



# Northfield School District 31

## Connect 31-Parent Education Opportunities

Join us for the Parent Education Series featuring presentations designed to help our families thrive. Learn more about the education series and find other helpful resources at [www.district31.net](http://www.district31.net).

## Protect Yourself and Your Community with the COVID-19 Vaccine

Thursday, February 4, 2021 - 6:30 p.m.  
Virtual Presentation for the SD31 Community

Getting vaccinated helps protect you, your coworkers, your family, and your community from COVID-19. During this informational session, Dr. TeKippe will answer all of your questions regarding the COVID-19 vaccine and share how we can all continue to do our part to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

In this informational session, you will receive clear, complete, and accurate messages about COVID-19 vaccines, which were evaluated on tens of thousands volunteers. The information from these clinical trials allowed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to determine the safety and effectiveness of the vaccines.

The FDA determined that the newly authorized COVID-19 vaccines meet its rigorous safety and effectiveness standards and are recommended by the FDA and CDC.

Learn more about the COVID-19 vaccine at [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/vaccines](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/vaccines).



**Michael Jon  
TeKippe, MD**

Dr. TeKippe is a Pediatric Infectious Disease specialist for Advocate Health Care.

### **Education**

Fellowship: Vanderbilt University, Pediatric Infectious Disease

Fellowship: University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, Pediatric Infectious Disease

Residency: St. Louis Children's Hospital, Pediatrics  
Medical School: Duke University School Of Medicine



Zoom Link to join presentation will be available at [www.district31.net](http://www.district31.net) on February 4.

# COVID-19 Vaccine Facts

## **Why get vaccinated?**

Your best protection from COVID-19 will be a combination of getting a COVID-19 vaccine, wearing a mask, staying at least 6 feet away from others, avoiding crowds, and washing your hands often. No one tool alone is going to stop the pandemic.

## **Is the vaccine safe?**

The available COVID-19 vaccines are approved and recommended by the FDA and the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices following standard testing and approval processes.

By prioritizing resources and efforts, the vaccines were developed quickly and never at the expense of safety. For more on vaccine safety visit [mass.gov/COVIDVaccineSafety](https://mass.gov/COVIDVaccineSafety)

## **Is the vaccine free?**

The COVID-19 vaccine is being administered free of charge to all individuals by the federal government. Insurance information may be asked for by those administering the vaccine in order to bill-back to insurance. However, you will not be charged. If you do not have insurance, you are still eligible to receive the vaccine free of charge.

## **You need TWO doses to be FULLY vaccinated**

Until you are fully vaccinated, you can still contract and spread COVID-19. Not everyone will be vaccinated when you are. And while we know it dramatically reduces severe cases and symptoms, we are still learning about the protection that COVID-19 vaccines provide under real-life conditions. Continue to wear a mask, wash your hands, keep distance and avoid groups between doses and even after your second dose.

You must receive your second dose of the same vaccine at the same site as your first.

- Pfizer vaccine: 21 days following first dose
- Moderna vaccine: 28 days following first dose

Second doses should be administered within 4 days following the 21 or 28 day mark. Before leaving your first dose appointment, schedule or confirm how to setup your next appointment.

## **If I have already had COVID-19 and recovered, do I still need to get vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine?**

Yes. Due to the severe health risks associated with COVID-19 and the fact that re-infection with COVID-19 is possible, vaccine should be offered to you regardless of whether you already had COVID-19 infection.

At this time, experts do not know how long someone is protected from getting sick again after recovering from COVID-19. The immunity someone gains from having an infection, called natural immunity, varies from person to person. Some early evidence suggests natural immunity may not last very long.

## **Will a COVID-19 vaccination protect me from getting sick with COVID-19?**

Yes. COVID-19 vaccination works by teaching your immune system how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19, and this protects you from getting sick with COVID-19. Being protected from getting sick is important because even though many people with COVID-19 have only a mild illness, others may get a severe illness, have long-term health effects, or even die. There is no way to know how COVID-19 will affect you, even if you don't have an increased risk of developing severe complications.

## **When can I get vaccinated?**

The phased vaccination plan for Illinois is available at <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/vaccination-plan>. Currently, Illinois is on Phase 1a (Healthcare Personnel, Long-term care facility staff and residents, and other identified congregate care staff and all residents).



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