In answer to the question: Which group or groups of individuals should be given priority in a phased approach?

Teachers need to be categorized as 1A for the following reasons:

- 1. At present, in our Baraboo School District, our teachers and staff are instructing students face-to-face, five-days-per-week and are being exposed to the potential for Covid-19 and its variants every day.
- 2. Teachers who are conducting in-person teaching like those in our district should be given priority over those who are teaching virtually elsewhere.
- 3. Masks are worn for a minimum of eight hours per day by teachers, staff and students. At the outset, the district provided two masks per students per year and one mask per teacher per year. The district's mass purchase of our sports logo Thunderbird masks were found to be too large to fit elementary students and teachers made up the difference by buying their own masks and some masks for their students. It should be noted that instead of masks, some students wear gators which do not meet the level of protection needed and many bring soiled, oft-used masks with them from home.
- 4. What started in September of 2020 by the school board as promises of safety measures for in-house teaching, set limits of 10 14 students per classroom in a standard sized class room. That number has morphed into 18 20 students in the same small classroom with promises of more students to come. It is said to be nearly "impossible" for teachers to keep students apart and seated a certain distance apart all day at their desks.
- 5. It was understood by all that cleaning of all surfaces in order to eradicate the virus would be increased. We did not realize it would be the teachers who would also have to pick up this duty. The teachers were given a list and a protocol that is supposed to be followed twice per day. They are the ones disinfecting the doorknobs, desks and all touchable surfaces twice a day. More exposure for them to the virus as they do that cleaning job as well. The janitorial staff comes in on Wednesdays to clean the floors and to handle the rest of the bulk cleaning duties.
- 6. Our teachers have no voice, no representation and no vaccinations to rely on. They are, in the words of one board member N.T. who interviewed some of them, "terrified." This has been echoed to those of us who live in this community.

- 7. The district administrator did not follow the guidelines of the Sauk County Public Health Department to shut down (as suggested at the end of October) when the agreed-upon metrics that were established at earlier school board meetings were met. This was another safety promise made and broken. Baraboo High School finally went all virtual on November 9 when so many teachers and staff were out sick or quarantining that students were, according to another board member T. H., being corralled in the commons area due to lack of teachers or substitute teachers to cover their classes. The elementary schools went to all virtual teaching from November 30 to the agreed-upon return date of January 11, 2021. However, at the December 14, 2020 meeting of the Baraboo School Board by a vote of 4 -3, the board decided to re-open earlier to resume in-person learning on January 4 and not wait to see what the Covid Christmas holiday aftermath would bring. In the December 17 Baraboo News Republic headline, board member S.M. was quoted as saying about the plan to reopen schools early, "I know a lot of people spend a lot of time with the data, and I don't." "I just look at our kids and I look at the opportunity." Once again, our teachers were back to being exposed on a daily basis with no say as to their own health and welfare.
- 8. In an e-mail I wrote to District Administrator Lori Mueller and to which she replied on November 10, 2020 regarding my concerns for the teachers and their lack of ability to get tested for Covid, she replied: "With regard to the St. Clare Hospital and Dean Clinics testing, it is our understanding that testing is not available to our staff if they do not have Dean health care. With the district shift to Quartz, our staff would most likely not have direct access for testing at these particular sites in the community." As explanation, it is because the previous school board chose to go with a provider (Quartz) that was not based in this community, that our teachers did not have easy access to testing here. In checking with the availability of Sauk County's free testing sites and times, these were held during the same hours that school was in session for our teachers. Teachers from our community were driving down to Madison on Saturdays to partake of the free testing hours there. In checking with the Sauk City/Prairie du Sac school, their teachers did have access to free testing from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. every weekday through their school and their hospital in Sauk as most teachers in their district are covered with an in-community health care provider. Again, our teachers are at a disadvantage.

- 9. In that same e-mail reply to me, District Administrator Mueller addressed my concerns about Baraboo teachers' inability to know if their students had been absent due to Covid or for other reasons. Her reply was, "Parents/guardians determine whether or not students with COVID-like symptoms are tested. The District does not have authority to mandate student testing. This holds true for when students return to school."
- 10. Because more parents are anxious to have their students return to getting face-to-face instruction in the physical classroom, the waiting list grows. At the last board meeting on January 11, 2021, it was decided to hire "guest teachers" without the necessary certification to take on the overflow. These guest teachers and their students will need to be under someone's tutelage so there may be even more cross-contamination as limited teaching staff possibly take on more students who will be seated in other rooms.
- 11. It should be noted that The CARES Act provided the monetary resources to cover the time for those teachers who were out sick with Covid or were quarantining for fourteen days during the first semester of the year. The Federal Cares Act money no longer covers this and teachers here in our district are now "on their own dime" and using their own valuable sick time if they become ill. Scenario: If one tests positive and is asymptomatic and feels fine, what are chances that that individual will stay at home? It may be too tempting to come to school in order not to burn up sick leave. This will contribute to more spread.
- 12. Many of our schools have antiquated ventilation systems that have not been updated in years. At the least, these systems should have been cleaned and filters should have been installed during the Covid school hiatus from March of last year until the re-opening in September. This would have helped to protect lives. This still has not been addressed in January of 2021. As a group, it is known that children do not get as sick with Covid, but they are known superspreaders. Recent statistics show that 59% of Covid transmission happens from asymptomatic carriers.

I would urge you to please move the teachers to the front of the line for the precious vaccinations. My husband and I, both approaching the age of 70 in March and with health issues which would move us forward in line, would both gladly agree to give our time slots for vaccination to our

daughter who is a teacher and to our dozens of teacher friends who have been on the front lines as teachers without the much needed battle armor.

I speak as a life-long Baraboo resident who keeps abreast of every school board meeting watching and participating via the computer, as a 37-year co-owner of a small Baraboo business, as a former Sauk County employee for fifteen years and as the grandmother of three, all of whom are sixthgeneration graduates of Baraboo High School.

We need to do better by our teachers and we are counting on you to help to make the teachers the recipients of the first order for Covid-19 vaccinations by moving them from the 1B to the 1A category. Thank you for taking the time to read this rather lengthy public comment. Susan Holmes, Baraboo, Wisconsin

To Whom It May Concern,

I would hope that the custodial staff, kitchen staff, IT department and office staff are considered when you say those in education. As a custodian, I am in contact with students and staff for part of my shift, and then left to clean up after them at the end of day. There are also some who are their with the students daily, cleaning up between lunch periods.

Kitchen staff, while only in the building part time are in a room with nearly 75 (at a time, for 4 shifts) unmasked students who are eating their lunches, and then cleaning up after them.

Office staff, while confined to an area, have students coming and going, including ill students waiting for parent pick-up. IT staff are dealing with students and staff who are having problems with their devices, which are usually pretty filthy.

I hope that we are indeed part of the education staff, and if we are not, that you would take our work into consideration.

Thank You for all you are doing to Stop The Spread! Have a wonderful day!

Robin Latus

From:	Angela Mullooly
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1b comments
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:19:43 PM

Please allow teachers and all school personnel who interact with students to receive the vaccine. The safer we can make the school setting, the more students can go back to in-person classrooms. This is important for parents who need their children in a safe environment, allowing more parents to get back to a more normal work schedule.

It is also important as teachers and school staff who are currently expected to teach and work in person often do not have the proper protective equipment to safely be around others for many hours of the day. Many teachers are working with windows open in January while fans are running just to get air flow in the classroom. Teachers are risking their lives to teach in person, while students and parents are gathering in groups outside the school setting. Vaccinate our school staff! Let us all go back to school safely.

Angela Mullooly Wauwatosa

To whom it may concern at the DHS and SDMAC,

I urge you to confirm the inclusion of Wisconsin's teachers in the 1b vaccination group and get vaccines out to teachers this month!

I'm a teacher in Southeastern Wisconsin, and my district is returning to in person classes in about a week. Many of my coworkers have comorbidities, yet we will be forced to be in rooms with students for 80 minute class periods, with multiple groups of students each day. This is definitely a large gathering of people who we don't live with, as the CDC recommends against. I'm terrified to return, and had hoped that Wisconsin could get teachers vaccinated before this time- many other states are there already!

It is also winter in Wisconsin, so recommended mitigation strategies like opening windows or taking students outside won't be options now. When our district attempted to hold in person classes for a couple of weeks last fall, we did not make it very long before burden rates increased, teachers were sick or in quarantine, and substitute teachers were not willing or available to take the positions. If teachers who want to be vaccinated, many of these issues can be resolved and all of our students across the state benefit. The community runs better when teachers are in schoolplease help make it safer for us to be there!

Please do your part to ensure high risk teachers, and teachers in general, are able to get this vaccine as soon as possible.

Thank you for your time and consideration, Lauren Miller

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

I stand with educators and WEAC in requesting all public school employees be prioritized in the vaccine distribution process.

Educators and school staff meet numerous individuals for sustained periods of time throughout the course of a workday. Often, they are working in enclosed spaces with poor ventilation and large classes. Further, it is estimated that 1 in 4 school employees are in a high-risk age range or exhibit comorbidities. The state has a duty to protect its teachers and school staff who serve as a backbone to our democratic society.

