3/1 COVID Update: Symptom List for Students & Side Effects of Vaccines

Hi All,
Please check this update for the new list of symptoms for students (shared with parents and will be updated in our documents) as well as an FAQ on vaccine side effects.

Symptom Checks
The SF Department of Public Health has now adopted the CDC’s list of COVID symptoms for youth under 18, which is listed below. Moving forward, this is the list we will be using for screening at drop off and also during the school day. This will be updated in our documents accordingly.

- Fever (100.4°F/38°C or higher)
- Sore throat
- Cough (for children with chronic cough from allergies or asthma, a change in their cough from baseline)
- Difficulty breathing (for children with asthma, a change from their baseline breathing)
- Diarrhea or vomiting
- New loss of taste or smell
- New onset of severe headache

*San Francisco uses this shorter list of symptoms because some symptoms are so common in children that they are not helpful in determining if a child is likely to have COVID-19. Other symptoms are much less common in children with COVID-19 than adults.

The following was shared with parents: If a student is exhibiting other symptoms not on this list, and is unwell, it may be best to keep them at home. Many cold/flu symptoms not on the student list (such as runny nose/muscle aches) are still on the symptom list for adults. As such, if a faculty member comes down with any of those symptoms, they are required to stay home until receiving a negative test result. Let's help prevent the spread of colds/flus, as well as COVID.

Vaccine Side Effects
Here is a tip sheet regarding COVID vaccine side effects - take a look if you experience any and are looking for guidance.

Also, if you haven’t gotten vaccinated yet, and would like to, please see Shelly's message with a link to a form for setting up an appointment!