

To: All EPS staff
From: Dr. Ian Saltzman, Superintendent
Regarding: Updates on remote work and the COVID vaccination

Team,

As promised in the [January 4 message](#) about remote working until January 13, this is an update on work location moving forward. Governor Inslee updated the Healthy Washington Roadmap to Recovery and announced all regions are staying in Phase 1.

For us, that means, unless you are needed to support the return of students to school buildings, you will continue to work as you are currently working until the region data supports moving forward to Phase 2.

Administrators and supervisors have been working with all support staff connected with our Special Education programs returning to in-person instruction beginning January 19. We will continue to work with staff impacted by increasing in-person learning and update you on the current status and any changes.

There have also been updates since the [January 7 message](#) about the COVID vaccination distribution and prioritization here in Snohomish County. Here are four helpful resources:

- [FAQs about the COVID vaccine](#)
- [FAQs about vaccine distribution and prioritization](#)
- [Estimated timeline for vaccine phases in Snohomish County](#)
- [WA State COVID-19 Vaccine Prioritization Guidance](#)

In the coming weeks and months, the COVID vaccine distribution and administration process is expected to become much smoother and the pace of vaccination will increase significantly. Several vaccination sites are under development by the Snohomish County Vaccine Taskforce.

The distribution plan is quickly evolving and there is a push at the state level to move school staff sooner in the vaccination timeline. If anything changes, we will keep you informed.

As of now:

- We are in the process of offering vouchers to staff who meet the requirements under Phase 1A. Phase 1A includes high-risk workers in a health care setting.
- We are working with the health department and local Albertsons/Safeway Pharmacies to provide a vaccine clinic on site when our state moves into Phase 1B, Tiers 2 & 4.
- Phase 1B, Tiers 2 & 4 includes K-12 educators and staff who are working at the school (i.e., not remote workers).

Phase 1B Tiers 2&4	Eligible Groups
Tier 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific high-risk critical/essential workers 50 years and older who work in certain congregate setting. Includes workers in childcare settings and K-12 educators and staff during in-person schooling or childcare.
Tier 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific high-risk critical/essential workers under age 50 who work in certain congregate setting. Includes workers in childcare settings and K-12 educators and staff during in-person schooling or childcare.

As we look forward to bringing more students back into the classroom, we have implemented protocols to protect the health and safety of our students, staff, and families. Families are being directed to a [Parent COVID-19 handbook](#) as their students return to the classroom. There is also a [Staff COVID-19 safety handbook](#).

The health, safety, and well-being of our school community remains our top priority. We are following sound protocols aligned with expert health guidance.

As always, please continue to adhere to safety standards of wearing a mask, social distancing, and limiting gatherings.

Be safe and be well,

Ian