



November 2, 2021

Dear School Leaders,

On behalf of the Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH), we appreciate your continued partnership in confronting the COVID-19 crisis together. Soon, we hope to add another important approach to lower transmission in our communities. The FDA and CDC are expected to authorize COVID-19 vaccinations for children aged 5 –11 in the coming week, with distribution and delivery of vaccines following quickly thereafter.

As we vaccinate more children and youth, we can stabilize school operations by drastically reducing the number of students that will need to quarantine if exposed. We encourage you to consider setting up vaccination clinics for students and their families, which may include offering flu vaccines in addition to COVID-19 vaccines.

Although many people have their children vaccinated at pharmacies, or by health care providers, districts and schools also provide trusted, convenient sites for families and caregivers to obtain services including vaccinations. You may also consider collaborating with local community-based partners, including after-care providers, faith-based organizations, and others to provide a consistent community message emphasizing the importance of vaccination as our way out of this pandemic.

DPH, in partnership with the Delaware Department of Education, is happy to provide technical assistance and support in identifying and securing a vaccination partner, as well as to help disseminate and publicize events. To find a vaccination provider in your area, please see <https://coronavirus.delaware.gov/vaccine/where-can-i-get-my-vaccine/pharmacies/> or email [Vaccineplanning@delaware.gov](mailto:Vaccineplanning@delaware.gov). For those who opt to not offer vaccinations through the district or school, we encourage you to share information about community vaccination sites using the resources at [de.gov/getmyvaccine](https://de.gov/getmyvaccine).

We know that this fall has been challenging in managing COVID-19 mitigation and maintaining healthy school and community environments for your students. Vaccines provide us an opportunity to drastically reduce serious illness and disease ensure continuity of education for Delaware's students.

Contact [Dana Carr](#) to let us know when you set up your vaccination clinic, if you have questions, or if you need any support or assistance!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Rattay'.

Karyl T. Rattay, MD, MS, FAAP  
Director