August 17, 2021

Hello everyone,

It has been wonderful to be in partnership with you as we get your children back into the swing of a new school year. As we navigate the challenges of this pandemic, particularly regarding the Delta variant, I do have a few updates on COVID-19:

- Although our employee vaccination rate is high at around 95%, our Board of Trustees voted last night on the following policy in order to ensure the health and safety of our students and our whole community: "In order to seek, obtain and/or maintain employment at Shalom School, the Board of Trustees requires that all full-time or part-time faculty and staff be fully immunized from COVID no later than September 30, 2021. Shalom School may exempt a faculty or staff member from this COVID immunization requirement solely for medical exceptions as outlined by the CDC. This request must be supported in writing by a treating physician who is currently licensed in the State of California. Any faculty or staff member who provides such a valid medical excuse must agree to properly wear a face mask at all times on campus, both indoors and outdoors, and provide documentation of weekly COVID testing." We look forward to being an institution with 100% employee vaccination rate and are grateful to our faculty and staff for working with us to get there.
- We have updated our <u>COVID-19 Decision Tree</u> with a slight change in guidance for outside of school exposure to COVID-19. Please continue to monitor your child(ren)'s health before you send them to school and be in touch about any questions or concerns regarding symptoms.
- This morning we were notified that we had a 5<sup>th</sup> grade student test positive for COVID-19. We have worked extensively with Sacramento County Public Health to ensure that we are taking the appropriate next steps, which include extensive cleaning and the 5<sup>th</sup> grade class quarantining and testing over the course of the next 8 days.

As always, we rely on families to be partners in ensuring the best educational experience for our students, and during this time more than ever, that includes prioritizing their physical health and safety and remaining vigilant as a community. As our tradition teaches, "all of Israel is responsible for one another." Please continue to make safe choices for your family with our whole community in mind and please reach out with any questions or concerns.

Take care,

Jilian Bar-or Head of School

## **COVID-19 Decision Tree**

Shalom School's mission is to provide each child with an outstanding education in a nurturing environment that is academically excellent, inclusive, innovative, and inspired by Jewish values and traditions.





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