

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency California Department of Public Health



GAVIN NEWSOM Governor

September 26, 2023

Subject: Letter of Support for School-Located Vaccination

Dear Partner in Health:

As Director of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), I strongly support schoollocated vaccination as a strategy to protect as many of our children as possible.

Immunizations safeguard the health and future of our communities, particularly children. It is crucial to ensure that access to necessary vaccinations is convenient, timely and equitable.

Benefits of school-located vaccination include:

- Increased access to vaccines
- Convenience for families
- Timely immunization
- Decreased illness-related absenteeism
- Increased immunity for students, staff, student families and their communities
- Decreased seasonal burden on healthcare providers

There are many ways in which schools can partner with their local health jurisdictions, pharmacies, healthcare providers, academic institutions and community-based organizations to deliver vaccines at school. We encourage you to utilize the resources and partnerships already in place in the school community.

We understand that successful implementation of programs at schools requires careful planning, coordination, communication, and resources. We are committed to providing guidance and support for your school-located vaccination programs. Please visit <u>Resources for School-Located</u> <u>Vaccination</u> for tools and resources.

We look forward to helping you protect your students and communities.

Sincerely,

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Tomás J. Aragón, MD, DrPH Director & State Public Health Officer California Department of Public Health

