



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 1, 2021

CONTACT: Jenna Schwartz, Co-Founder, 310.994.9764 (c); PSTLAUSD@gmail.com
Nicolle Fefferman, Co-Founder, 323.376.6513 (c)

Parents Supporting Teachers Supports Governor's Student Vaccine Mandate

Parents Supporting Teachers (PST), the largest parent advocacy group supporting Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) teachers and families, announces its support for the Governor's Executive Order mandating COVID-19 vaccinations for students once fully FDA approved.

"Vaccines are effective at limiting the spread and severity of COVID-19. They are also the most important part to ensuring schools remain open and children, teachers, staff, and families stay healthy. We've been saying this for months and are pleased he took bold and necessary action to mandate the vaccine for students statewide, said Jenna Schwartz and Nicolle Fefferman group co-founders.

"We have also heard of young people wanting the vaccine, but their resistant families are preventing them from doing so. This statewide mandate helps give those young people cover and might also help parents reconsider."

While LAUSD was the first school district to enforce a vaccine mandate for students, we've seen several other districts in the state follow. This mandate ensures protection for all school children regardless of school district. One additional step to ensuring this mandate is effective, is for the state legislature to pass the COVID-19 vaccination requirement into law and add it to the list of other immunizations required to attend school in California without personal or religious belief exemptions.

"Every single member of society who is eligible should do their part and get vaccinated. You do not get to put other children and vulnerable community members at risk because your belief is to believe in conspiracy theories and ignore science. Students and teachers already must be protected from certain diseases and COVID-19 deserves to be among them," parent and group moderator Rachel Wagner stated.

Students who do not receive vaccinations once they reach full FDA approval will be enrolled in online Independent Study Programs. The mandate will also allow families reluctant to return to in-person instruction feel safer about sending their children back to school, thus freeing up capacity at already overburdened online programs.

###

About Parents Supporting Teachers: Parents Supporting Teachers is a parent education advocacy group in Los Angeles with about 27,000 followers and is the only organically created group of this size exclusively dedicated to parent communication and education support in the entire LAUSD. Visit www.parentssupportingteachers.org to learn more and support our shared vision for equitable and inclusive LAUSD schools.