



Superintendent's UPDATE

Thursday, December 16, 2021

COVID-19 Vaccination Update

Dear San Mateo County Education and Child Care Community,

Have you received your COVID-19 booster yet? If the answer is “no” then now is definitely the time to take care of that important task. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends boosters for everyone age 16 and older. According to Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, the [Omicron variant](#) “is the most transmissible virus of Covid that we had to deal with.” He also said that the boosters work against Omicron and those who are vaccinated and have taken their booster shots “will be relatively well protected at least against severe disease.”

There are a variety of options available for boosters, including our usual list of providers: [SMC Health](#), [Stanford Health](#), [Kaiser](#), as well as many pharmacies and community centers in the county. The [MyTurn website](#) includes options as well.

Everyone 16 years of age and older is eligible for a booster shot at least two months after their initial J&J/Janssen vaccine or six months after completing their primary COVID-19 vaccination series of Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna. Because Pfizer's vaccine and booster shots are the only ones cleared for use in children under 18, youth who are 16 and 17 may receive only the Pfizer booster.

Update on Vaccinations for Youth Ages 5-11

The County Office of Education, San Mateo County Health, school districts, and other partners continue to organize and facilitate vaccinations for our county's students, families, school staff, and child care providers. Last week we reported that 39.6 percent of children ages 5-11 had received a first dose of vaccine. This week, that number is 44.9 percent, with 28 percent having received two doses. In addition, 83.1 percent of youth ages 12-15 have received two doses of vaccine.

The latest set of school clinics organized by the County Office of Education and San Mateo County Health are steaming ahead with 260 children ages 5-11 receiving their first dose of vaccine at two clinics held this week and last week at Bayshore Elementary School. The Bayshore School District opened the clinics up to neighboring districts, and a cadre of school

nurses from several districts administered the shots. This collaboration is an excellent example of what it means to be a child-centered county!

There are 20 additional first and second dose clinics scheduled in January and early February. The County Office of Education will advertise them more broadly once the hosting districts have a chance to reach out to their school communities.

This is our last vaccination newsletter of 2021. I wish each and every community member a safe, healthy, and happy winter holiday season and look forward to working with you in 2022!



Nancy Magee
San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools

Please note: A copy of this letter in Spanish will be [posted here](#) shortly.