

Adapted from [Lexington Public School mandate](#)

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic emergency, the School Committee recognizes the resulting disruption of the traditional school day and year; growing concerns of students, families and the community; and the increasing number of issues that will affect public education.

Therefore, the School Committee establishes an emergency, interim policy for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic that will:

- promote public safety and the safety of students, faculty, and staff;
- comply with the emergency orders of the governor; and adhere, to the extent possible, to the guidance of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), MA Department of Public Health and other agencies of state and federal government; and expedite, in collaboration with the Belmont Board of Health, and the Health and Safety Committee.

The School Committee will authorize the Superintendent to act expeditiously in executing COVID-19 related school plans in accordance with current law and regulation and will, where noted, authorize the Superintendent, with the advice and consent of the School Committee, to suspend, revise, or recommend policies, rules, and protocols as needed to serve the best interests and safety of students, their families, and the community.

**For the 2021-2022 school year, vaccination against SARS-CoV-2 is required for all age-eligible students to participate in school-sponsored sports and rostered extracurricular activities that occur outside of the school day.**

### **Age-eligible students**

Students who participate in school-sponsored sports and/or rostered extracurriculars that occur outside of the school day **are required to be vaccinated** *except in those exceptional circumstances (e.g. medical or sincerely held religious beliefs) where weekly COVID-19 testing will be allowed.*

Students who **are awaiting** vaccination are required to participate in state-sponsored testing through Belmont Public Schools **or submit evidence of a negative COVID-19 test on a weekly basis.**

### **Age-ineligible students**

Students who will become vaccine-eligible during the sports/extracurricular season in question must be vaccinated **within six weeks of becoming eligible.**

Students **are required** to participate in state-sponsored testing through Belmont Public Schools **or submit evidence of a negative COVID-19 test on a weekly basis.**