

NEWS RELEASE

WSD Board of Trustees mandates vaccinations for mature students

August 26, 2021 (Winnipeg, MB) –The Winnipeg School Division Board of Trustees has passed a motion making COVID-19 vaccinations mandatory for all staff, visitors and mature students who are continuing their education in post high school programs and Winnipeg Adult Education and EAL programs in 2021/2022.

The Board will implement the vaccine mandate for mature students in the same way as Manitoba Public Health Orders for WSD staff announced August 24.

Mature students will need to be fully immunized or submit to testing up to three times per week. Students who have medical accommodations or religious grounds preventing immunization will also require testing up to three times a week.

Fully-immunized individuals are those who have received both doses (any combination) of an approved two-dose COVID-19 vaccine (AstraZeneca, Pfizer, Moderna), or a single dose of an approved single-dose COVID-19 vaccine (Janssen/Johnson & Johnson) with more than 14 days having passed since the final vaccination was received.

As with WSD staff, mature students will be required to be fully immunized with two doses of COVID-19 vaccine. The first dose needs to be completed by Sept. 7, the first day of school, and the second dose completed by Oct. 17. A communication to mature students will be sent prior to the deadline for the first vaccine.

“We have provided direction to WSD administration to support immunization efforts through communications and space for clinics,” said Betty Edel, Chair, WSD Board of Trustees. “The Board is also strongly urging staff and students throughout the division to wear disposable 3-ply medical masks whenever possible, although reusable cloth masks are the minimum requirement.”

For more information on the WSD Safe Return to School 2021/22, please visit the [WSD website](#).

WSD is celebrating 150 years of learning this year and has 79 schools, 32,752 students and 4,587 full-time employees. Its purpose is to provide a learning environment that fosters the growth of each student’s potential and provide equitable opportunity to develop the knowledge, skills and values necessary for meaningful participation in a global and diverse society.

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