



# Superintendent's UPDATE

Thursday, February 25

## Vaccination Update

Hello San Mateo County Education and Childcare Community,

Today I begin this update with a reflection inspired by the image of the U.S. flag flying at half-staff this week outside the entrance to our building. Each day, I have walked through the front door under the shadow of 500,000 Americans lost to COVID-19 in less than a year. As a nation, we have the highest recorded number of COVID-19 cases and deaths in the world, with our communities of color hit the hardest. Many in our San Mateo County community have suffered personal losses. In light of this tragic marker in our history and on behalf of the San Mateo County Office of Education, from the County Board of Education to our SMCOE staff to the County Superintendent, we extend our most sincere wishes of condolence and comfort to all those who have suffered loss in this challenging time.

Today is also the right time for gratitude. Not only are we so thankful for our medical researchers and scientists who have produced an effective vaccine against COVID-19 with lightning speed, but we can also celebrate the nearly 3,000 TK-12 education workers who received vaccines this week along with our colleagues in the childcare field. This amazing feat was accomplished largely through the dedicated expertise of our San Mateo County health leaders. Together we were able to focus primarily on our highest priority groups based on their in-person work status and the student and community populations they serve.

Though we've made great progress this week, SMCOE will continue to implement our equity-focused distribution plan until all education workers are vaccinated. Those still anticipating a turn for a vaccine may experience their opportunity through a variety of different pathways as our list of participating community health partners grows. We ask that our education workforce remain patient and confident in the fact that we are doing all we can to move quickly through our priority process with the goal to reach every education worker providing service to our county's students as quickly and efficiently as possible.

In addition to this weekly update, education workers may also receive information through their district and school leaders. SMCOE relies on these partnerships across our communities to accomplish our goal of completing vaccinations for all San Mateo County's education and childcare workforce.

As a reminder, those in the early learning community should continue to check the [4C's website](#) for more information regarding upcoming opportunities. Additionally, all residents can

continue to monitor the State's offerings on the [MyTurn website](#) and follow local events at [SMCH's](#) and [SMCOE's](#) websites for information on vaccinations, including FAQs.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nancy Magee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nancy Magee  
San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools