Good Afternoon, this is First Selectman, Matt Hoey

We have had 18 new confirmed cases since last week. 6 or 33% of those cases were children under 12.

DPH reports 73 residents have received their 1st dose this week & 64 their second, not enough to drive our percentage beyond the 72% of Guilford’s total population fully vaccinated through last week. Removing those under 12 results in 82% of those eligible to receive the vaccine are fully vaccinated. This number also hasn’t changed since last week. For those aged 12-15, 55% are fully vaccinated with 63% with a first dose. For those aged 16-44, 80% are fully vaccinated and 86% with a first dose. For those aged 45-64, 74% are fully vaccinated and 76% have a first dose. For those 65+, over 99% have been fully vaccinated. We continue to have the lowest infection rate amongst our surrounding communities.

Currently, 18% of eligible Guilford residents have yet to be vaccinated. The vaccines are readily available at hundreds of locations across Connecticut and everyone who is eligible should consider receiving the vaccine.

Due to the uptick in cases, all members of the public, both vaccinated & unvaccinated, are again required to wear a mask in all town buildings. Town employees that interact with the public within a six-foot distance or without a barrier are also required to wear a mask during that interaction. Town employees are also required to wear a mask in any common area of a town building & when entering or exiting a town building.

The town will not be exercising its ability granted by the Governor to require the universal use of masks or face coverings, other than in town buildings. I, along with the Health Director, will continue to monitor the case numbers & implement changes to protocol, should the need arise. I do urge all of you to follow CDC recommendations and wear a mask when indoors in public spaces, regardless of your vaccination status. Please honor the wishes of any local businesses who are requiring masks.

Just a reminder that those under 12 still cannot be vaccinated & the percentage of cases for this group continues to rise so, please continue to protect them & yourself by practicing everyday preventative actions & ensuring that, to the degree it can be determined, those they interact with have been vaccinated.

And if you have not already done so, please get the vaccine.

Be Safe, stay well & have a great weekend.