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## **Proof of Vaccination or Negative Test Result Required for Horizon Staff, Contractors, and Volunteers**

Horizon School Division supports the provincial COVID-19 vaccination program and the Government of Saskatchewan and Chief Medical Health Officer's views that vaccination is one of the most effective ways to protect ourselves, our families, and our communities against COVID-19. We take the health and safety of our students, staff, and families seriously and will soon be implementing a Vaccination Administrative Procedure that will require proof of full vaccination or a recent negative COVID-19 test result. This is important in all schools but especially those where many of our students are not vaccinated or not yet eligible to be vaccinated.

The development of the Vaccination Administrative Procedure is the Division's direct response to the province-wide vaccination mandate or negative test requirement implemented on October 1, 2021. In the coming weeks, Horizon will require all employees (including substitutes who are employed on a day-to-day basis) and contractors (including those who provide bus and food services) to demonstrate proof of full vaccination or recent proof of a negative COVID-19 test result. This requirement will also apply to child care providers who use Horizon facilities and any individual or organization who provides direct service to students during the school day. Volunteers who routinely spend time in our schools and facilities and are around children and staff (eg. community coaches, volunteer drivers, etc.) shall be required to provide proof of vaccination or a negative test result.

### ***Student Requirements***

Proof of vaccination shall not be required for students to attend school except when they are deemed a close contact to a household case. Children born in 2010 or later are not eligible for vaccination. Clarity on this matter is necessary for students, staff, and families. Based on the recent Public Health Order, students who are close contacts and are vaccinated shall return to both in-class learning and extracurricular activity as long as they are asymptomatic. Students who are close contacts in a classroom and are unvaccinated will be able to return to in-class learning but shall not be eligible for any extracurricular activities until Health determines they are no longer a close contact. Students are unvaccinated and who are close contacts due to an exposure in the household shall not return to in-class learning or extracurricular activity until they are no longer deemed a close contact.

### ***Privacy***

As a school division, we are bound by the Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Those who have been identified as requiring full vaccination or a negative test result are not required to disclose their vaccine status. However, they will be required to provide proof of a current negative test result using a Health Canada approved testing device. At all times, verification of both vaccination status or a negative test result will be done in a confidential, sensitive, and respectful manner and will follow all expectations of privacy standards.

As employers and citizens of Saskatchewan, we have a responsibility to do our due diligence to keep our students, employees, partners, guests, and families safe as they learn, work, and play in our schools and facilities. **Horizon will share the Vaccination Administrative Procedure and other pertinent details in the coming days. The implementation date for the Administrative Procedure will be mid to late October.**