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**KANE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT PLANS TO BEGIN VACCINATING EDUCATORS  
(1b essential workers)**

*Educators and support staff Will be Receiving First Doses as Early as Next Week*

Geneva, IL. (February 4, 2021) - The Kane County Health Department is starting to vaccinate those in Education starting the week of February 8th. Roughly 78% of education personnel opted to get the vaccine, which equates to approximately 11,500 persons.

The health of school personnel is critically important in keeping schools open safely and getting kids back in the classroom. "We are grateful for the partnership with the Kane County Health Department working with our school districts to get educators and support staff vaccinated. This is one step in the process of returning to in-person learning," says Patricia Dal Santo, Regional Superintendent of Schools in Kane County.

The vaccinations will be scheduled throughout the week on a rolling basis. School districts will work with their staff on scheduling. Sites will be spread throughout North, Central, and South Kane County to make access convenient for district personnel.

This could not be done without the help of our partners. Advocate Aurora Health Sherman Hospital, VNA Health Care, Greater Elgin Family Care Center, Meijer, school district nurses, the Kane County Health Department, and the Kane County Medical Reserve Corps will all play a critical part in getting the vaccinations out. The Kane County Sheriff's department will play a key role in providing security and traffic control to secure the locations.

"This is a great example of a community coming together at a time when it needs it most," Interim Executive Director Kathy Fosser says. "We rely heavily on coordinating with our partners, and thank them for playing an integral role in this process."

Other vaccination sites for people over the age of 65 and other essential workers are still taking place throughout Kane County.

Even with vaccinations beginning, it's important to remember that this is only the first dose, and second dose sites are already planned. After the second dose, it takes several weeks to achieve immunity, and people can still infect others. Please continue taking precautions by wearing a mask, washing hands frequently, and practicing social distancing.

For more information, visit <https://kanehealth.com/>