



DAEMEN

COLLEGE

A World of Opportunity

Office of the President

November 16, 2021

Daemen College
Students, Faculty and Staff

Dear Daemen Community Members:

If you follow the news closely, you will have noted that COVID numbers continue to remain high in New York State. More importantly, as reported on the front page of the Buffalo News, WNY COVID cases are the highest in the state and unfortunately, on par with some of the worst areas in the country. That is not good news. Daemen continues to maintain a safe campus due in large part to our policies, systems, and high vaccination rate. While 93% of regular and full-time faculty and staff and 87% of students at our main campus are vaccinated, protection from those vaccines may wane over time. On the Daemen COVID-19 Dashboard, you may notice that we are seeing breakthrough cases here. The numbers are still excellent for this community, but we would be remiss if we did not inform community members of potential concerns.

All employees at Daemen who received their final vaccine dose more than 6 months ago (May or earlier) are eligible for the booster vaccine and are strongly encouraged to receive one if they have not already. Moreover, the Erie County Executive Mark Poloncarz said today that ANY eligible adult who wants one, regardless of what federal guidelines suggest, can get one. That means that all students who received their final dose in May or earlier are also eligible.

To that end, we are encouraging all community members to get the booster shot. This will be critically important as we gather next week for Thanksgiving and people are potentially exposed to others outside the Daemen bubble who may not be as cautious as we are here.

Remember, getting vaccinated, or receiving the booster, is not just about you, it is about protecting others also. Let's continue to be the leader we have been for WNY.

Cordially,

Gary A. Olson
President