August 31, 2021

Dear Wheat Ridge families,

The Jefferson County Public Health order [JPH-PHO-21-002](https://www.jeffco.us/DocumentCenter/View/28586/JCPH-PHO-21-002-Requiring-Masks-and-Routine-Testing-in-Schools-and-Childcare-Settings)  (PHO) issued on August 17, 2021 and [revised on August 28, 2021](https://www.jeffco.us/DocumentCenter/View/28726/First-Amended-JCPHO-21-002-Requiring-Masks-and-Routine-Testing-in-Schools--Childcare-Settings-Final-8282021) requires Jeffco Public Schools to implement weekly COVID testing for unvaccinated students who participate in athletics and/or activities, and all unvaccinated Jeffco Public Schools staff beginning the week of September 7, 2021.

To organize our programs to meet the requirements of the PHO, we need to obtain vaccination status for all participants in athletics and activities with eligibility requirements. Please see the following table for athletics and activities with weekly testing requirements (included are both in season and out of season programs that may be holding organized team activities):

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Fall** | **Winter** | **Spring** | **Activities** |
| Cross Country | B. Basketball | Baseball | eSports |
| Field Hockey | G. Basketball | G. Golf | Music (Band & Choir) |
| Football | Ice Hockey | B. Lacrosse | Speech & Debate |
| B. Golf | Skiing | G. Lacrosse | Student Leadership |
| Gymnastics | G. Swimming & Dive | G. Soccer | Theater |
| B. Soccer | Wrestling | B. Swimming & Dive |  |
| Softball |  | G. Tennis |  |
| Spirit (Cheer & Dance) |  | Track & Field |  |
| B. Tennis |  | B. Volleyball |  |
| Unified Bowling |  |  |  |
| G. Volleyball |  |  |  |

Students participating in athletics and activities who are not vaccinated and any staff person in any role that is not vaccinated will need to be tested weekly and provide a negative test result in order to continue participating in their sport or activity, or for staff to continue to serve in their role. To facilitate the testing requirements, Jeffco high schools will provide on-site testing for any Jeffco Public Schools student. **More information about testing locations and schedules will be provided next week.** We are pleased to partner with CDPHE and [Mobile Health](https://www.mobilehealth.net/) in our testing efforts which are fully funded by CDPHE with no cost to Jeffco Public Schools. Testing will also be available for ALL Jeffco students and staff, regardless of vaccination status at our school testing sites.

***Athletics and Activities Participants - PLEASE DO NOW***

1. Students that provide a hard copy of their vaccination card will NOT be required to test weekly.

2. Students will need to turn in their vaccination card to the athletics office beginning on September 1st.

3. The deadline for turning in vaccination cards will be Friday, September 3rd in order to not test the following week.

We know this is a challenging time for our school community, and we are committed to making the notification and testing process as smooth as possible for our students and families. It is our goal to ensure that students can participate in all the sports and activities they love as it greatly impacts their school experience. We can only accomplish this with your help. We are #BetterTogether.

Wheat Ridge High School