

# **Wellesley Public Schools**

## **Department of Nursing Services**

COVID-19 Vaccination Rates & Return To School Considerations  
8.10.2021



**Wellesley Public Schools**

*Learning • Caring • Innovating*

# CDC/AAP Vaccine and Masking Recommendations

## ★ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- Vaccination is the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic.
- CDC recommends universal indoor masking by all students (age 2 and older), staff, teachers, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status.

## ★ The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)

- Recommends COVID-19 vaccination for all adolescents 12 years of age and older who do not have contraindications for the vaccine.
- All students older than 2 years and all school staff should wear face masks at school regardless of vaccination status (unless medical or developmental conditions prohibit use.)



# MA State Vaccine and Masking Recommendations

- ★ **Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MA DPH) and Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)**
  - Recommend vaccination of eligible students/ staff
  - Recommend that all students in K-6 wear masks when indoors, except students who cannot do so due to medical conditions or behavioral needs. Masks are not necessary outdoors and may be removed while eating indoors.
  - Recommend that unvaccinated staff in all grades, unvaccinated students in grades 7 and above, and unvaccinated visitors wear masks indoors.
  - Recommend that schools allow vaccinated students to remain unmasked.



# Covid-19 Vaccine Data for Eligible students Grades 7-12

## WMS (grades 7,8):

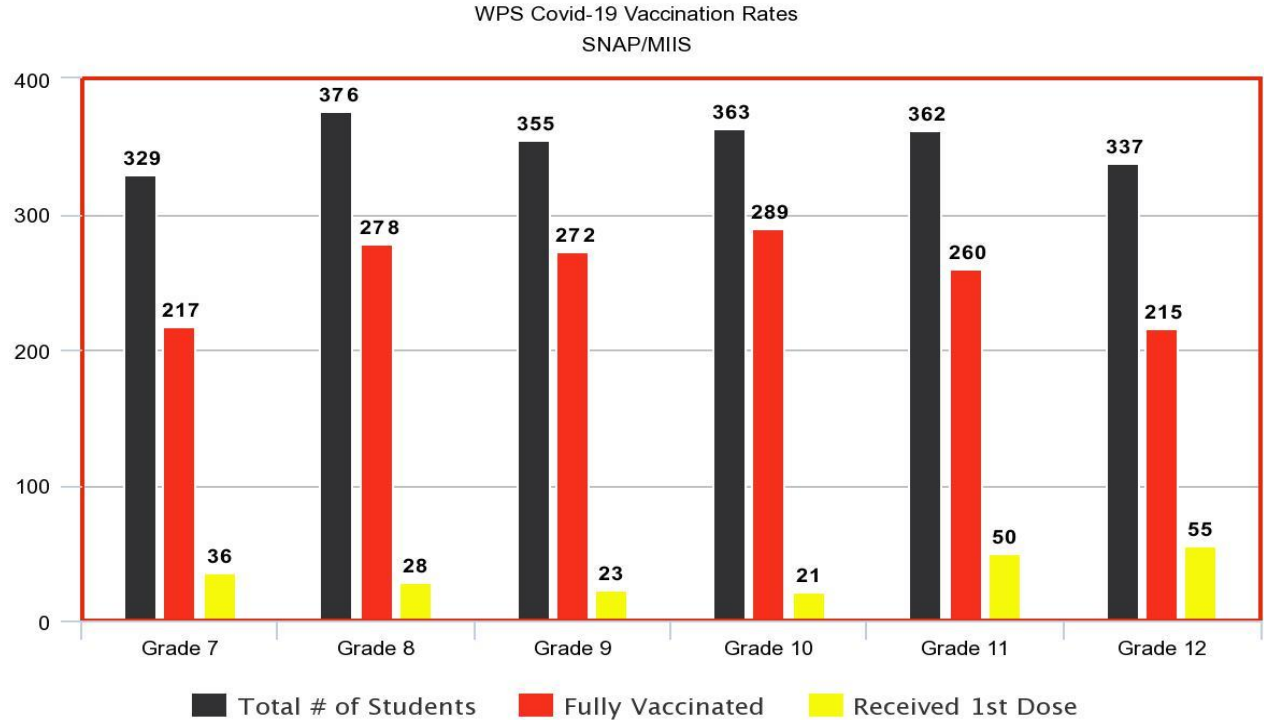
Total Enrollment\*: 705  
\*eligible students > age 12