Prioritization of K-12 public school employees for COVID-19 vaccines will protect educators, but also produce a significant positive impact on the physical, emotional and intellectual health and well-being of children. Prioritizing public school employees can lead to safely restoring in person school schedules consequently elevating familial pressures leading to broader positive benefits for the state's economy.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Jeanne Jarecki

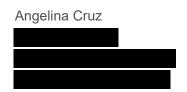
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From:	Julia and Jim Jespersen
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccination 1B public comment
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:48:13 PM

I am writing to strongly urge you to place teachers and school staff in the highest possible priority to receive the Covid-19 vaccination. Science indicates that the longer a person is in the presence of an infected individual the more at risk they are of contracting the virus. Also, though children are thought to possibly spread the virus at lower rates, the evidence is not clear and they absolutely still can transmit if contagious. Though older age populations may have higher mortality, curbing the spread is at highest priority and vaccinating people, such as teachers, who are mandated through their employment to be in close proximity to others for extended periods of time would also provide some protection to the older populations. Most of those 65 and older can function in daily life with minimal risk, while our teachers are daily exposing themselves. Virtual learning, especially for the younger grades, is not even close to as effective as in person learning. The mental health toll on our children, even those in the most privileged situations as mine are, are devastating. We need kids back in school, our teachers need to be safe by getting vaccinated in a priority group - before older adults, before grocery workers, before other essential workers who do not have to be in a room with multiple individuals for extended periods of time where strict social distancing is impossible.

Please vaccinate our teachers and school staff as soon as possible.

Julia Jespersen

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Michelle Maas

Good evening,

As you meet this week to finalize criteria for the 1B vaccination group, please make it a point to include all school district employees. While it is important to include our teachers in order to keep them protected and schools open, schools cannot run without the custodians, food service workers, support staff, and administrators who all play a vital role in our educational system. Excluding any one of these groups would be counterproductive.

Thank you for your consideration, -Matt

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Matthew Kaemmerer Director of Pupil Services Oshkosh Area School District (920)-424-0113

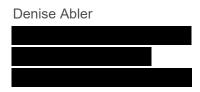
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Educators and school staff interact with numerous individuals for sustained periods of time throughout the course of a school day. Often, we are working in enclosed spaces with poor ventilation and large class sizes. Further, it is estimated that 1 in 4 school employees are in a high-risk age range or exhibit comorbidities. The State has a duty to protect our teachers and school staff who serve as the backbone of democratic society and economy.

Prioritization of K-12 public school employees for COVID-19 vaccines will protect educators, but also produce a significant positive impact on the physical, emotional and intellectual health and well-being of children. Prioritizing public school employees will lead to safely restoring inperson school schedules thus alleviating family pressures leading to broader positive benefits for the State's economy.

It is clear vaccination of minors will occur toward the end of the vaccination distribution. Therefore, vaccination of those who come in close contact with children (outside their family unit) is critical in reducing community spread. Additionally, teachers are trusted professionals who can create community confidence in the vaccine.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mary Jo Fesenmaier



From:	bethrich1@aol.com
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Please vaccinate teachers
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:08:05 PM

Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee:

My name is Allison Shinners, and I am a kindergarten teacher in the Whitnall School District. I don't need to explain to you what a profound impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the world. However, I can provide some personal insight into how my life as an educator, as well as the lives of my students, has been completely altered over the past year. I'm hoping that this information demonstrates the importance for educators across our state to get vaccinated as soon as possible.

Since March 2020, I have been teaching kindergarten students virtually. This is something that I was not trained, hired, or anywhere near prepared to do. Starting in September, I gained a new community of young five and six year olds. By June, they will have gone their entire 1st year of schooling without ever having stepped foot inside our building. (Families had to select the virtual model for the rest of the semester; 23 families will remain virtual in my class through the rest of the year.)

I don't truly think we will see the impact that this has on child development for years to come. So much of kindergarten is focused on social interaction and becoming acclimated to the structure of life at school. While I am doing everything in my power to ensure that my students are academically prepared when they can safely return to school, there is only so much that I can do to foster the social emotional development that they are missing out on from interacting with their peers.

You've asked for specifics on the way the pandemic has affected our sector. I cannot begin to tell you the impact this has had on the physical and wellbeing of educators around the world. We are being asked to do a completely different job than the one we were trained and hired to do. We are exhausted and burnt out from juggling the constantly changing aspects of our job. We are flipping from in-person to virtual learning, or sometimes both at the same time, with just hours to prepare.

I'm sure you are aware of the public outcry for schools to open. My building has remained open for in-person learning so far all year, but over 100 families in our small district have made the choice to keep their children in the distance learning model all year. They are the privileged few that are able to do so. With parents returning to work, it is simply not an option for every family.

I believe educators need to be provided access to the vaccine in the next phase. I think the pandemic has highlighted how crucial schools and educators are to the function of our society. It is important that we are able to begin our journey back to normalcy, so that our communities can also begin to reopen and rebuild.

Thank you for your careful consideration,

Allie Shinners Kindergarten Teacher Edgerton Elementary 5025 S. 116th Street Greenfield, WI 53228

To Whom it May Concern,

As the parent of two elementary school children who have not attended in person learning in almost a year, I implore you to place teachers at the top of the list to next receive the vaccine. The teachers union in my children's district is fighting to remain remote until teachers are vaccinated. My kids and all kids NEED to return to the classroom for their mental, social and academic well being. Please make this a priority. Thank you.

Dr Julie Rashkis Clinical Psychologist Resident of Mount Pleasant

Sent from **BlueMail**

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Thank you for your consideration.

Emily Rohde

From:	Craig Robida
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	prioritization for 1B vaccination
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:54:09 PM

I kindly implore you to consider teachers and school support staff in your prioritization for 1B vaccinations.

Thank you. Craig Robida Madison, Wisonsin

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Hello,

I'm just writing to support the vaccination of teachers. They are so important in the health and well-being of our kids. We need to get them back in school!

Thank you, Tracy

Sent from my iPad

Good evening DHS,

Thank you for your hard work during this COVID pandemic! Your guidance and comments (along with our governor's) made me feel like we had people in charge of our state who knew what they were doing. Thank you!

I heard on the news that you were seeking input about who should be in the next phase of the vaccine - Phase 1B. As an educator currently doing face-to-face instruction, I'd like to recommend the group of people who include teachers.

Teachers have been on the frontlines this school year, going to school daily facing infection. While the face mask ordinance is helpful (and so appreciated!), it doesn't do enough as we have many children in our classrooms who choose not to wear the face mask properly or don't realize they're not wearing it properly. In addition to teaching content and emotional health during this awful time, now I also worry daily about my health and the health of my family everyday I go into work. I have to make personal sacrifices knowing that I interact with 70+ students daily, which has also been difficult, and constantly worry anytime a student is home sick. We are dealing with so much currently - teaching students in our rooms and the students who are choosing to do virtual at the exact same time - being included in the next vaccine group would take one thing off our plates.

Thank you for seeking public input, and I hope you consider allowing teachers in 1B.

Sincerely, Abbie Withbroe

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

I stand with educators and WEAC in requesting all public school employees be prioritized in the vaccine distribution process.

Educators and school staff meet numerous individuals for sustained periods of time throughout the course of a workday. Often, they are working in enclosed spaces with poor ventilation and large classes. Further, it is estimated that 1 in 4 school employees are in a high-risk age range or exhibit comorbidities. The state has a duty to protect its teachers and school staff who serve as a backbone to our democratic society.

Prioritization of K-12 public school employees for COVID-19 vaccines will protect educators, but also produce a significant positive impact on the physical, emotional and intellectual health and well-being of children. Prioritizing public school employees can lead to safely restoring in person school schedules consequently elevating familial pressures leading to broader positive benefits for the state's economy.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Beth DeGuire

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Thank you for your consideration.

Lisa Mahan

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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I am very concerned about the health of teachers/aides who work in multiple classrooms (spec. education teachers and aides, art, music, gym, foreign language). They come into contact with so many students over the course of a day. Also special education in particular as they may be working with children who aren't masked due to disability or medical issues without the possibility of social distancing.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Jenny Stoltz



From:	Shawna Silberzahn
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Comment on Phase 1B
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:24:47 PM

I believe teachers and childcare workers should be included in Phase 1B of vaccination distribution.

Thank you for your consideration!

Shawna Silberzahn



WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Miriam Gerrietts

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sarah Danforth

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Thank you for your consideration.



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Thank you for your consideration.

Nicole Passentino

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Marianne Kirsch mpetruzzello@gmail.com 880 Madera Circle Elm Grove, Wisconsin 53122

I feel that Seniors 65+ should be in phase 1b ahead of inmates.

Sent from my iPad

From:	Patti Geidel
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Covid vaccinations
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:03:27 PM

I think Group 1B should include DPI recognized schools, including teachers and staff. Do not expand it to ancillary groups who consider themselves educators, like libraries.

I strongly think the age group should be 65 and up. Wisconsin has a disproportionately large nursing home/assisted living facilities population compared to other states. The vaccine has not been open to older people not living In facilities, as it has been in Florida, Tennessee, South Carolina, etc.

I spent 6 days in the hospital in mid February 2020 with "acute respiratory distress", from which I have not recovered. I don't want to repeat this. I am 68 years old. I know many others in the 65+ group who are similarly challenged. We are a high risk group.

Thank you for reading this.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Geidel

Sent from my iPad

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Tara Bradford

From:	Adrienne Viramontes
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine category feedback
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 5:52:23 PM

My name is Adrienne Viramontes and I am an Associate Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside in Kenosha, WI. I would like to see faculty and staff who work at all of the campuses be considered as the same kind of teachers as those in K-12. Staff members at each campus teach 5 classes with anywhere between 30-100 (and more) students per class. Faculty who are at campuses other than Madison teach 4 classes with the same amount of students. This is to say that we are in contact with numerous students.

