Dear K-12 School Partners,

On Monday, January 11, 2021, school personnel and childcare workers are eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccine! This includes everyone who works in the school/childcare environment including teachers, administrators, and custodial staff. We recognize that many schools and school districts are eager to ensure their employees and childcare workers in their community have access to vaccine. For this reason, we want to make you aware of specialized school/childcare points of dispensing (PODs) where you will be able to get vaccinated without going through the larger POD sites.

Maricopa County Department of Public Health is working with the Arizona School Administrator’s Association to identify approximately 22 “groupings” of school districts, private and charter schools (School Groups) in a similar geographic area. Each School Group will have a Point of Contact to help plan an event or multiple events where employees from all of the schools in that School Group can receive a COVID-19 vaccination from a pharmacy chain partner. That Childcare workers from the area will also be invited to attend these events. Since there is still a limited supply of vaccine available, we will not be able to immunize all employees at the same time, so several events will likely be planned.

To help with our planning, please respond to this survey by Wednesday, January 13th.

- Each public school district should complete the survey.
- Each private school should complete the survey.
- Each charter school should complete the survey. (NOTE: If you are part of a larger network, please complete one survey for each school.)

As we mentioned, vaccine supply remains limited, so districts and schools may need to prioritize who they invite to attend their School Group’s immunization event. Maricopa County Department of Public Health recommends that the following school and childcare employees who are at higher risk of severe disease or higher risk of exposure be prioritized for vaccine.

- Age greater than or equal to 65 years old
- Underlying health conditions that increase the risk of serious illness with COVID-19
- Those who are exposed to more students/colleagues in person should be prioritized over those who come into contact with fewer people.
- Please do not prioritize those who are working from home full time unless they plan to work in person once fully vaccinated.

Thank you for continuing to educate our children and for your partnership with public health.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Sunenshine, MD, FIDSA
Medical Director, Disease Control

In 2016, the Maricopa County Department of Public Health received accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board. For more information on this achievement, please visit phaboard.org.