

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Pierce County Public Health Completes First Dose COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics for K-12 School Districts in Pierce County

Every teacher and staff person who works in Pierce County K-12 schools has been offered the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, Pierce County Public Health announced today. Pierce County Public Health (PCPH), in partnership with nearby Dunn and Pepin Counties, has completed first dose vaccination clinics for each of the county's six school districts. This is just within three weeks of Wisconsin Department of Health Services' announcement that education staff were eligible for the vaccine.

"We are grateful to have received enough vaccine to complete first doses for our teachers and school staff in a three-week timespan. The excitement at each vaccine clinic is palpable- this feels like a great step in the right direction for our kids and our community," said AZ Snyder, Health Officer/Public Health Director.

"Our school staff have been interacting face-to-face with students for months, because they know how important in-person education is to our kids. We are so glad that our vaccination clinics will both protect these teachers from disease and support keeping our classrooms open," said Snyder.

Cases within schools cause disruption to learning, and vaccines are one of several prevention measures necessary to keep schools open. More than 3,100 students and staff have been identified as close contacts of cases who were infectious while in Pierce County schools. Vaccinations will reduce how often classrooms need to be closed, because fully vaccinated teachers will not be required to quarantine.

PCPH will begin vaccinating UW River Falls staff and faculty next week, in addition to opening up weekly appointments on their [scheduling link](#) for the Ellsworth clinic to people over the age of 18 with an underlying health condition as listed [here](#).

For information, resources, and data related to Pierce County's COVID-19 vaccinations, visit the COVID-19 vaccine section of our website: <https://covid-piercecounty-wi.hub.arcgis.com/>.



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To promote healthy behaviors, prevent disease and injury, and protect against environmental hazards