Being vaccinated would allow us to return to the classroom and help to increase the amount of funds that UW System generates for the state. Vaccinations would also help with education continuity for adult students as well.

Thank you for your consideration, Adrienne Viramontes

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Bill Kenning

Teachers to the top of the list. And those teachers that are high risk to the top of that list!!!

I am a 52 year old teacher that has had two heart attacks. I am in the classroom everyday teaching my students--we are NOT virtual. I am risking my life every day. Teachers across the country that are teaching virtually have already been receiving the vaccine. We have had several cases of COVID in our building. <u>Please put teachers that are in the classrooms with comorbidities</u> at the top of your list!

From the public perspective, I have been defending the Wisconsin DHS, but it has been very hard when it seems you just keep having meetings, but end up with no plans. Several states are well into phase 1B, and we are still trying to decide who should get the vaccine. Please act with URGENCY and make these decisions quickly--people are dying!

--Bart Wepking 5th and 6th Grade Teacher Wheatland Center School 537-3937

NOTICE: This email message, including any attachments, is for the sole use and the intended recipient(s) regarding the business of the Wheatland J1 School District, and may contain information that is legally privileged, confidential, exempt from disclosure, and protected by federal and state law. Any unauthorized review, use, or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply email and delete all copies of the original message. Thank you.

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Meg Kenning

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Kristin Sherman

Get those teachers vaccinated and get these kids back in school!

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Jennifer Broadley

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

Please prioritize educators. I have been teaching in person all year. I work at a middle school for the Oconomowoc School District. Middle schoolers don't properly wear masks or wash hands. I have been out once for symptoms and once for being in close contact with a student who was positive. I am running out of the federa sick days via CARES, which worries me because I am new to this district this year. I don't have saved up sick days. The amount of exposure and having no say about the decisions about being in person should grant me the right to get a vaccine as soon as possible. Thank you for considering.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Rebecca Schmitz

Hello,

My name is Megan and I teach kindergarten to 16 five and six year olds. We have been in-person teaching since day 1. Our district decided to stay open for those who wanted to send their children. I had to choose between a paycheck and my safety and unfortunately, I needed to pick the one that would pay the bills.

There is no such thing as socially distancing 6ft apart in kindergarten. We do our very best to distance when we can, wash and sanitize hands and surfaces but there are times when it just doesn't work. When a 5 year old can't tie their shoes, can't open their snack, can't find their workbook page, am I suppose to say no? It is my job to teach these children, to provide care and safety and love and sometimes while doing that, I am risking myself by being too close for too long. It's a risk I take everyday but I do it for the children because they need me and that's the job I love.

It's been a very scary, frustrating and year filled of unknowns in my classroom. I'm only 30 years old but I have asthma and parents who are immune compromised. I've had to pick between risking transmitting something I caught from school or seeing my family. It has been a very tough 5 months while back in the classroom and I go to work everyday hoping my students and their families are making safe choices outside of school to help keep us all healthy. I've had one student test positive this year which required my entire class to quarantine. The shift from in person to virtual and back with 5 years is no easy task.

I strongly believe educators, especially ones who have been in person since September, should be given the choice to get vaccinated and soon! I want to finally feel safe and want my families of my students to feel at ease that the people who take care of their children 8 hours a day, 5 days a week are protected.

I hope in-person educators are the next in like for the vaccine. I need to be protected so I can continue to stay in person to teach, to take care of these children and to protect my own family from this virus.

Thank you for your time,

Megan

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Dear sir or madam,

As you have rightly included teachers in Phase 1B, please consider those who teach IN PERSON at UW Madison and other universities. I have volunteered and have taught in person since September, and have 3 classes this semester with over 120 undergraduate students. I visit my mother who is 74 and has no one else to care for her; if I get infected and unknowingly infect her, she might die. I will still volunteer out of concern for the welfare of my students but a priority for the vaccine makes sense in my case and in the case of similar others. Thank you for your consideration,

Moses

Dr. Moses Altsech teaches in the Top 10-ranked Marketing Department at the Wisconsin School of Business of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and is the President of Altsech Consulting. For more information about his background and expertise please visit <u>www.callmoses.com</u> or <u>www.linkedin.com/in/callmoses.</u>

From:	Carrie Perock
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 5:03:32 PM

Please include College professors in 1b. I teach at Waukesha County Technical College and would like to be vaccinated soon. Thank you. Carrie Perock

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

I stand with educators and WEAC in requesting all public school employees be prioritized in the vaccine distribution process.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Mary Jo Canham

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Jackie Dethloff

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Thank you for your consideration.

Jackie Dethloff

From:	Peg Yanke
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	1b group
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 4:54:59 PM

Teachers should be in the next group to get vaccination. We have to get students back in the classroom. Adults 65 and older, regardless of underlying conditions should also be included.

Sent from my iPad

From:	Jodi Weigelt
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Sub Committee Phase 1b
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 4:54:25 PM

I am a retired teacher that was acting as a substitute teacher, tutor for Special Ed services, and private tutor up until March of 2020. I have family members with pre-existing conditions, thus I stopped all in person work last March. I believe all teachers should be considered essential workers and vaccinated ASAP. Thank you for considering, Jodi Weigelt

Jodi

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Catherine Zahalka-Salazar

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

I stand with educators and WEAC in requesting all public school employees be prioritized in the vaccine distribution process.

But don't forget substitutes! I am a substitute for many districts in south eastern Wisconsin. I have four co-morbidities so I am at high risk and therefore cannot work in schools. I am afraid to apply for unemployment because substitutes are needed right now. Would they say that technically I have a job even though I cannot work it? If I was vaccinated I could work again.

Educators and school staff meet numerous individuals for sustained periods of time throughout the course of a workday. Often, they are working in enclosed spaces with poor ventilation and large classes. Further, it is estimated that 1 in 4 school employees are in a high-risk age range or exhibit comorbidities. The state has a duty to protect its teachers and school staff who serve as a backbone to our democratic society.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Kevin McDonald



WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Rachel Keene

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Erin Maliszewski

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

I stand with educators and therapists in requesting all public school employees be prioritized in the vaccine distribution process.

Educators and school staff meet numerous individuals for sustained periods of time throughout the course of a workday. I am a speech therapist who works 1:1 with students in an enclosed room. Our district has been face to face with students except for a 2 week period. I feel that I risk my life every time I walk in the door. I am 60 years old, and don't have the option of being retired. I love what I do, but I haven't felt safe doing my job the entire school year. It has taken a terrible toll on my mental health. And, it isn't just me. It is estimated that 1 in 4 school employees are in a high-risk age range or exhibit comorbidities. We were designated essential workers and we should be treated as such for the sake of staff and students alike. The state has a duty to protect its teachers and school staff who serve as a backbone to our democratic society.

It seems just common sense as well, that the state would want to vaccinate teachers in February or March rather than in June when school lets out for the summer. Lives can be saved.

Prioritization of K-12 public school employees for COVID-19 vaccines will protect educators, but also have a significant positive impact on the physical, emotional and intellectual health and well-being of children. Prioritizing public school employees can lead to safely restoring in person school schedules consequently elevating familial pressures leading to broader positive benefits for the state's economy.

It is clear vaccination of minors will occur toward the end of the vaccination distribution. Therefore, vaccination of those who come in close contact with children is essential in reducing community spread. Additionally, teachers are trusted professionals who can create community confidence in the vaccine.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mary Worachek-Jarocki

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

I stand with educators and WEAC in requesting all public school employees be prioritized in the vaccine distribution process.

Educators and school staff meet numerous individuals for sustained periods of time throughout the course of a workday. Often, they are working in enclosed spaces with poor ventilation and large classes. Further, it is estimated that 1 in 4 school employees are in a high-risk age range or exhibit comorbidities. The state has a duty to protect its teachers and school staff who serve as a backbone to our democratic society.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Laura Lambert

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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It is clear vaccination of minors will occur toward the end of the vaccination distribution. Therefore, vaccination of those who come in close contact with children is essential in reducing community spread. Additionally, teachers are trusted professionals who can create community confidence in the vaccine.

Thank you for your consideration.

Stephanie Billmyer



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Thank you for your consideration.

Lara Szatmary

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Furthermore, as a pregnant first grade teacher, in-person teaching can be scary at times, from doing lockdown drills to explaining to six-year-olds about the world we live in. This school year has been the scariest yet. I am continually worrying about the health and safety of my students and their loved ones, not to mention my own. I am constantly wondering if today is the day I am going to bring home COVID to my two-year-old all because I am exposed to my 25 maskless first graders as they are required to have lunch in the classroom this year. Yet while I am also frequently wondering if getting the vaccine is safe for my baby in utero, I know that fact-based science is the light at the end of the tunnel. This is why I am please encouraging you to move educators to the front of the vaccine line. Just as healthcare workers do for their patients, we educators put their lives on the line every single day for our students. Please acknowledge and support us by moving educators to the front of the vaccination line. Thank you for your consideration.

Sarah Shumaker

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

SARA OLSON

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

I am 72 yrs. Old, immuno compromized and I also have an 8 year old child in my home on a daily basis for virtual learning.

Even though I need to be immunized ASAP, I stand with educators and WEAC in requesting all public school employees be prioritized in the vaccine distribution process.

This is one way that my family can finally be comfortable with sending kids back for in-person education. My life depends on this too.

