

October 19, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Due to the increasing strain the COVID-19 pandemic has placed on our education and health care systems, and the recent <u>letter</u> to all School Divisions from the Ministers of Health and Education encouraging mandatory proof of vaccination or negative test policies for staff and volunteers, Elk Island Catholic Schools has implemented a mandatory vaccination program for all employees and volunteers.

Immunization is the most effective means to prevent the spread of COVID-19, prevent outbreaks, and therefore preserve a safe and effective in-person learning experience.

Effective October 29, 2021, all Elk Island Catholic Schools (EICS) staff (including practicum students; substitutes and volunteers) must declare and submit proof of their COVID-19 Vaccination status to our Assistant Superintendent of Human Resource Services.

As of December 20, 2021, all Elk Island Catholic Schools (EICS) staff (including practicum students; substitutes, and volunteers) are required to be fully COVID-19 vaccinated or present acceptable proof of a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours beginning each workday.

## The Division will not require parents to submit proof of vaccination unless a parent is acting as a volunteer. Students are not required to provide proof of vaccination.

Thank you for all that you continue to do to ensure that our schools and sites are healthy, safe, and caring spaces for all!

God Bless,

Shawn Haggarty Superintendent

Elk Island Catholic Separate Regional Division 310 Broadview Road, Sherwood Park, AB. Canada T8H 1A4 Telephone: 780.467.8896 Website: www.eics.ab.ca