

# District Health Department No. 4

For Immediate Release

Date: July 19, 2021

## Students Vaccinated Soon Will Return to School Fully Vaccinated this Fall

Parents – as you begin the task of making a “back to school” list for your child, including items such as new shoes, backpacks, and clothes – be sure to include getting them a COVID-19 vaccination as well.

Depending on the first day of school for your district, children ages 12 and over who receive their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine within the next few weeks can be fully vaccinated before school starts. It takes five weeks to become fully vaccinated against COVID-19 so setting a timeline is important. For example, if your child received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccination on July 23, 2021, their second dose would be due three weeks later, or August 13, 2021. Two weeks after that, August 21, 2021, they would be considered fully vaccinated – in most cases, just in time for school to start.

July 23, '21 First dose --> August 13, '21 Second Dose --> August 27, '21 Fully Vaccinated!

Devin Spivey, Community Health Director and Epidemiologist for District Health Department No. 4, states “Currently, vaccination is the best tool we have to protect ourselves and those around us from COVID-19. This is also true for children 12 years and older. Under current guidelines, fully vaccinated children exposed to a COVID-19 positive person would not be recommended to quarantine unless they begin to show symptoms. As we start a new school year, this could mean less disruption for families and peace of mind for parents who have children that participate in extracurricular activities such as sports or band.”

DHD4 encourages parents to talk to their healthcare provider about COVID-19 vaccine for their children. Parents can make an appointment for a COVID-19 vaccination at DHD4 by calling 1-800-221-0294.

In other COVID-19 updates, given low COVID-19 case rates and increasing COVID-19 vaccination rates in the DHD4 jurisdiction, beginning Monday, July 19, 2021, DHD4 will be updating the COVID-19 Data Dashboard found at [www.dhd4.org/covid19](http://www.dhd4.org/covid19) two times a week, on Monday’s and Thursday’s. With the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) currently reporting on Tuesday’s and Friday’s, residents continue to have regular access to current COVID-19 data.

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