

May 12, 2021

Dear Parent or Guardian:

The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine is now available for children ages 12 years and up. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) approved Pfizer's emergency use authorization (EUA) request on May 10, 2021. Franklin Community Health Network (FCHN) is partnering with Mt. Blue Regional School District to provide vaccination clinics onsite to eliminate barriers to access for staff and students.

These vaccines are voluntary however there are many important reasons to consider this opportunity:

- The COVID-19 virus variants are causing widespread infections among young people in Maine. However, the vaccine is effective against the variants.
- The vaccine will give you some reassurance this summer. As people get together with friends and family, you will know your child is protected from COVID-19.
- The vaccine will also help prevent your child from transmitting the virus to others.
- The vaccine was approved after studies show it is safe and effective. No shortcuts were taken.
- It will be easy and convenient to get your child vaccinated at the school. Many vaccine clinics and pharmacies do not offer the Pfizer COVID-19.
- The vaccine is free.

Vaccine clinics are being offered at:

Mt Blue High School **May 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>** for 1st doses and **June 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>** for 2nd doses.

Mt Blue Middle School **May 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>** for 1st doses and **June 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>** for 2nd doses.

NorthStar Ambulance services will be on site in the rare event of an emergency.

Please read the vaccine fact sheet, found here: <https://www.fda.gov/media/144414/download>

FCHN is hosting a virtual Q&A session for parents, guardians, and students this Thursday, 5/13 at 6 p.m. Here is the link: <https://zoom.us/j/97580609705>. More information will be available soon regarding the optional vaccination clinics through Franklin Community Health Network.