

**ERVING SCHOOL UNION #28**  
ERVING, LEVERETT, NEW SALEM, WENDELL, SHUTESBURY

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**JENNIFER J CULKEEN**  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

PRUDENCE MARSH, Ed.D.  
DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

BRUCE C. TURNER  
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

18 PLEASANT STREET  
ERVING, MA 01344  
413 423-3337  
FAX 413 423-3236  
www.union28.org

August 20, 2020

Dear Union #28 Families,

As some of you may have heard, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health announced yesterday that all school children in preschool through grade 12, as well as post-secondary students, will now be required to have an influenza vaccine as part of the series of required immunizations for school entry. All students in Massachusetts will be required to get the flu vaccine before the end of the year. The influenza vaccine is important to receive to reduce the risk of getting sick with influenza, reduce the severity of disease if one does get sick (including the risk of hospitalization) due to influenza, as well as preventing the spread of influenza to others. During the COVID-19 pandemic, influenza vaccine will be especially critical to reduce the overall impact of respiratory illness on our community, protect vulnerable community members from severe illness, and decrease the overall burden on the healthcare system.

More information can be found here:

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/immunization-requirements-for-school-entry-0/download>

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/school-immunizations#school-and-camp-requirements->

As always, we will continue to communicate any and all new information and guidance we receive as soon as possible.

Thank you.



Jennifer J Culkeen  
Superintendent of Schools