ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONER
OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE
TO RESCIND THE COVID-19 VACCINATION REQUIREMENT FOR
PARTICIPATION IN HIGH RISK EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

WHEREAS, on December 10, 2021, the Commissioner of Health and Mental Hygiene issued an Order to Require COVID-19 Vaccination for Participation in High Risk Extracurricular Activities (December 10, 2021 Order”); and

WHEREAS, the December 10, 2021 Order was ratified by the Board of Health on December 20, 2021, pursuant to section 3.01(d) of the Health Code; and

WHEREAS, the December 10, 2021 Order was necessary to address the high level of community COVID-19 transmission and issued in accordance with guidance from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) and the New York State Department of Health (“NYS DOH”); and

WHEREAS, community levels of COVID-19 have recently been low citywide; and

WHEREAS, vaccination rates among 13- to 17-year old New York City residents are high, with 92% receiving at least one dose and 82% completing their primary series; and

WHEREAS, on August 22, 2022, the New York State Department of Education and the NYS DOH jointly issued a letter¹ encouraging school districts and schools to utilize the CDC’s Operational Guidance for K-12 Schools and Early Care and Education Programs to Support Safe In-Person Learning,² which does not recommend vaccination for participation in high risk extracurricular activities;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Ashwin Vasan, MD, PhD, Commissioner of Health and Mental Hygiene, subject to approval of the Board of Health, do hereby RESCIND, the December 10, 2021 Order, as ratified by the Board on December 20, 2021, requiring COVID-19 vaccination for participation in high risk extracurricular activities.

Dated: 9/20/22

Ashwin Vasan, MD, PhD
Commissioner