Educators and school staff meet numerous individuals for sustained periods of time throughout the course of a workday. Often, they are working in enclosed spaces with poor ventilation and large classes. Further, it is estimated that 1 in 4 school employees are in a high-risk age range or exhibit comorbidities. The state has a duty to protect its teachers and school staff who serve as a backbone to our democratic society.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Catherine Kucharski

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

I stand with educators and WEAC in requesting all public school employees be prioritized in the vaccine distribution process. The fear and anxiety that many teachers have held as they go to school each day with a smile on their face trying to provide the best education they can is unsustainable. For months now teachers in 100% in person or hybrid instruction have been handicapped by fear. Just as we know students don't learn best when their needs aren't met, adults can't teach best when they also feel unsafe. Prioritizing educators for the vaccine will give them the assurances they need to focus on educating to the best of their ability. It will also give confidence in schools returning to in-person instruction which we know is better for the majority of students.

Educators and school staff meet numerous individuals for sustained periods of time throughout the course of a workday. Often, they are working in enclosed spaces with poor ventilation and large classes. Further, it is estimated that 1 in 4 school employees are in a high-risk age range or exhibit comorbidities. The state has a duty to protect its teachers and school staff who serve as a backbone to our democratic society. Recent research out of Europe suggests that although schools may not appear to be "hot spots" they do contribute to the spread of Covid in the community, so prioritize safe instruction in schools is key.

Prioritization of K-12 public school employees for COVID-19 vaccines will protect educators, but also produce a significant positive impact on the physical, emotional and intellectual health and well-being of children. Prioritizing public school employees can lead to safely restoring in person school schedules consequently elevating familial pressures leading to broader positive benefits for the state's economy.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Kathleen Mahoney

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Megan Murphy

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Mary Van Slett

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Elizabeth Denzin

From:	<u>Belinda</u>
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine subcommittee
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:37:59 PM

Please open clinics in schools where teachers are teaching blended or in person. We have constant contact with a population that doesn't or can't follow simple safety precautions. I teach in a public high school and parents are clambering to move to all in person instead of blended, but the count in the county and our suburb is horrific. Please give us something to make us at least a little bit safer. My life depends on it. As an older teacher with underlying health issues who lives alone, I don't have the luxury of not working.

Please help me and my colleagues feel safer serving the children and young adults in the community. Sincerely,

Belinda G Bjerkvold Sent from my iPhone

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

I stand with educators and WEAC in requesting all public school employees be prioritized in the vaccine distribution process.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Kristen Cohen

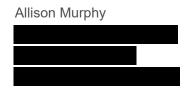
WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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From:	Maria Hackbarth
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	In favor of classifying Child Care Teachers and K-12 Teachers and Staff for 1B
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:26:53 PM

Hi,

I am writing in support of classifying Child Care Teachers and K-12 Teachers and Staff for 1B for the COVID-19 vaccination. Both sets of teachers and staff have been providing a vital role for our children during the pandemic. I feel that by prioritizing this group for the vaccine it will take a bit of the stress and burden off and show these important members of our society that we recognize their frontline work during the pandemic. Additionally, I imagine having an opportunity to get the vaccine will help many teachers and staff be able to continue to stay grounded for our children during this time of uncertainty and fear.

Thank you for your time, Maria Hackbarth (Parent, Mental Health Clinician, Dane County Resident)

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

I stand with educators and WEAC in requesting all public school employees be prioritized in the vaccine distribution process.

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Thank you for your consideration.

KATHleen Warner

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Amanda Oudenhoven

From:	Bill Miller
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Re: Comment on Phase 1b proposal
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:15:48 PM

When I was reading the recommendations for proposed vaccine group 1b, it was around midnight and my eyes were a little tired of reading all the small print on my iPhone. So now that I have read the recommendation again for educators, I see that you are only considering the 20,000 educators that have direct contact with students. I can appreciate that limitation, but also would suggest that my concerns in my first email are still valid. People at risk due to age, ethnicity, and co-morbidities should be higher in vaccine priority than someone who has concerns about doing their job as an educator. I do agree that the exposure in their occupation increases the risk of transmission. So I think some consideration should be given to that. With that in mind, I would suggest that educators with direct contact AND over the age of 55 be included in group 1b. Then all educators over age 65 could be included in group 1 c along with anyone in an at risk demographic group with an identified medical risk. Let's save lives and reduce the suffering of our highest risk groups first. Also, please remember that there are many family members and friends that are impacted when people have to be taken to the hospital or die. I'm sure that the educational elite will understand that death and suffering has a more significant effect on the public than being inconvenienced with doing their job.

Thank you for the opportunity to give you input in your recommendations!

Bill Miller Bayside,WI

Sent from my iPhone

> On Jan 17, 2021, at 12:32 AM, Bill Miller <dollarbill53217@icloud.com> wrote:

>

> I have issue with the rationale to prioritize educators and day care workers in 1b. Part of the rationale is that one in four of the teachers are from a demographic group that is at higher risk due to underlying health conditions.
 > Being an educator does increase the exposure and potential to contract Covid, but the risk of dying or having severe symptoms is not as high as an older non-educator with an underlying condition.

> I would propose that you prioritize people with both a qualifying demographic status and an underlying health condition ahead of educators and day care workers.

> My rationale is that one in four of the 160,000 educators and day care workers would still qualify. This would allow the remaining 120,000 doses to be allocated to the people who would actually be more likely to require hospitalization or die! The burden on hospitals would decrease faster, reducing the overall stress and cost on the system and actually saving more lives!!! Trying to justify prioritizing educators and day care workers because it is more convenient for the parents or economic productivity is discrimination pure and simple. To imply that a delay of vaccinating educators for a month or two is going to have a larger impact on pediatric mental health, child abuse, nutrition and obesity than it already has over the past 9+ months is bad rationale, speculative, and more like pandering to a large group of public employees. Trying to rationalize that any of those other possibilities are more important than actually saving lives and keeping high risk people from having to go through severe symptoms and hospitalization is irresponsible.

> Vaccinating people first who are responsible for saving other people's lives makes a lot of sense. If saving people is the highest priority, then prioritizing vaccination to the groups with the highest potential to die should be the next priority. To do otherwise would be monetizing life and suggesting that it is more convenient to get the teachers back in school. It actually would be more convenient to give all the students vacation until the end of spring and have them go back to school in the summer. You could also phase children back to school sooner as more teachers who are in the high risk groups get vaccinated. We all want to get back to normal as soon as possible, but not at the ultimate expense of dying. Save the people with both the high risk demographic and underlying health conditions first, PLEASE!!!

>

> Bill Miller

> Bayside, WI

>

> Sent from my iPhone

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

Below is the message from my professional union, WEAC. I would like to add that I am among the educators in a high-risk position (I teach 180 elementary students each day as a specialist) who is also highly susceptible to COVID's more deadly symptoms. I have had NO agency through my district or choice in how much risk I am willing to accept, short of resigning. I should be protected!

I stand with educators and WEAC in requesting all public school employees be prioritized in the vaccine distribution process.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Amanda Miller



WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Becky Cohen

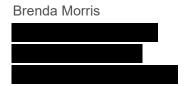
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Thank you for your consideration.

Elizabeth Biskobing

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WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

I am currently working in person at MDIH school district. I feel i should have priority in receiving the vaccine for covid.

I stand with educators and WEAC in requesting all public school employees be prioritized in the vaccine distribution process.

Educators and school staff meet numerous individuals for sustained periods of time throughout the course of a workday. Often, they are working in enclosed spaces with poor ventilation and large classes. Further, it is estimated that 1 in 4 school employees are in a high-risk age range or exhibit comorbidities. The state has a duty to protect its teachers and school staff who serve as a backbone to our democratic society.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Cynthia Friese



WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

As a parent of three preschool and elementary age children in the public school system, I feel it is important for our children to be in school and for our educators who protect and educate our children to be priorities in our communities. I stand with educators and WEAC in requesting all public school employees be prioritized in the vaccine distribution process.

Educators and school staff meet numerous individuals for sustained periods of time throughout the course of a workday. Often, they are working in enclosed spaces with poor ventilation and large classes. Further, it is estimated that 1 in 4 school employees are in a high-risk age range or exhibit comorbidities. The state has a duty to protect its teachers and school staff who serve as a backbone to our democratic society.

Prioritization of K-12 public school employees for COVID-19 vaccines will protect educators, but also produce a significant positive impact on the physical, emotional and intellectual health and well-being of children. Prioritizing public school employees can lead to safely restoring in person school schedules consequently elevating familial pressures leading to broader positive benefits for the state's economy.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Katie Hermann

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WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

My wife is a doctor on the front lines, treating COVID-19-positive patients. She's more worried about my catching it than her. I've been teaching in person with lots of students since September with no PPE & an ever-changing set of rules that seem to vary weekly by class, club or sport. However, one constant remains: my health is at risk.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Mark Drake



From:	mddigney@tds.net
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccines for teachers
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 2:27:52 PM

Please prioritize teachers for group 1b. We need to protect teachers from getting Covid so that they can safely return to the classroom. I would also encourage you to change the recommendation to include all staff working with children, whether they are currently physically working in the school building or not. In order for more teachers and districts to return to in person teaching, we need to make sure that we vaccinate all educators wherever they are currently teaching from.

Thank you for your consideration. Mike and Debbie Digney

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Thank you for your consideration.

Leslie Adams

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Thank you for your consideration.

Kerry Quimi

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Ann Vollmar

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Thank you for your consideration.

