



Dear MVC Families,

Although there is much that we still don't know regarding the future COVID-19 vaccine regulations Governor Newsom announced on Friday, October 1, here is what we do know at this time:

- Students in **both public and private schools** will be required to be vaccinated for in-person learning starting the term following Food and Drug Administration (FDA) full approval of the vaccine for their grade span (K-6 and 7-12).
- **The mandate will take effect the semester after the FDA grants approval of the vaccine.** For example, if FDA approval occurs in January 2022, then the mandate would take effect in July 2022 (for the Fall 2022 semester). Approval of the vaccine for grades 7-12 is likely to occur before vaccine approval for K-6, so the mandate will take effect for each grade level separately. School employees' vaccine mandate will be included in the first age group to obtain FDA approval.
- **The regulations announced Friday would allow parents to cite personal beliefs to qualify for a vaccination exemption for their child(ren).** This could change if the regulations become legislation, but applies as things currently stand.
- Upon full approval by the FDA of a vaccine for age groups within a grade span, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) will consider recommendations from various governmental and professional associations before implementation. After that, CDPH will further pursue the regulatory process through public comment. **It is only the final rules/regulations (resulting from this multi-step process) that will address many of the details of the vaccination requirement, including the scope of exemptions.**

Here are some key pieces of information we are awaiting:

- When the regulation will take effect (for grades 7-12/employees and, later, K-6)
- What the criteria will be for exemptions
- How parents/employees will apply for exemptions
- What limitations (if any) will be in place for students/employees with exemptions

I certainly don't have all the answers at this point. Above all, just know MVC is committed to walking alongside you - and all of our families - as we seek to understand what these regulations will mean for us as a school.

Blessings,
Nikki Daniels