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Wolf Administration Visits Vaccine Clinic for Students Ages 5+ at Shippensburg Area Senior High School

The Best Way to Keep Students Learning in the Classroom is to Protect Against COVID-19

Shippensburg, PA – Pennsylvania Secretary of Education Dr. Noe Ortega and Acting Secretary of Health Keara Klinepeter visited a vaccine clinic for students and local residents this afternoon at Shippensburg Area Senior High School in the Shippensburg Area School District. Shippensburg Area School District is partnering with Henry's Pharmacy to provide vaccines to children ages 5-11, as well as vaccines and boosters for teens and adults. For children ages 5 to 11, this clinic will provide the first dose, and the second dose is scheduled for January 17, 2022.

"The Pennsylvania Department of Education has been visiting school vaccine clinics across the commonwealth since the vaccines were approved for children ages 5 to 11, and we are continually impressed by the turnout at these events," said Sec. Ortega. "For the past two years, our youngest learners have been the most vulnerable, and now that they are able to access this free, safe, and effective vaccine, they are able to continue learning in the classroom without additional disruptions."

The visit is part of the Wolf Administration's efforts to encourage all eligible Pennsylvanians to get vaccinated against COVID-19.

"The pediatric vaccine is safe and the best way to give our children the power to safely learn, play, and be a kid," said Acting Sec. Klinepeter. "The Department of Health will continue to encourage all Pennsylvanians to get their COVID-19 vaccine, and we are very

excited that we can include children ages 5 and older ~~— and boosters for everyone over 16~~
— in that effort.”

With parental consent, children are able to receive the free FDA-authorized, CDC-approved and pediatrician recommended Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. In addition to clinics at many schools, the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine is available at pediatrician offices, health centers, pharmacies, and other healthcare provider facilities.

“The Shippensburg Area School District has successfully implemented numerous mitigation efforts to enable students to have in-person learning this school year,” said Susan Martin, SASD Pandemic Coordinator. “We want to be able to continue in-person learning by maintaining our mitigation efforts and providing opportunities for our families to be able to easily access the COVID-19 vaccine. Providing vaccination clinics is one small way we can help to ensure students remain in school and our families can stay safe.”

The state Department of Health is working to ensure the vaccine is provided in a way that is ethical, equitable, and efficient across the commonwealth. Use [Vaccine Finder](#) to find a COVID-19 vaccine provider near you.

For more information on the [Pennsylvania Department of Education](#), please visit the [website](#) or follow PDE on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), or [Pinterest](#).

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