

WELCOME TO YOUR WEEKLY EMPLOYEE UPDATE

In this update, you will discover...

- **COVID VACCINATION EDUCATION**
- **EMPLOYEE REFERRAL PROGRAM**
- **YOUR LINKEDIN PROFILE**

LETTER FROM OUR CEO

Hi Friend,

This week, the White House called for the nation to reach a 70% vaccination rate by the 4th of July. If our country manages to achieve this goal, it would be a truly amazing feat; just a few months ago, we witnessed infection rates and COVID-related deaths at their highest, which shocked and saddened us all. I continue to be inspired (and relieved) to see that much of the country has embraced vaccinations for the good of not just their families but also those around them in everyday public interactions.

The optimism doesn't stop there. Just last week, we received news from the Massachusetts EEC that restrictions were being eased – including a return to pre-pandemic guidance on how many children are allowed in a classroom, visitors once again permitted into schools, the easing of cleaning requirements, and the lifting of attendance tracking. Even masks are becoming somewhat optional. What a relief! Also, what a testament to our society for finding the will to act in the best interest of our community at large.

With that said, there is more to be done. I was in one of our Little Sprouts schools last week and was saddened to learn that only 50% of staff at the school had been vaccinated. It made me question if we as a company had done enough: did we provide enough ease-of-access to the COVID vaccine? Did our plan to offer paid time off for staff to get vaccinated succeed as intended? Did we give enough access to resources and education to help teachers and staff feel informed on the safety and effectiveness of the vaccine?

To that end, I'd like to remind you of the following:

1. [Our Webinar with Dr. Joseph Fauver on the safety of the COVID vaccine.](#)
2. [Our Webinar with Dr. Chaoui, which also covers the safety of the vaccine as well as how it was developed so quickly.](#)
3. [You'll find locations on where to book your appointment, no matter which state you live in, here \(along with the rest of our COVID-related resources.\)](#)
4. You are allocated one hour of paid time-off for the purpose of receiving the vaccine – ask your director or your direct report on how to submit the time off request.
5. Finally, please remember you are not alone. If you have any questions about scheduling an appointment, the experience of receiving the vaccine or need support in any way, please reach out to Meghan McGinley Crowe (mcrowe@littlesprouts.com) or Crissy Trayner (ctrayner@littlesprouts.com).

In the coming weeks, I predict that many companies will adapt their health and safety policies as new guidance comes out from the government - and, for us, the EEC, OEC, the State of Vermont, and DHHS. It is likely we will review our own policy, and we may very well adapt our requirements as well.

The fact is, ***we want to support anyone who wants to get the vaccine.*** So, in addition to the company supports we have listed above, I'm going to go one step further:

For every school that achieves a 100% staff vaccination rate (including those that already have), I will personally donate \$50 to a Teacher Scholarship Fund we will create in order to support YOUR personal and professional development.

That could mean an Assistant Teacher in Woburn, MA, could apply for funds to help pay to complete her Associate's Degree. A teacher in South Burlington, VT, could apply for funds to take an online course in mastering Microsoft Office programs. A teacher in Wilton, CT, could apply for funds to support the completion of her children's yoga instructor certification. This fund will be dedicated to furthering the skills, experiences, and certifications that can bolster your positive impact at school and in our world.

I understand that the past year has been more difficult than any of us could have ever imagined – and perhaps the thought of learning about a new vaccine to you is just one stressful new task too many in a year already full of them. But if you can devote a bit more time to learning about the safety you are ensuring for yourself, your family, your coworkers, and your community by getting vaccinated (and just as important, the risks if you do *not*), you will truly be doing yourself a favor.

It's my hope that presenting this opportunity, which allows you to both keep yourself safe and gives a fellow teacher a chance to receive some financial support, is that one extra nudge you need to act today.

With admiration,



David Post
Chief Executive Officer

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COVID VACCINATION EDUCATION

Vaccination appointments are now relatively easy to find. To find links leading to appointments in your state, information about the safety of the vaccine and more, please visit our [COVID-19 Resource page \(littlesprouts.com/covid-19\)](https://littlesprouts.com/covid-19).

[COVID-19 Resource Page](#)

EMPLOYEE REFERRAL PROGRAM

While we want to remind you that you're eligible to receive **up to \$1000** for referring a new hire, and it's as easy as making an introduction to our recruiting team - you're now eligible to **receive \$300 of the bonus on the new hire's first day of work!** If you know someone interested in joining our team, use the forms below (or just reach out to Crissy!). [Email Crissy at cstrayner@littlesprouts.com](mailto:cstrayner@littlesprouts.com).

[Employee Referral Program Information](#)

[Employee Referral Bonus Form](#)

YOUR LINKEDIN PROFILE

Creating a detailed and professional profile on LinkedIn is an essential step in anyone's career - and also a great place for you to share our current teaching positions! Check out the link below to learn how to make your LinkedIn profile truly shine.

[LinkedIn Profile Guide](#)

CAREERS

As we work to build enrollment back and invite more staff to return to school, we want to highlight open positions across our networks. If you or someone you know would be a good fit for any of our currently available positions, invite them to apply.

View Openings Here

[Little Sprouts Careers](#)

[Building Blocks Careers](#)

[Heartworks, STEAMworks & Loveworks Careers](#)



[Leave a Note of Gratitude](#)