Michele Burton

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From:	Lindsay Ott
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Public Comment for the Vaccine Committee
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 1:39:16 PM

I am writing to urge you to remove the language that states that educators must be physically in the building in order to qualify for the vaccine. There are a number of educators that have been approved to take a leave of absence or have been granted an accommodation to work from home until they are able to receive the vaccine and then safely return to work. I, myself, fall into that category. I am anxiously waiting to get my vaccine so that I can return to in person teaching with my colleagues. Leaving out educators who are currently not physically working in the building from being able to get vaccinated, prevents them from being able to safely return to the building and work with students in the future. Please consider changing the language to include all educators, whether they are currently physically working with students or not.

Thank you for your consideration. Lindsay Ott

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Ingolf Rixmann

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Phyllis Santacroce

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Carolyn Plucinski

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Thank you for your consideration.

Pamela Simerson

From:	Eric Loepp
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Include educators in 1B group
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 1:01:15 PM

Good day, all:

I am writing to express my support in the strongest terms that educators be considered publicfacing essential workers in determining the 1B Priority Group. I am pleased and thankful to see this group included on the current recommendations list.

I work in higher education. Although remote education is possible to a degree, we in higher education have little control in determining our risk - outside of personal precautions, of course. That is, many educators were/are required to teach face-to-face even if they feel unsafe doing so. Technology, even when it is available, cannot replicate the face-to-face learning environment. Some students and parents understandably want face-to-face class options, and we want to support this need. However, it is extremely difficult to do this well: physically, mentally, and emotionally. Colleges have been a hot spot in the past, and we need to do everything we can to avoid that happening again. College students are pretty resilient, but many educators, given their age, are not. Help us create a safe environment for all on campus. Thank you.

Best regards,

Eric

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Thank you for your consideration.

Our students need to be in school and stay in school, in order for that to happen vaccination of educators needs to be a top priority considered as a top priority.

Kathy Lemberger



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Stacy Menting

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Sandra Dieck

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Prioritization of K-12 public school employees for COVID-19 vaccines will protect educators, but also produce a significant positive impact on the physical, emotional and intellectual health and well-being of children. Prioritizing public school employees can lead to safely restoring in person school schedules consequently elevating familial pressures leading to broader positive benefits for the state's economy.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Heather Beier

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Mary Johnstin

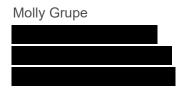
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I am a speech and language pathologist and feel fortunate to be in the 1A group getting vaccinated on Tuesday 1/19. My teacher colleagues deserve their opportunity for a COVID vaccine as soon as possible.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rebecca Stadler



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The community keeps pushing and pushing to have their kids back in school while the numbers in the northshore are skyrocketing. The vaccine plus masking makes me feel at least a little safer. PLEASE prioritize teachers ASAP.

Thank you for your consideration.

Belinda Bjerkvold

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WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

Each day I teach in person. Daily I am at risk of contracting COVID. Just this past week I had two students diagnosed. This prevented me from helping my mother when she fell and broke her leg. I did not want to put her at risk. If I was vaccines, it would have been less of a risk and I could be helping my mom.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Tammy Fumall



WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

I stand with educators and WEAC in requesting all public school employees be prioritized in the vaccine distribution process.

I work face-to-face in an open school entering the "Petri dish" environment daily. The rhetoric that schools are "safe" is just not true. We have had numerous teachers test positive-fortunately none hospitalized and/or no severe debilitating symptoms. We have students-more or fewer- staying home- quarantined-every day. I believe this is unacceptable. I urge you to prioritize teacher for receiving the vaccines!!

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Thank you for your consideration.

Nancy Meister



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Steven Shea

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Thank you for your consideration.

JUSTINE HAMMELEV-JONES

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

Educators are essential front line workers who can be in the same room as 300 unique students during a school day. Our students need to be in class, and our educators need to be safe. they are statistically more vulnerable than students and need to be vaccinated first.

Students come to school sick; parents send their children to school sick - our educators must be protected. Educators are leaving the profession due to the inability to feel safe for themselves and their families. We frankly don't have that buffer of teachers that we used to have. Districts cannot find substitutes and parents are being tapped to babysit classrooms. This is not what is good for kids. School staff need to be vaccinated immediately - there are way too many school districts that are jumping the gun and bring students full time in person before allowing staff to be vaccinated.

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Michael King



From:	<u>Kathy Dolan</u>
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 11:44:30 AM

Hello,

I would like the subcommittee to consider adding college and university faculty and staff to the list of people eligible for vaccines in the 1B category. As you may know, most UW schools and many other colleges and universities in Wisconsin are providing completely or largely virtual education to hundreds of thousands of students. This has had a significant and negative impact on the education of these young people. I also know that most/many of my faculty colleagues around the state won't feel comfortable returning to an in-person classroom without a vaccine. If the UW System campuses and other colleges and universities are as important to the Wisconsin economy as we know they are, prioritizing getting these schools back to normal as soon as possible is an important investment.

Thanks for considering.

Kathleen Dolan Milwaukee, Wisconsin

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Thank you for your consideration.

Melinda Carothers

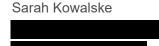
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It is so important that children are able to return to school in person full time. This is crucial for so many students. Teachers believe this, but are also worried about their safety, and rightfully so.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Heather Ristau



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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Christine Annin (elementary music educator)

Christine Annin



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Elaine Gehring

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Luann Jones

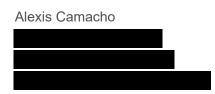
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Thank you for your consideration.

Staci Uebersetzig

This email is for public comment on the Tier 1 B vaccine. I have three requests for your consideration.

1. Please include all school personnel and child care workers in Tier 1b ASAP, similar to police and fire. All employers know the challenging impact of school closings and child care on our workforce, as well as the impact of day care / school closures for quarantines and exposures. No doctor, nurse, police officer, firefighter, etc. can go to work and do their job effectively if they do not have safe and reliable care for their children. The sooner these workers have the vaccine, the sooner we can reopen fully and provide our kids.

2. Speaking for myself, I am the HR Director for a school of nearly 1000 employees. Our school is in person but in a hybrid model. Please do not restrict Tier 1B to school staff working in person. We have tried to be a kind and empathetic employer and allow people to work from home when we can, even though we want them to be in person. A vaccine would allow them to return to work and alleviate this strain on our schools.

3. Finally, please also include school bus drivers if you have not because they are critical in getting children to and from school. We could not operate without them. Our drivers are not employees, but are small business, independent contractors who need us to be a voice for them.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I know how exhausting this has been on everyone, and I am grateful for all that you do.

Sincerely,

Jina L. Jonen Fitchburg, Wisconsin

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

I am a teacher providing 100% in person learning since September with health issues. I put myself at risk and each time I get the call of a positive test in my room, I am terrified I could catch it next and be hospitalized.

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Amanda Northard

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Thank you for your consideration.

Mary Barrett

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Educators and school staff meet numerous individuals for sustained periods of time throughout the course of a workday. Often, they are working in enclosed spaces with poor ventilation and large classes. Further, it is estimated that 1 in 4 school employees are in a high-risk age range or exhibit comorbidities. The state has a duty to protect its teachers and school staff who serve as a backbone to our democratic society.

Prioritization of K-12 public school employees for COVID-19 vaccines will protect educators, but also produce a significant positive impact on the physical, emotional and intellectual health and well-being of children. Prioritizing public school employees can lead to safely restoring in person school schedules consequently elevating familial pressures leading to broader positive benefits for the state's economy.

It is clear vaccination of minors will occur toward the end of the vaccination distribution. Therefore, vaccination of those who come in close contact with children is essential in reducing community spread. Additionally, teachers are trusted professionals who can create community confidence in the vaccine.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mary Barrett

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I have been in person since September. The stress with mitigation with 5 year olds is immense, along with implementing twice as much work with a virtual platform. The pay continues to be poor. Please put us first in line to get this vaccine. Those of us in person all year, deserve this!!

Thank you for your consideration.

Misty Burton



WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

I stand with educators and WEAC in requesting all public school employees and private school employees be prioritized in the vaccine distribution process.

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Prioritization of K-12 school employees for COVID-19 vaccines will protect educators, but also produce a significant positive impact on the physical, emotional and intellectual health and well-being of children. Prioritizing public school employees can lead to safely restoring in person school schedules consequently elevating familial pressures leading to broader positive benefits for the state's economy.

It is clear vaccination of minors will occur toward the end of the vaccination distribution. Therefore, vaccination of those who come in close contact with children is essential in reducing community spread. Additionally, teachers are trusted professionals who can create community confidence in the vaccine.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kathy Sewell-Jensen

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

I stand with educators and WEAC in requesting all public school employees be prioritized in the vaccine distribution process. But, as a retired teacher, I also understand that 80% of the covid-19 deaths in our state have occurred in people over 60. While I agree that teachers be prioritized, I ask that a combination of priorities be used, perhaps vaccinating seniors 70+ and teachers 50+ or with underlying conditions first, then seniors 60+, then teachers 40+, and then all teachers.

Educators and school staff meet numerous individuals for sustained periods of time throughout the course of a workday. Often, they are working in enclosed spaces with poor ventilation and large classes. Further, it is estimated that 1 in 4 school employees are in a high-risk age range or exhibit comorbidities. The state has a duty to protect its teachers and school staff who serve as a backbone to our democratic society.

Thank you for your consideration.

Barb Montenero



WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Abigayle Williams

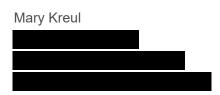
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It is clear vaccination of minors will occur toward the end of the vaccination distribution. Therefore, vaccination of those who come in close contact with children is essential in reducing community spread. Additionally, teachers are trusted professionals who can create community confidence in the vaccine.



WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

I want to stress we are too slow in vaccinating people over 65 and teachers. Please use West VIrginia plan where we should be using retired nurses national guard to get large numbers of people vaccinated. I stand with educators and WEAC in requesting all public school employees be prioritized in the vaccine distribution process.

Educators and school staff meet numerous individuals for sustained periods of time throughout the course of a workday. Often, they are working in enclosed spaces with poor ventilation and large classes. Further, it is estimated that 1 in 4 school employees are in a high-risk age range or exhibit comorbidities. The state has a duty to protect its teachers and school staff who serve as a backbone to our democratic society.

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It is clear vaccination of minors will occur toward the end of the vaccination distribution. Therefore, vaccination of those who come in close contact with children is essential in reducing community spread. Additionally, teachers are trusted professionals who can create community confidence in the vaccine.

Thank you for your consideration.

Donna Leon

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

I stand with educators and WEAC in requesting all public school employees AND higher education institutions be prioritized in the vaccine distribution process.

Educators and school staff meet numerous individuals for sustained periods of time throughout the course of a workday. Often, they are working in enclosed spaces with poor ventilation and large classes. Further, it is estimated that 1 in 4 school employees are in a high-risk age range or exhibit comorbidities. The state has a duty to protect its teachers and school staff who serve as a backbone to our democratic society.

Prioritization of K-12 public school employees AND higher education instructors for COVID-19 vaccines will protect educators, but also produce a significant positive impact on the physical, emotional and intellectual health and well-being of those they teach. Prioritizing educational institution employees can lead to safely restoring in person school schedules consequently elevating familial pressures leading to broader positive benefits for the state's economy.

It is clear vaccination of all students will occur toward the end of the vaccination distribution. Therefore, vaccination of those who come in close contact with children is essential in reducing community spread. Additionally, teachers are trusted professionals who can create community confidence in the vaccine.



WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.



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WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Miranda Brannon

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Emily Clinard

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Alanna Koritzinsky

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Prioritization of PreK-12 public school employees for COVID-19 vaccines will protect educators, but also produce a significant positive impact on the physical, emotional and intellectual health and well-being of children. Prioritizing public school employees can lead to safely restoring in person school schedules consequently elevating familial pressures leading to broader positive benefits for the state's economy.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Michelle Armstrong

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Melissa Halfenger

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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MaryKathryn Malaney

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Thank you for your consideration.

Leah Duckert-Kroll

From:	<u>kfoti@wi.rr.com</u>
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Phase 1b COVID-19 vaccine public comment
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:42:59 AM

School district employees who are working in person must be part of Group 1b and vaccinated asap. When kids are in school parents can return to work as well. Being in the classroom is needed for a child's social emotional learning. To do this safely, we need to get moving on vaccinating school district employees!

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

New strains of COVID-19 appear to spread much faster among school age children than adults. Experts say these strains will be dominant in the U.S. by some time in March.

Many educators are being forced to be at school with large numbers of students and the state is not recommending or enforcing any safety precautions.

It is imperative that educators be at the front of the line in Vaccine Phase 1B to prevent the acceleration of COVID spread and the suffering and death that accompanies it.

Ted Kraig



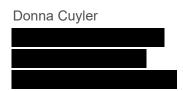
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Thank you for your consideration.

Kathleen Baker

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Thank you for your consideration.

Carrie Osswald

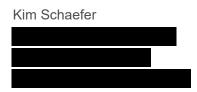
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From:	Brian Thompson
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:04:36 AM

Dear Fellow Citizens,

I wish to SUPPORT the inclusion of EDUCATORS, specifically including higher education faculty, in the next round of vaccinations.

I further encourage you to please support, in the subsequent round, persons over 60 years of age with the medical conditions listed in your Phase 1B document.

Thank you for your public service.

Sincerely,

Brian Thompson Belleville, Wisconsin

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Elizabeth Haase

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Thank you for your consideration.

Michelle Brown

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Thank you for your consideration.

Allison Roth

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

I stand with educators and WEAC in requesting all public school employees be prioritized in the vaccine distribution process.

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Thank you for your consideration. Jenny Opelt Educator for 26 years

Jennifer Opelt



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Thank you for your consideration.

Jessica Wintheiser

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From:	Ken Cameron
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:20:13 AM

Hello,

I am very pleased to see the recommendation in keeping with CDC guidelines that faculty in higher education (i.e., university professors) are to be included with other "educators" and "teachers" in Phase 1B. We interact with hundreds of students on campus every day. Thank you, Dr. Ken Cameron Belleville, WI

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Tammy Grace

From:	<u>]]</u>
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine subcommittee, Phase 1B
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:53:21 AM

Dear Vaccine Subcommittee of Wisconsin,

First of all, thank you so much for coming together to figure out how best to keep Wisconsin citizens safe by distributing the COVID vaccine. Your work is deeply appreciated!!!

Second, I am asking that teachers and essential workers be given the vaccine very soon. Teachers in schools during the next three months are, due to the weather, trapped indoors in small classrooms with large numbers of students. Schools do not have adequate air circulation or spaces to prevent COVID from spreading. While the CDC recommends 6 foot spacing, many

Idle and high schools are lucky if they can provide 3 feet between students; teachers can rarely maintain even that distance for long to do their job and reach students. Parents do not have equal access to well-fitting masks (which are hard to find anyway for kids who are pre-teens in grades 6 and 7, especially if they have narrow faces), so students' masks are constantly falling below their noses and allowing them to spread germs. Teachers are told to sanitize but are not given time or materials—wipes are hard to get in quantities and in our local district, teachers have been told they are going through cleaning supplies too fast. Fire drills are still mandatory-how do you keep students and staff separated? Lunch rooms have kids unmasked with just an empty seat between them. Sure, big districts have strong teachers' unions to stay virtual but so many other school districts do not and have been struggling to stay safe while providing some form of in person instruction to allow families to return to work. This is especially important in schools serving lower-income families—the very populations that are most vulnerable to the spread of COVID, meaning the students' families as well as school personnel are at increased risk. Our local district has had to close for weeks several times when it was clear COVID was spreading, first among the school population and then among the teachers who are forced to teach from the school building even when in virtual mode. There are also, sadly, many cases of parents sending kids to school sick, even while awaiting COVID testing results, because they don't want to miss work—putting many others at risk. Elementary school teachers come into prolonged contact with large groups of students all day (20-30 students in a class), while middle and high school teachers come into contact with classes of 25-35 students every class hour; some many secondary schedules mean teachers teach literally hundreds of students every week. Teachers teaching subjects like music, art and phy ed are often in charge of entire buildings of students, 400-1200 every week! Even in hybrid mode, teachers see different classes of kids once a week, a different group every hour, every day, which gives COVID many chances to spread. There are no subs willing to come to help keep classrooms of kids separated as much as possible while trying to teach subject matter; teachers often have to double up on classes or teach in other classrooms during their prep to keep students supervised when colleagues are out sick. With the winter weather, moving groups of students outdoors is not possible for long periods of time, so the danger is increased!

Teachers, grocery store employees, people in good factories, emergency workers, etc. are all vulnerable to COVID at a higher rate because of the number of people they come into contact with and their chance to widely spread outbreaks before they can be traced and identified. Without these key frontline people who have to report to work and do not have an option to work from hime or to keep their children at home to learn safely, our economy and the welfare and health of families all over the state are threatened and impacted. On top of that, these workers are extremely vulnerable to people who do not believe that masks work; teachers, for example, can give a child a mask but cannot make then keep it on the nose constantly while supervising 25 other middle schoolers, especially when the child's family doesn't believe masks work. Essential workers are only as safe as the population around them agrees to follow 6 foot spacing, masking and hand washing; far too many citizens here in Wisconsin are not doing what they can to follow the regulations, putting essential workers at risk.

Please provide the vaccination to these essential workers who are not allowed to work from home and who are making it possible for others to stay safe at the risk of their health and their family's health!

Thank you very much! Sincerely, Jeanne Jung

Sent from my iPhone

Hello,

I am writing to express my support for the inclusion of 70 and over adults and also educators in Phase 1b. Older adults are most at risk of severe symptoms, and educators are desperately needed for children to get back in school.

Thank you for your consideration of this comment.

From:	Marti Fechner
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Prioritize police & teachers for vaccines
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:46:48 AM

I urge you to prioritize giving vaccines to police and teachers. The police interface with a wide swath of the public every day, and should be protected so they can continue to protect the public. It is unconscionable for school districts to open up for in-person instruction without first vaccinating school staff. If these jobs are so essential, then it is essential that we protect those doing those jobs. Thank you,

Marti Fechner Verona, WI

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

I stand with educators and WEAC in requesting all public school employees be prioritized in the vaccine distribution process.

Educators and school staff meet numerous individuals for sustained periods of time throughout the course of a workday. Often, they are working in enclosed spaces with poor ventilation and large classes. Further, it is estimated that 1 in 4 school employees are in a high-risk age range or exhibit comorbidities. The state has a duty to protect its teachers and school staff who serve as a backbone to our democratic society.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Melissa Kietzman

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From:	<u>Karen</u>
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Who should be included in Phase 1b vaccine
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:16:52 AM

I believe, first and foremost, that people over the age of 70 should be a priority in phase 1b. This group has seen the highest number of severe illness and/or death rates.

I am speaking for my parents who have been sheltering in place and doing their best to stay ALIVE!!!! They are 81 and 82 years old.

