

May 11, 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 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 Stratton Elementary School to offer convenient, on-site vaccine clinics for your child.

These vaccines are optional. However, we believe there are some 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 Stratton Elementary School on **May 14<sup>th</sup>** for first doses and **June 4<sup>th</sup>** for second doses.

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

If you are interested in having your child vaccinated against COVID-19, here are the next steps:

- Please read the vaccine fact sheet, found here (a paper copy is included):  
<https://www.fda.gov/media/144414/download>
- Fill out the attached medical consent and insurance forms. The consent form must be signed. The vaccine will be free to you, but if your child has health insurance, it will be charged.
- Review the Frequently Asked Questions document

FCHN is hosting a virtual Q&A via Zoom for parents, guardians, and students this Thursday, 5/13 at 6 p.m. Here is the link: <https://zoom.us/j/97580609705>.