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OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Community Schools, Thriving Students

Board Cover Memorandum

To Board of Education

From Sam Davis, Board Vice President
Gary Yee, Board Member
Clif Thompson, Board Member

Meeting Date September 8, 2021

Subject Resolution No. 2122-0012 - Requiring COVID-19 Vaccination for Students Aged 12 and Over

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Ask of the Board Introduction of Resolution No. 2122-0012 - Requiring COVID-19 Vaccination for Students Aged 12 and Over as a new legislative matter

Background

The COVID-19 pandemic has tragically claimed the lives of over 600,000 Americans over the last eighteen months. Currently, the Delta variant is sweeping across the country, returning infection rates locally and nationally to heights not seen since last winter.

Nationwide, hospitalization rates for COVID-19 are 29 times higher for people who were unvaccinated compared to those who are vaccinated, and vaccinated individuals who do get breakthrough infections with the SARS-COV-2 virus were much more likely to have only mild symptoms. The rate of infection for unvaccinated individuals during the Delta surge in Alameda County is approximately triple the rate for those who are vaccinated. Within OUSD, over 40% of confirmed COVID cases at District schools in the first two weeks of school have been at middle and high schools.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has determined that the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine is safe and effective in children aged 12 and over. Over 9 million children aged 12 to 17 years old nationwide are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. In Oakland, 54% of young people aged 12-17 are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, and 71% have received at least one dose.

State guidance requires unvaccinated students who have had prolonged contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 to quarantine, while vaccinated students who have had such contact but remain asymptomatic do not have to quarantine, allowing them to continue their in-person studies without constraint.

Discussion

The Resolution would requires all students, aged 12 and over, to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 unless prohibited by law. The Resolution would further direct the Superintendent to develop recommendations for enforcement of this vaccination requirement, and to report on such recommendations to the Board no later than October.

The Resolution would also direct the Superintendent to initiate a COVID-19 vaccination campaign and would encourage the Superintendent to establish vaccination thresholds and incentives for each school and incentives to meet such thresholds.

Fiscal Impact

To be determined

Attachment

- Resolution No. 2122-0012 - Requiring COVID-19 Vaccination for Students Aged 12 and Over

RESOLUTION OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2122-0012

Requiring COVID-19 Vaccination for Students Aged 12 and Over

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has tragically claimed the lives of over 600,000 Americans over the last eighteen months;

WHEREAS, the Delta variant of the SARS-COV-2 virus that causes COVID-19 has swept across the country, returning infection rates locally and nationally to heights not seen since last winter;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") determined that the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine is safe and effective in children aged 12 and over;

WHEREAS, according to Alameda County COVID case data, the rate of infection for unvaccinated individuals during the Delta surge has been approximately triple the rate for those who are vaccinated;

WHEREAS, according to a U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") report, hospitalization rates for COVID-19 were 29 times higher for people who were unvaccinated compared to those who were vaccinated, and vaccinated individuals who do get breakthrough infections with the SARS-COV-2 virus were much more likely to have only mild symptoms;

WHEREAS, according to the COVID-19 testing data collected by OUSD, over 40% of confirmed COVID cases at District schools in the first two weeks of school have been at middle and high schools;

WHEREAS, according to the CDC, over 9 million children aged 12 to 17 years old nationwide are fully vaccinated against COVID-19;

WHEREAS, according to the Alameda County Public Health Department, 54% of young people aged 12-17 in Oakland are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, and 71% have received at least one dose; and

WHEREAS, state guidance requires unvaccinated students who have had prolonged contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 to quarantine, while vaccinated students who have had such contact but remain asymptomatic do not have to quarantine, allowing them to continue their in-person studies without constraint.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, for the health and safety of Oakland's students, families, and staff, the Board of Education ("Board") hereby requires all students aged 12 and over to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 except for those exceptions required by law such as the exception for students for whom a physician has recommended against vaccination based on medical circumstances;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board directs the Superintendent to develop a process to determine and track which OUSD students are partially or fully vaccinated against COVID-19;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board directs the Superintendent to initiate a COVID-19 vaccination campaign, in partnership with the Alameda County Department of Public Health, as well as with students from the All City Council, Life Academy, Oakland High School's Public Health Academy, Castlemont High School's Community Health Equity Academy, Oakland Technical High School's Health BioTech Academy, and student leadership programs across all of our high schools and middle schools;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board urges the Superintendent as part of this vaccination campaign, to establish vaccination thresholds and incentives for each school, such that when the student body achieves a certain percentage of vaccination, they will be rewarded with an incentive; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board directs the Superintendent to develop recommendations for enforcement of this vaccination requirement, and to report on such recommendations to the Board no later than October.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District this ___ day of _____, 2021, by the following vote:

PREFERENTIAL AYE:

PREFERENTIAL NOE:

PREFERENTIAL ABSTENTION:

PREFERENTIAL RECUSE:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAINED:

RECUSED:

ABSENT:

CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a Resolution passed at a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District held on _____ _____, 2021.

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By:	

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

_____
Shanthi Gonzales
President, Board of Education

_____
Kyla Johnson-Trammell
Superintendent and Secretary, Board of Education