



State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Office of Public Health

December 16, 2021

SENT VIA EMAIL AND REGULAR MAIL

Henderson Lewis, Jr., Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools
2401 Westbend Parkway
New Orleans, LA 70114

Dear Dr. Henderson:

The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) acknowledges receipt of your December 16, 2021, correspondence and appreciates the efforts that NOLA Public Schools has undertaken to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19. The LDH agrees that vaccination is the most effective tool in preventing severe disease, hospitalization, and deaths.

As you correctly point out, La. R.S. 17:170 clearly provides that an educational institution may, with the approval of the Office of Public Health (OPH), require immunizations, or proof of immunity, more extensive than required by the immunization schedule approved by OPH. In the correspondence mentioned above, NOLA Public Schools, on behalf of 86 schools under its umbrella, has sought OPH approval to add COVID-19 immunizations to the immunization schedule effective February 1, 2022. This requirement would apply to entering and continuing students.

Pursuant to the applicable statute, OPH grants approval of your request to be more extensive with your vaccination requirements than the current approved OPH immunization schedule while still being supported by current CDC requirements. Specifically, this would apply to the individual institutions within your system as follows:

Charter Management Organization	School Name
Morris Jeff Community School, Inc.	Morris Jeff High School
Morris Jeff Community School, Inc.	Morris Jeff Middle School
Morris Jeff Community School, Inc.	Morris Jeff Elementary School
International School of Louisiana	International School of Louisiana: Dixon
International School of Louisiana	International School of Louisiana: Uptown
International School of Louisiana	International School of Louisiana: Westbank
ARISE Schools	Arise Elementary

ARISE Schools	Mildred Osborne Elementary
Crescent City Schools, Inc.	Harriet Tubman Charter School
Crescent City Schools, Inc.	Paul Habans Charter School
Crescent City Schools, Inc.	Akili Academy of New Orleans
Dryades YMCA	James Singleton
Educators for Quality Alternatives	New Orleans Accelerated High School
Educators for Quality Alternatives	The NET Central City
Educators for Quality Alternatives	The NET Gentilly
Firstline Schools, Inc.	Arthur Ashe Charter School
Firstline Schools, Inc.	Samuel J. Green Charter School
Firstline Schools, Inc.	Langston Hughes Academy Charter School
Firstline Schools, Inc.	FirstLine Live Oak School
Firstline Schools, Inc.	Phillis Wheatley Community School
French and Montessori Education, Inc.	Audobon Charter School: Lower
French and Montessori Education, Inc.	Audubon Gentilly
French and Montessori Education, Inc.	Audubon Charter School: Upper
Homer Plessy Charter Organization	Homer Plessy French Quarter Community School
Homer Plessy Charter Organization	Homer Plessy Treme Community School
New Orleans College Preparatory Academies	Walter L. Cohen College Prep
Significant Educators	Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary Charter School
Success at Thurgood Marshall	Success at Thurgood Marshall
Lycee Francais de la Nouvelle Orleans Inc	Lycee Francais de la Nouvelle Orleans: Patton
Lycee Francais de la Nouvelle Orleans Inc	Lycee Francais de la Nouvelle Orleans: Johnson
Advocates for Academic Excellence in Education	Benjamin Franklin Charter High School
Advocates for Arts-Based Education Corporation	Lusher Charter School: High School
Advocates for Arts-Based Education Corporation	Lusher Middle School
Advocates for Arts-Based Education Corporation	Lusher Charter School: Lower
Advocates for Innovative Schools	Robert Russa Moton Charter School
Advocates for Science and Math Education	New Orleans Charter Science Mathematics HS
Algiers Charter Schools Association	Martin Behrman Charter School
Algiers Charter Schools Association	Landry-Walker College and Career Prep High School
The Delores Taylor Arthur School for Young Men	The Delores Taylor Arthur School for Young Men
Bricolage	Bricolage Academy
Collegiate Academies	Sci Academy
Collegiate Academies	G.W. Carver Collegiate Academy
Collegiate Academies	Rosenwald Collegiate Academy

Collegiate Academies	Opportunities Academy
Collegiate Academies	Livingston Collegiate Academy
Community Academies	Lafayette Academy
Community Academies	Esperanza Charter School
Community Academies	Foundation Preparatory Charter School
Community Leaders Advocating Student Success	Fannie C. Williams Charter School
Einstein Group, Inc.	Einstein High School
Einstein Group, Inc.	Einstein Extension
Einstein Group, Inc.	Einstein Charter School
ENCORE	ENCORE
Friends of King	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Charter School for Science and Technology: Lower
Friends of King	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Charter School for Science and Technology: High School
Hynes Charter School Corp.	Edward Hynes Charter School
Hynes Charter School Corp.	Hynes UNO Charter School
Hynes Charter School Corp.	Mary D. Coghill Elementary School
InspireNOLA Charter Schools	Alice M. Harte Elementary Charter School
InspireNOLA Charter Schools	Andrew H. Wilson Charter School
InspireNOLA Charter Schools	Pierre A. Capdau Charter School
InspireNOLA Charter Schools	McDonogh 35 High School
InspireNOLA Charter Schools	Dwight D. Eisenhower Academy
InspireNOLA Charter Schools	Edna Karr Charter High School
InspireNOLA Charter Schools	McMain Secondary School
InspireNOLA Charter Schools	McDonogh 42 Elementary Charter School
Institute for Academic Excellence	Sophie B. Wright Charter School
KIPP New Orleans	KIPP East Community Primary
KIPP New Orleans	KIPP Booker T. Washington High School
KIPP New Orleans	KIPP Leadership Academy and Primary
KIPP New Orleans	Frederick A. Douglass High School
KIPP New Orleans	John F. Kennedy High School at Lake Area
KIPP New Orleans	KIPP Morial Primary and Middle
KIPP New Orleans	KIPP Central City Primary
KIPP New Orleans	KIPP Central City Academy
KIPP New Orleans	KIPP Believe
Lake Forest Elementary Charter School Corporation	Lake Forest Elementary Charter School
Legacy of Excellence, Inc	Benjamin Franklin Math and Science Elementary School
Living School	Living School
ReNEW Schools	ReNEW: Dolores T. Aaron Elementary
ReNEW Schools	ReNEW: SciTech Academy
ReNEW Schools	ReNEW: Schaumburg Elementary
Rooted School	Rooted School
Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation	Warren Easton Charter High School
Young Audiences Charter Association	Young Audiences Charter School at Lawrence D. Crocker
Elan Academy, Inc	Elan Academy Charter School

In granting this approval, we would remind you of the applicable exemptions contained in the statute, of which you are already aware. Finally, this approval should not be interpreted as a legal opinion as to the legality of any action taken in this regard. With best regards, I remain,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kimberly L Hood', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kimberly L Hood, JD/MPH
Assistant Secretary, Office of Public Health
Louisiana Department of Health

cc: Dr. Courtney N. Phillips, Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health
Joseph Kanter, MD, Louisiana State Health Officer
Charlayne Prentiss, Assistant to Joseph Kanter, MD
Stephen Russo, Esq., Executive Counsel for the Louisiana Department of Health
Matthew Block, Esq., Executive Counsel for Governor John Bel Edwards
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Jen Avegno, MD, Director, New Orleans Health Department

