for any illness, students should not come to school until they are fever free for twenty-four hours without the use of fever reducing medication. If we observe these simple guidelines, we will continue to have a positive in-person experience.

Thank you again for a great start to the school year.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Fletcher
Superintendent of Schools

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