## WHS (grades 9,10,11,12):

Total Enrollment: 1,419

Total Percentage of students  
who received at least one  
dose in grades 7-12:

**82%\*\***



\*\* as of 8.4.2021  
Data collected from SNAP Health Center/MIIS



# Breakdown

**Grade 6: 73%** of eligible\* students have received at least one dose (*40% fully vaccinated*)

**Grade 7: 77%** of ALL students have received at least one dose (*66% fully vaccinated*)

**Grade 8: 81%** of ALL students have received at least one dose (*74% fully vaccinated*)

**Grade 9: 83%** of ALL students have received at least one dose (*77% fully vaccinated*)

**Grade 10: 85%** of ALL students have received at least one dose (*80% fully vaccinated*)

**Grade 11: 86%** of ALL students have received at least one dose (*72% fully vaccinated*)

**Grade 12: 80%** of ALL students have received at least one dose (*64% fully vaccinated*)

*\*Data as of 8.4.2021*



# PROPOSED RETURN TO SCHOOL CONSIDERATIONS

- Return of full, in-person education for SY2021-22
- Masks: **TBD**
  - ◆ CDC/AAP recommendation: indoor mask use over age 2 regardless of vaccination status
  - ◆ DESE/Mass DPH recommendation: allow vaccinated students to remain unmasked
  - ◆ Masks continue to be required on buses/vans
  - ◆ Masks not needed outdoors
- Lunches: Continue to eat outdoors (weather permitting)
  - ◆ Assigned seating for possible contact tracing
- Hand Washing/Sanitizing
- Frequent cleaning of high touch surfaces.
- Air Quality Improvements: MERV13 filters were addressed in the Fall of 2020
- Continued education of staff, students and families on the need to **STAY HOME** when not feeling well.



## TOPICS REQUIRING ADDITIONAL RESEARCH

- Health Services Management
  - ◆ Medical Waiting Room
- Contact Tracing and Quarantine protocols
  - ◆ “Test and Stay” with implementation of Pool/point-of-care testing **TBD**
    - Vaccinated staff and students are exempt from quarantine.
- Restricting use of water fountain
  - ◆ Use of water bottle fill stations
- Large group meetings/gatherings/assemblies. **TBD**
- Visitors – only students and staff in the buildings. *(consider allowing vaccinated volunteers?)*
- Field trips. **TBD**



# Health Reminders for Students/Staff

Prior to coming to school review the following:

- Fever (above 100F) or feeling feverish
- Cough (not due to other known cause)
- Shortness of breath /difficulty breathing
- New loss of smell/taste
- Sore throat
- Muscle/body aches
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- Headache (when in combination with other symptoms)
- Fatigue (when in combination with other symptoms)
- New nasal congestion or new runny nose (not due to other known causes, such as allergies) when in combination with other symptoms

**PLUS .....**





## ....a few more questions

- Have you, or anyone you have been in close contact with, been with someone who is diagnosed with COVID-19, or been placed in quarantine for possible contact with COVID-19?
- Have you been asked to self-isolate or quarantine by a medical professional or a local public health official?

***If you answer YES to any of these questions  
DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL  
If the answer is NO.....come to school***

# Returning to school after traveling:

In Massachusetts, if you are fully vaccinated, you can resume activities that you did prior to the pandemic. Fully vaccinated people may return to school without quarantining or testing upon your return. If you are unvaccinated, it is strongly advised that you follow the states current recommendations as follows:

## Domestically

- Get tested with a viral test 3-5 days after travel AND stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel.
- Even if you test negative, stay home and self-quarantine for the full 7 days.
- If your test is positive, isolate yourself to protect others from getting infected.
- If you don't get tested, stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.
- Avoid being around people who are at increased risk for severe illness for 14 days, whether you get tested or not.
- Self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms.

## Internationally

- Get tested with a viral test 3-5 days after travel AND stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel.
- Even if you test negative, stay home and self-quarantine for the full 7 days.
- If your test is positive, isolate yourself to protect others from getting infected.
- If you don't get tested, stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.
- Avoid being around people who are at increased risk for severe illness for 14 days, whether you get tested or not.
- Self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms.

# References

- American Academy of Pediatrics. (2021, August 4). *Summary of data publicly reported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Date: 8/4/21* [Press release]. American Academy of Pediatrics .  
<https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/children-and-covid-19-vaccination-trends/>
- <https://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/on-desktop/2021-0730fall-2021-covid19-guidance.pdf>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html>