

California County Superintendents Educational Services Association

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February 12, 2021

The Honorable Gavin Newsom Governor of the State of California State Capitol, 1st Floor Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Vaccination Priority and Rollout for School Educators

Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association, representing the 58 County Superintendents of Schools, we urge your Administration to work closely with local education agencies to ensure inoculation prioritization for all education and childcare workers statewide. We support the state's consideration to our hardest hit Healthy Places Index zip codes, while ensuring that the education and childcare workforce providing services in those areas are included in that prioritization.

We understand the difficult decisions made regarding prioritizing vaccines that are in such short supply and the rationale for ensuring equitable allocation. The education sector has been prioritized precisely because of its great societal impact and educators' role in mitigating the severe inequities experienced by children and their families during this pandemic. In-person learning is paramount to the social and emotional well-being and academic achievement of California's students. In-person learning is also critical so that parents, especially working women who have been disproportionately affected by the loss of childcare, can get back to work.

As the state looks to streamline efforts through a third-party administrator and the new MyTurn scheduler, we also urge the state to integrate the important work well underway at the local level. The education sector is uniquely primed to offer seamless vaccinations to our staff at worksites, or with first in line status with community vaccinations. Schools can readily notify employees when their designated appointment will take place, whether on school campuses in areas such as cafeterias, parking lots, or fields that can be utilized to provide the proper 6 feet between patients while they rest after inoculation, or in community vaccination centers.

We applaud the state's efforts to stand up mass vaccination sites, improve transparency and data, and ensure equitable vaccination outcomes. Our sector is uniquely positioned to assist and amplify the state's efforts to reach local communities since we are embedded within each community. As the state improves delivery systems statewide with the third-party administrator and MyTurn scheduling plans, it is critical to integrate the great work underway at the local level and not upend efforts that have been carefully planned. Our membership stands ready to immediately facilitate the necessary communication and logistics that will ensure a seamless, expedient inoculation schedule for our employees.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

L.K. Monroe Alameda County Superintendent of Schools CCSESA President

cc: Dr. Mark Ghaly, Secretary of California Health and Human Services Agency Dr. Erica Pan, Acting State Health Officer, Co-Chair of CVAC Dr. Tomás Aragón, Director, California Department of Public Health Yolanda Richardson, Secretary, California Government Operations Agency Tony Thurmond, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Linda Darling-Hammond, President, State Board of Education Brooks Allen, Executive Director, State Board of Education Honorable Toni Atkins, Senate Speaker pro Tempore

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