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## **Superintendent's Newsletter: Vax Clinics for Kids 5-10 Start at Noon Saturday, COVID Restrictions to Ease**

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**Date :** February 5, 2022

Students 5 to 11 years old can get their second vaccination shot — or their first — from 12 noon to 3 p.m., Saturday, Schools Superintendent Alan Addley said in his Friday newsletter to parents and staff.

This coming week, some of the district's COVID-19 restrictions will be easing as the number of identified cases continues to go down: Lunches will return to cafeterias and spectators (who must be masked) will be allowed to attend sports games, Addley wrote.

Another vaccination clinic for students of any age, with no signup necessary (just walk in), will be held from 12 noon to 5 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, he said.

**Full Text**

Feb. 4, 2022

Dear Families & Staff,

Earlier this week Punxsutawney Phil predicted six more weeks of below average temperatures. Perhaps the conditions aren't quite as wintery for us today as Phil was thinking they might be, but thank you for your flexibility and accommodating the need to close school again for another unrealized forecast of frozen precipitation and hazardous road conditions. The safety of students and staff remains the priority in making these decisions.

**Superintendent's 2022-2023 FY23 Budget:** The Board will continue budget discussions next Tuesday, Feb. 8 at 7:30 p.m. during their regular meeting. Items on the board's add/cut list will be discussed and voted on for action. The Board will adopt its FY23 Budget.

**Strategic Plan:** The final goal (seven) in the [Strategic Plan](#) is Improving Technology to Support Teaching and Learning. This goal includes two strategies,

1. Ensuring strategic utilization of technology to enrich, support and inspire teaching and learning, and,
2. Establishing and managing a secure, reliable and dynamic technology system for effective and efficient district operations.

Expanded use of technology has helped us navigate a challenging time in education. The technology goal in the Strategic Plan allows us to build on the momentum we have gained in the area of technology. Please visit goal area seven in our Strategic Plan to learn more about our actions and measures related to this goal area.

As we continue to closely monitor COVID metrics specific to the Darien community, we are very encouraged and cautiously optimistic with **a low rate of new COVID cases and high level of immunity** in the schools and community. Upon review of this encouraging trend with the District Medical Team we will begin to revise some of our mitigation practices to resume more normal routines.

Over the course of next week we are transitioning to the following:

- 1. Lunch** will resume in the cafeteria/dining areas at all schools. We will continue to enforce distancing and hand-washing. Special arrangements will be made for students returning to school on Day 6 to 10 after testing positive for COVID.
- 2. Lifting the Restriction on Spectator Attendance at Athletic Events** will be lifted at Darien public school district venues. Masks for all attendees will still be required.

**Vaccination Clinics for 5-11 years old** will be held this Saturday, Feb. 5 from 12 noon to 3 p.m. at the Darien Town Hall. While this clinic was set up as a second dose clinic (first dose Jan. 8), it is also open to ALL eligible students who have not received their first dose.

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If you are interested in learning more or making an appointment, please follow this [Vaccination Signup link](#). An additional state-sponsored vaccination clinic for students 5-12 years old and 12+ will be held on Saturday, Feb. 12 from 12 noon to 5 p.m. at the Darien United Methodist Church. This is a walk-in clinic. No appointments needed.

Please direct any questions regarding these clinics to the Darien Health Department at 203.656.7320.

**Notification of Positive COVID Cases:** If your student tests positive for COVID or has been identified as a close contact and is required to quarantine, please call or email your school nurse(s) [Nurse Contact List](#). Please do not call the hotline. If after school hours, you can expect a response by the next school day.

Wishing you and your family a safe and healthy weekend.

Sincerely,  
Alan Addley, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools