



October 20, 2021

Dear Catholic School Families,

I am convinced that we have Guardian Angels in our midst through the commitment of our Catholic school teachers and administrators who have successfully kept our children safe and healthy during the pandemic.

I am reaching out to let you know that we are closely following recent news regarding proposed vaccine mandates in California schools. On Friday, October 1st, Governor Newsom announced a phased approach to COVID-19 vaccination requirements for K-12 students who attend in-person classes at public, private and charter schools. The link to the Press Release from the Governor's Office announcing the proposed school vaccine mandates is below. *At this point, all we have are the outlines of the Governor's proposal.*

The State has yet to prepare an official Public Health Order to this effect. When they do, our diocesan leadership will review it to understand the implications for our Catholic schools. *We will be guided by the same three principles that have governed our decisions throughout the pandemic: adherence to Catholic moral teaching; protecting the health of our students, faculty, and staff; and respect for the law.*

Thank you for your ongoing partnership, flexibility, and understanding as we navigate this situation. We promise to keep you informed as we learn more. May Christ the Teacher and our Holy Guardian Angels continue to bless and protect our Catholic schools.

God Bless,

Joan Bouchard,  
Superintendent of Catholic Schools

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/2021/10/01/california-becomes-first-state-in-nation-to-announce-covid-19-vaccine-requirements-for-schools/>