I do believe that teachers, inmates, and others considered for Phase 1b should also be included in this phase, but only AFTER seniors over 70 are vaccinated.

Take a look at the state of Indiana if you want a good timeline to follow.

Thank you

Karen Carpenter

Sent from my iPhone

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Karen Zimmerman

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Miguelina Ricardo

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Tracy Biodrowski

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From:	<u>DaPra, Tara</u>
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Phase 1B recommendations
Date:	Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:21:54 AM

Hello,

I am writing to comment on the groups recommend for Phase 1B vaccination of Covid-19. I am so happy to see teachers included in this group, especially K-12 teachers. We desperately need to get schools opened and running as safely as possible, and since vaccines for kids are some time off, we must get the adults who work in schools vaccinated. Please ensure teachers and staff working face-to-face with kids (or trying to get back there soon, as the Green Bay Public Schools district is) are included in this group.

Regards, Tara DaPra

Get Outlook for Android

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Hilary Olsen

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Thank you for your consideration.

Greg Grokowsky

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

I have been working face-to-face with students since late August.

My role in the district requires me to interact with hundreds of students and staff members in the course of a week. Many of those students are at the elementary level. Quite frankly, their ability to utilize masks effectively or practice social distancing routinely is not ideal.

Not only am I at heightened risk of becoming infected due to this exposure, but my job places me in the position of potentially becoming a "super spreader" and spreading the virus among multiple classrooms, etc. In addition, I have two health conditions that place me at higher risk of complication, should I contract the virus. Not to mention the danger I pose to my family, should I wish to interact with them, due to the exposure I face in my job.

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Kimberly Joten

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Thank you for your consideration.

Theodore Wuerslin

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

Public school workers need to be vaccinated as soon as possible. We are being asked to choose between our jobs and our health. Currently, I have had four of my students' families report to me that their families have tested positive lately. If we were in school, I would have been exposed at least four times. Now, we are expected to resume face to face instruction soon, possibly in February.

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April Wiggins



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Thank you for your consideration.

Lori Wernicke

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sally Hanner

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Thank you for your consideration. I am a retired teacher. If we really want to put the children back in the classrooms, then we must also have all the support structures in place, so we don't have to keep closing them back down, over and over. Consistency is important.

Sara Heck



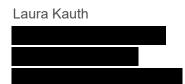
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Personally, I am both scared and sad to return to the classroom. While I, like all other teachers, greatly miss being in the classroom with my students, I am scared for not only my own health but also that of my colleagues and students. I am sad that returning to the classroom without a vaccine means my top priority will shift to safety and can no longer be focused on excellent teaching and building relationships with my students. In addition to all previously mentioned very important

and valid reasons, receiving the vaccine would also help reduce the level of fear and allow for excellent teaching and relationship building to surface to the top once again.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sarah Worley

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Joanna Rizzotto

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Thank you for your consideration.

Christine Staszak

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

I stand with educators and WEAC in requesting all public school employees be prioritized in the vaccine rollout. I am sixty years old with several pre-existing conditions which put me at higher risk. Everyday I spend a lot of time trying to get the students that I come in contact with to wear their masks correctly. A number of teachers in my hallway have contracted Covid. It is very scary for me everyday when I go to work. I don't think I should be expected to risk my life for longer than necessary.

Prioritization of K-12 public school employees for COVID-19 vaccines will protect educators, but also produce a significant positive impact on the physical, emotional and intellectual health and well-being of children. My students are experiencing anxiety and depression due to virtual schooling. Some have parents who won't let them come to school while others have been quarantined over four times due to crowded classes where contract tracing forces them to stay home. Vaccinating the adults in each building will make it safer for all the children.

It is clear vaccination of minors will occur toward the end of the vaccination distribution. Therefore, vaccination of those who come in close contact with children is essential in reducing community spread and keeping veteran teachers like me safe without forcing us to retire early, stripping the experience off of our schools. Additionally, teachers are trusted professionals who can create community confidence in the vaccine.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tamara Johnson

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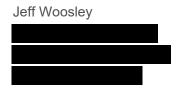
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Kristin Thompson-Lerberg



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Kristen Cohen

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sean Laffin

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

I stand with educators and WEAC in requesting all public school employees be prioritized in the vaccine distribution process. This is critical to keeping us safe and keeping our students educated.

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We have been educating our students in our school building this school year. Thank you for your consideration.

Shelly Laffin



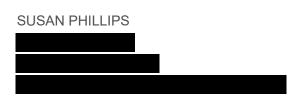
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Thank you for your consideration.

Christy Brodsky

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

Teachers and day care providers are ESSENTIAL. they should be prioritized for vaccines before old people. Working parents need teachers and day care providers for their children. Old people have had a life. Let us get our priorities straight.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Gina Pagel

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I stand with educators and WEAC in requesting all public school employees be prioritized in the vaccine distribution process, along with adults over 65.

Many of us in this second group spent our lives educating the children of Wisconsin. Now that we've earned our greatly deserved retirements, we find ourselves falling ill to so many agerelated illnesses: diabetes, heart disease, glaucoma, and cancers. By including us in this vaccination group, you are showing us how much you value our educational contributions, knowing too, how contracting this virus would most likely be a death sentence to those of us suffering from those maladies.

Not too many young people are interested in going into education anymore. Long hours, lower pay, difficult working conditions, and often unhappy parents. You can show these invaluable individuals who do grace our schools today, that you value them by making their working environments as safe as possible, abiding by the DPI guidelines for opening and maintaining our public and private schools safely, and getting these educators vaccinated.

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Prioritization of K-12 public school employees and adults over the age of 65 for COVID-19 vaccines not only will protect both past, current, and future educators, but also produce a significant positive impact on the physical, emotional and intellectual health and well-being of children. Prioritizing public school employees can lead to safely restoring in person school schedules consequently elevating familial pressures leading to broader positive benefits for the state's economy.

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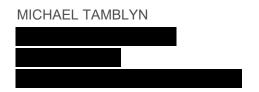
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I teach art at an elementary school. I go into 18 classrooms, where I instruct a group of students who are; at best; inconsistent wearers of their masks. They are young, excited and independent little people who have no concept of a shared importance of personal safety. They want approval, encouragement, respect and humor. They want to enjoy school and make friends. They can not comprehend how masks affect others.

I can not comprehend why I am thrust into their classrooms for 45 minutes once a week to teach art without having a vaccine before hand.

We teach our students the ALICE drills, but deny the possibilities of the Covid 18 Virus . Concerned,

Gabriela Pettit

Gabriels Pettit



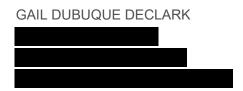
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Educators and school staff meet numerous individuals for sustained periods of time throughout the course of a workday. Often, they are working in enclosed spaces with poor ventilation and large classes. Further, it is estimated that 1 in 4 school employees are in a high-risk age range or exhibit comorbidities. The state has a duty to protect its teachers and school staff who serve as a backbone to our democratic society.

Prioritization of K-12 public school employees for COVID-19 vaccines will protect educators, but also produce a significant positive impact on the physical, emotional and intellectual health and well-being of children. Prioritizing public school employees can lead to safely restoring in person school schedules consequently elevating familial pressures leading to broader positive benefits for the state's economy.

It is clear vaccination of minors will occur toward the end of the vaccination distribution. Therefore, vaccination of those who come in close contact with children is essential in reducing community spread. Additionally, teachers are trusted professionals who can create community confidence in the vaccine.

I have been teaching face-to-face since the beginning of the school year, and it has created a high level of anxiety in our staff to not feel protected nor prioritized. Please vaccinate your teachers and school staff. Show them that they too are valued.

Thank you for your consideration.

BETH PESKE



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Thank you for your consideration.

Evangeline LIM

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Dear Vaccine Subcommittee,

Thank you for your work in determining the priorities for Wisconsin's vaccine distribution. I recognize that this work is hard and includes many tough choices. I'm writing today to voice my support for including higher education workers in the Phase 1B group.

I currently work as a staff member at Beloit College. In a typical (non-COVID) year, I have appointments with approximately 300 students. In addition, I visit dozens of classes, host workshops, and interact with students and colleagues in our public spaces. These in-person interactions are vital to our educational community.

As you can imagine, Beloit College has adopted a hybrid approach to our residential learning experience on campus. Our students are required to be masked at all times, unless they are alone in their dorm rooms. Our classes are a mix of in-person, hybrid, and fully online. I personally have been conducting all of my appointments via Zoom. While it's difficult, it's the safest means of education without access to a vaccine.

College students across the country are struggling. They have higher incidences of mental health issues, they are reporting more difficulties in class, and they are isolated from their communities. By including workers in higher education into Phase 1B, you are helping us to more safely resume limited in-person interactions with our students. Our college is small, but there are 85 colleges and universities in Wisconsin. If you include higher education into the early group, you will benefit thousands of students as they work to pursue their degrees.

Thank you for your help in making the college learning experience safer for our students.

Best wishes, Jessica Fox-Wilson

--

Jessica Fox-Wilson, '98 Interim Director of the Career & Community Engagement Center 608-363-2647 foxis@beloit.edu

Pronouns: she/her/hers

Students can book an appointment with me at any time. Just visit - <u>https://beloit.joinhandshake.com/appointments</u>. If you haven't logged in before, use your Beloit College email address to log-in and create your profile!

