



# ASHLAND COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your child is being offered the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine to prevent Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by SARS-CoV-2. The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine has been approved to provide a two-dose primary series to individuals ages five and older as well as a booster dose to those age 12 and older who have already completed the two-dose primary series (greater than five months ago).

If you wish for your child to receive this vaccination, the vaccine will be given to your child as an injection into the muscle. The vaccine is given in a two-dose series, 3 weeks apart. The booster dose is given as a one-time dose at least five months from the completion of the original two-dose series.

The vaccine has been shown to prevent COVID-19 and to reduce the risk of severe illness and/or complications of COVID-19 including hospitalization and death. The current duration of protection against COVID-19 is uncertain. COVID-19 vaccines provide protection against known COVID-19 variants. The more people who are vaccinated, the less chance the virus has to mutate. Getting vaccinated is one of our best tools to protect our health and stop the spread of the virus.

Some people have post-vaccination side effects. This is normal and means your body is building up the protection that it gets from the vaccine. Side effects are more common with the second dose than the first, but common side effects include; injection site pain, tiredness, headache, muscle pain, chills, joint pain, fever, irritation/swelling or redness at the injection site, nausea, swollen lymph nodes, decreased appetite, diarrhea, or vomiting. An additional known potential side effect is fainting in association with injection of the vaccine. If your child should experience any of these side effects, feel free to make use of Tylenol or Ibuprofen, whichever you have a preference for. It is also important to stay hydrated. Side effects usually last for one to two days; typically, by day three most people are reporting they are feeling back to normal. Side effects with booster doses are generally reported to be mild/minimal, lesser than that of the second dose.

Please refer to additional sheets in the packet for further information. When completing the consent form for vaccination, please indicate if your child is to be starting the series, completing the series if already started, or receiving a booster. If your child is starting the series, you consent to your child receiving the 2-dose series of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine at in-school vaccination clinics to be held three weeks apart. Please return the completed form to the health office/school office as soon as possible.

If you have additional questions, please contact Ashland County Public Health at 715-682-7028 and ask to talk with a public health nurse.

Thank you,

Liz Szot, RN, BSN  
Health Officer/Public Health Administrator  
Ashland County Health & Human Services