

**VERMONT STATE COLLEGES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
RESOLUTION NO. 2021-018**

**Endorsing vaccination requirement for students at Castleton University,
Northern Vermont University and Vermont Technical College**

- WHEREAS, Vermont State Colleges (“VSC”) institutions currently provide programs for over three-thousand students on residential campus across the state; and
- WHEREAS, The U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services has declared that the spread of SARS-CoV-2 and the resulting disease COVID-19 constitutes a public health emergency; and
- WHEREAS, COVID-19 can cause severe respiratory illness, hospitalization, and death in a subset of individuals infected with the virus; and
- WHEREAS, The COVID-19 Delta variant is substantially more communicable than the original COVID-19 disease, is present in the state of Vermont, and is currently responsible for 83% of the positive COVID-19 cases across the country; and
- WHEREAS, Safe and effective vaccinations are readily available; and
- WHEREAS, While over 83 percent of Vermont residents are vaccinated, less than 50 percent of the U.S. population is vaccinated, and traditional residential college-aged students are less likely to be vaccinated;
- WHEREAS, A significant percentage of VSC students are from an age group that is less likely to be vaccinated, and some come from locations outside Vermont with a lower vaccination rate and a higher positivity rate than the state of Vermont;
- WHEREAS, The Commissioner of the Vermont Department of Health has advised there is a strong public health rationale in support of college policies that seek to maximize vaccination rates of students against COVID-19; therefore be it
- RESOLVED, That the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees, for the health and safety of all members of our VSC and wider communities, endorses the recommendation that the COVID-19 vaccine be added to the list of vaccinations required of all students planning to attend a VSC residential institution in the Fall 2021 or thereafter.

Approved: July 22, 2021

Eileen M Dickinson

Eileen "Lynn" Dickinson, Chair of the Board of Trustees