 **John R. Lewis High School**

**FAIRFAX COUNTY** 6540 Franconia Road

**PUBLIC SCHOOLS** Springfield, Virginia 22150

Lancer families,

Starting November 8, students who are 16 years or older are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or have a medical or religious exemption on file in order to participate in Virginia High School League (VHSL) winter and spring sports for the remainder of the 2021-22 school year.

Proof of full COVID-19 vaccination will also be required for participation in any other activity that requires a physical. This includes dance team and step team, as well as out-of-season practices and workouts. Unvaccinated students 12-15 years of age must provide a negative COVID-19 test weekly to participate in team activities.

Lewis High School is now accepting proof of vaccination or qualified exemptions for students.

**Proof of vaccination** is provided by showing the student’s vaccination card to the Athletic Trainers; Rebecca Greger and/or Haneen Hafiz.

**Medical exemptions** must be submitted through a letter from the student’s doctor, on the doctor’s office letterhead, stating the student has a medical condition that prevents them from receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. Students who are not receiving the COVID-19 vaccine due to documented health or medical reasons will be required to submit a negative COVID-19 test every week. To provide documentation of a medical exemption: submit to our athletic trainers; Rebecca Greger at rgreger@fcps.edu and/or Haneen Hafiz at hmhafiz@fcps.edu

**Religious exemptions** must be submitted using the [Commonwealth of Virginia Certificate of Religious Exemption form](https://www.fcps.edu/sites/default/files/OCCR%20-%20Virginia%20Certificate%20of%20Religious%20Exemption.pdf) and must be notarized. Students who are not receiving the COVID-19 vaccine due to religious reasons will be required to submit a negative COVID-19 test every week. To provide documentation of a religious exemption: submit to our athletic trainers; Rebecca Greger at rgreger@fcps.edu and/or Haneen Hafiz at hmhafiz@fcps.edu

**Proof of vaccination or exemption must be submitted by November 1, 2021.**

 **Weekly testing** will be required for unvaccinated students 12-15 and those who qualify for medical or religious exemptions. The test will need to be either a rapid test or a PCR test. Home testing using over-the-counter testing products will not be accepted.

For more information about the vaccination requirement for student-athletes, visit the [FCPS website.](https://www.fcps.edu/return-school/communications/athletics-vaccination-requirement-questions-and-answers)

If I may be of assistance, please feel free to contact me at JFJames@fcps.edu or 703-924-8350

We are looking forward to a great winter and spring sports season. Thank you for your continued support and encouragement of all students participating in sports and activities.

John F. James

Director of Student Activities