



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**January 18, 2022**

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### **BOARD OF EDUCATION VACCINE MANDATE UPDATE**

The School District 91 Board of Education anticipated deciding whether to implement an employee vaccine mandate at the Board meeting on January 17, 2022. However, prior to the In-camera meeting, the Provincial Health Officer released a new Order that may have implications for the District that the Board needs to understand before proceeding.

The Board has been following a process that has considered numerous sources of information, including from Public Health, an employee survey, legal advice, and the K-12 Sector Guidelines for Vaccination Policies document. Given this new provincial announcement, the Board believes that it is prudent to have senior staff seek further information and advice before making a final decision.

The Board and senior staff of the school district want to keep our schools and communities as safe as possible and believe vaccinations are the most effective way to reduce the risks associated with COVID. Being fully vaccinated offers the best protection from severe illness and hospitalization, and the District encourages all eligible individuals to become fully immunized.

Subject to the advice on the new Health Order, the Board may call a Special In-Camera meeting before February's regular meeting to determine an outcome for an employee mandate.

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