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Superintendent Telephone: 605-455-6174 Fax: 605-455-2703

December 3, 2021

## Vaccination Requirements for Little Wound School Students Ages Twelve (12) and Older | Ages Eighteen (18) and Older

Dear Little Wound School Community,

This letter outlines updates to Little Wound School's new COVID-19 vaccination requirements for students. The updates to our policies and practices will help ensure the health and safety of our students, our staff, and the members of our community. Two sets of requirements are outlined in this letter:

- 1. Requirements for students twelve (12) and older; and
- 2. Requirements for students eighteen (18) and older. (Note: A student who is 18 or older must comply with the requirements for *both* all students 12 and older and 18 and older.)

To support vaccination, on Monday, December 6, 2021, a COVID-19 mass vaccination clinic will take place at Little Wound School. Additional details about this clinic will be published on Little Wound School's Facebook page.

## 1. Requirements for Students Twelve (12) and Older

In compliance with the Oglala Sioux Tribe's ordinance 21-55, <u>all students age 12 and older will</u> <u>soon be required to be vaccinated against COVID-19 to participate in any on-campus, face-toface instruction, activities, sports, or events</u>. Little Wound School will require that all students 12 and over comply with this requirement before the start of the Spring 2022 semester, which begins on January 18, 2022. This decision permits time for unvaccinated students to schedule an appointment to receive a vaccination or visit a mass vaccination clinic.

We ask that all students and/or their parents or guardians review the details of this requirement below and review tribal ordinance 21-55 requiring these policy changes.

• All students age 12 and over must submit proof of vaccination to Little Wound School showing compliance with this requirement, unless a student has been granted an exemption for the vaccination requirements. A copy of the student's CDC-issued COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card is an example of proof of vaccination. To submit proof of vaccination, students or parents/guardians may bring the vaccination record to school, may bring a copy of the vaccination to school, or may email a photo of the student's vaccination card to Lindsee Harris, Little Wound School's nurse. Lindsee may

be emailed at <u>lindseeharris@littlewound.us</u>. A student with proof of vaccination already on file does not need to resubmit their documentation.

- A student may seek a waiver from the vaccination requirement on the basis of a medical or religious/spiritual exemption by filing an Exemption request form and attaching the required documentation to the Exemption Request Form. Students potentially eligible for a waiver include:
  - A student who has been advised by a healthcare professional (for a medical or disability waiver) not to receive a vaccine due to underlying health conditions and a risk presented from the vaccine to the student's health; or
  - A student who has a religious objection, based on a sincerely held religious belief, observance, or practice, to receiving a vaccine.

Any student or their guardian seeking an exemption from the vaccination requirement must submit a waiver request to the Little Wound School Superintendent's Office. The waiver request form may be accessed on Little Wound School's website. Please contact Lindsee Harris for information about waiver requirements. The school's administration will make determinations about vaccination waiver requests on a case-by-case basis and communicate its determination to students and families.

In order to comply with this requirement, <u>a student's proof of vaccination or approved waiver</u> must be on-file with Little Wound School on or before January 7, 2022.

## 2. Requirements for Students Eighteen (18) and Older

In addition to meeting the requirements outlined above (primary vaccination requirements or having an approved vaccination waiver), Little Wound School <u>students age eighteen (18) and</u> <u>older will be required to show proof of a COVID-19 booster vaccination dose to participate in any on-campus, face-to-face instruction, activities, sports, or events.</u>

At this time, the CDC has authorized three COVID-19 vaccinations as booster shots and encourages everyone age 18 and older to receive one. To support a safe on-campus environment, Little Wound School is requiring that all students age 18 and older that are eligible to receive a booster shot receive one and provide appropriate documentation. According to the CDC:

- Individuals who received a Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccination should receive a booster shot at least six months after completing their primary COVID-19 vaccination.
- Individuals who received a Johnson & Johnson vaccination should receive a booster shot at least two months after completing their primary COVID-19 vaccination.

To ensure compliance with this requirement, <u>students age 18 and older must have proof of</u> primary vaccination on file with Little Wound School on or before January 7, 2022.

Students who have received a primary COVID-19 vaccination and are now eligible for a booster shot must receive this shot (and provide documentation to Little Wound School) within two (2) months of becoming eligible for a booster shot. A vaccinated student who has not received a

booster vaccination within two months of becoming eligible will be prohibited from participating in on-campus, face-to-face instruction, activities, or events.

Booster Shot Vaccination Requirements for Students Age 18 and Older			
My primary vaccination was developed by:	If I became fully vaccinated before this date	then I must receive a booster before:	Otherwise, I must provide proof of a booster shot received:
Pfizer-BioNTech	May 7, 2021	January 7, 2022	Within eight months after my initial vaccination series.
Moderna	May 7, 2021	January 7, 2022	
Johnson & Johnson	September 7, 2021	January 7, 2022	Within four months after my initial vaccination.

Students may seek a waiver from the vaccination requirement on the basis of a medical or religious/spiritual exemption. Any student or their guardian seeking an exemption from the vaccination requirement must submit a waiver request to the Little Wound School Superintendent's Office. The waiver request form may be accessed on Little Wound School's website. Please contact Lindsee Harris for information about waiver requirements. The school's administration will make determinations about vaccination waiver requests on a case-by-case basis and communicate its determination to students and families.

For additional information, the CDC has published research and details about booster shots on its website (<u>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus</u>).

LWS will keep you informed of any additions or changes to vaccination requirements for our students as those changes happen. At this time, if a student is 12 years or older, and is not vaccinated or has not been granted a vaccination exemption, the student will still be eligible for online learning. The vaccination requirements only affect the availability of in-person education and activities for students 12 years and older.

Thank you for your commitment to the health and safety of our community.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned b

Charles Cuny, Jr. Superintendent, Little Wound School