Please consider Tutors amongst Educators when determining COVID-19 vaccine priorities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards, Scott L Williams Tutor - Tutor Doctor of the Fox Valley

Sent from my iPad

From:	Mary Juleen
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	"vaccine subcommittee" "Phase1B"
Date:	Saturday, January 16, 2021 3:51:25 PM

Since the new CDC guidelines had changed since the 1B guidelines were implemented the committee has the responsibility to the public it serves to change the priority groups to reflect these changes, **ALL persons 65 older should be included in the 1B category basically ALL MEDICARE AGE PERSONS SHOULD BE NEXT IN LINE! This age group most often suffers from heart disease, diabetes, cancer, asthma, COPD and many other health conditions that make vaccine a matter of sustaining life.**

Essentially service personnel Fire Police EMT teachers child care providers should also be in 1B category.

MINK FARMERS- PUBLIC FACING ESSENTIAL WORKERS-NON FRONTLINE HEALTH CARE PERSONNELshould wait until the 65 and older have received their vaccine.

The idea that your committee is even considering placing INMATES (Hiding this under the term congregate living) in a priority group before Medicare aged persons is an **outrage!** They should receive it BUT can be place in a lower priority.Law abiding citizens deserve preference.

I just sent in a comment but neglected to include a thank you for the opportunity to comment. This is the Wisconsin I know and love.

I was in a hurry to prepare for the Packer game!

Connie Nagel

Greetings.

I am writing to express my support of the draft proposal for Phase 1b and its inclusion of Higher Education faculty and staff who have direct contact with students.

I teach 12 credits of science courses and associated labs in person each semester, which is what offers the best learning experience for science and pre-health students. I appreciate the vaccine subcommittee support in prioritizing teachers of college students for CoVID immunizations. Higher Ed faculty and staff are exposed to a large number of 18-22 year olds with CoVID that are asymptotic increasing odds of exposure at college campuses.

Thank you. Joy Mast

Professor Joy Nystrom Mast, Ph.D. Chair, Department of Geospatial Science Carthage College

2001 Alford Park Drive Kenosha, WI 53140

Email: jmast@carthage.edu Joy Mast faculty website Joy Mast research website Joy Mast StoryMap of Publications

Office: 262-551-6568 (DSC276) Fax: 262-551-6208

From:	Connie Nagel
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Saturday, January 16, 2021 3:05:01 PM

I think the list as it stands is quite good. i especially like that 70 year olds are separated out from 65 year olds, 75 would be even better and this as i recall was the original suggestion.Over 65 is a very large group and 65 year olds and 80 year old are very different.The older group (over 75) are not all in assisted living or nursing homes but are fragile and vulnerable.

Breaking this group up would make the numbers more manageable as long lines especially need to be avoided for obvious reasons.

I am a retired RN with 50 years in elder care.

Including teachers is also something I support. Just listening to the news and staying in tune with my granddaughter's education it seems schools open then, need to close when the numbers get bad. Unless all schools can be Covid modified schools need to be closed to protect teachers and that is unacceptable.

Connie Nagel

From:	DC Transitions
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine input
Date:	Saturday, January 16, 2021 2:54:53 PM

Dear Sir or Madam,

As a county supervisor in the county of Door, I am hoping phase 1B you will be those 75 and up as well as teachers. The danger in opening it to 65-year-olds, right off the bat, will be people like my 80-year-old parents, will have a hard time getting to their shots with younger folk in line. We need our teachers covered ASAP as well, as our schools have been open to in person learning and they have been risking their lives and their families lives every day. We need to honor them and get them inoculated as quickly as possible.

We also have an issue of snowbirds here in Door County, hoping that it will be restricted to smaller groups so we don't have an influx of those coming to their second home to get the vaccine more quickly. Our county is small, we will have difficulties implementing a plan that is not broken into small increments.

Thanks For your time and consideration, Elizabeth Gauger

District 16

Beth

From:	<u>Mary Ouradnik</u>
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine
Date:	Saturday, January 16, 2021 2:33:10 PM

I would like to see all people that work for a school district. The special education students do not wear mask. And students 5 and under. We need protection. Been waiting. Our district has been in person school this year. Teachers aides cooks bus drivers should be a high priority. Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

From:	Emily Stonelake
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine subcommittee phase 1b
Date:	Saturday, January 16, 2021 2:20:17 PM

As a teacher and a sibling of an individual with a disability, I support including people with disabilities in the 1B cohort of people to receive the COVID vaccine.

People with physical and intellectual disabilities are at higher risk for serious or fatal illness from COVID-19 and feel that they should be placed in the 1B cohort to get the vaccine as soon as possible.

Thank you for including this particularly vulnerable population in the COVID vaccine priority group 1B.

From:	Eisenhauer Smith, JM
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Phase 1b COVID-19 vaccine public comment
Date:	Saturday, January 16, 2021 1:48:21 PM

1) School bus and special education van drivers at badger bus and elsewhere. Although schools are closed, daycare for children of people who cannot work from home is taking place in the mmsd elementary school buildings, Verona Schools, and elsewhere. These children need bus rides to and from, and there is already a shortage of bus/van drivers in the madison area.

2) children and adults with congenital heart defects including, specifically, children and adults with tetralogy of fallot. peer reviewed research says people with Tetralogy are 75% more likely to suffer serious ADDITIONAL heart damage when they contract viral pneumonia.

Eisenhauer Smith, Janet M



I urge you to include in this group college teachers doing in-person teaching. This is likely a small subset of college teachers since many are planning to teach remotely, so it should not add very many to this group.

Main reasons to include them:

1. College students in many online courses have not been doing well. Teachers report dropout and failure rates two to four times higher than is normal for in-person teaching. Teachers need to return to in-person teaching as soon as possible.

2. Colleges are hurting financially; they need more in-person courses to retain students.

3. College students are more likely than elementary students and at least as likely as high school students to get Covid and to pass it on to others, including teachers.

Thank you for your consideration and your work.

Carl Vandermeulen Dunn County Supervisor District 19

⁻⁻⁻⁻⁻ Email Confidentiality Disclaimer -----

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From:	<u>Alexi Ash</u>
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Covid Public Comment
Date:	Saturday, January 16, 2021 12:55:44 PM

To SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee,

I believe it is vital to start the process of including those who are 75+ years of age and teachers. We are behind Michigan and other Midwest states in distribution. I also believe we should include those who are immunocompromised in the 1b category. There is a health system that has countless appointments available, but my grandmother who is immunocompromised and 80 years old cannot sign-up because she is not included yet in the beginning distribution 1b plan.

Thank you for your time,

Alexi Ash

January 16, 2021

To whom it may concern at the State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC) Vaccine Subcommittee:

I am writing a letter of support to keep frontline education workers in child care and education settings in phase 1b of the SDMAC Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee's final recommendations.

I am speaking for myself, not the organization I work for.

As a primary care (General Internal Medicine) physician, I am well aware of the devastation and issues around COVID-19 infection. From the moment the inkling that a vaccine might become available, I have felt strongly that teachers (preschool, day care and particularly K-12), should be included early on as high priority frontline workers and vaccinated with high priority early on.

The idea that the impact of virtual schooling on the health and well-being of children and adolescents has been substantial is an *understatement*. Particularly for the generation of the children in the earliest and latest phases of their childhood and education, the trajectory of their entire lives is at stake. Once-in-a- lifetime opportunities have been lost and continue to be unavailable to students. There are inequities in the way children from different socioeconomic circumstances are able to successfully learn in the virtual learning format. There are concerns about child safety, food security, among other concerns around the wellbeing of our children of which you are likely well aware. The number of students that K-12 teachers touch is enormous, well more than the number of frontline education workers in Wisconsin in need of vaccination. Vaccinating front line education staff as a high priority in group 1b is crucial to changing the lives of an enormous number of people. The number of

people who stand to benefit from schools being able to get back to more normal operations, in person at school, should make this a priority.

I have had the opportunity to talk to many people about the issue of vaccination priority groups. I will offer that the vast majority of persons of retirement age, not yet 75, even with high risk conditions, have expressed that it has been difficult, but they are willing to sacrifice staying home without a vaccine another 6-9 months so that others are able to get back to work and school. I have had the opportunity to talk to many teachers whose students are suffering and who want to get back to school to be there for their students. They deserve to be able to do so as vaccinated teachers.

Yes, I agree with a high priority for frontline health care workers and support staff with direct contact risk (including custodial staff, etc). Yes, I agree high priority for residents and staff of long-term care facilities. Yes, I agree with high priority for first responders, police, firefighters. Teachers are also crucial to our society. Please, please include them and rank them highly as frontline workers eligible for vaccination in group 1b.

Sincerely,

Kristin Steffen Lewicki, MD

From:	Karen Laird
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine Distribution
Date:	Saturday, January 16, 2021 12:18:47 PM

Seniors over 70 must be first in line for the vaccine subcommittee's phase 1B layout. They are the most vulnerable to complications, often resulting in death from the virus. They also are the substitute teachers in schools and the volunteers in the community. Thankyou for your consideration, KarenLaird4 @gmail.com

Sent from my iPhone

Please include people who have an underlying health condition in phase 1B

People with an underlying health condition really should've come first. Even before doctors and nurses. Because doctors and nurses who have an underlying health condition would've been included also. It is a well-known fact that underlying health conditions significantly increase a persons risk of getting the serious version of this virus.

It is the people who need to go to work every day and also have underlying health conditions that need to get these shots first.

I cannot believe that my daughters school got a limited number of shots and they plan to give it to their administration instead of their "Frontline teacher" with an underlying health condition. Norris academy in Mukwonago Wisconsin. My daughter is a coach at this school and has rheumatoid arthritis and takes methotrexate as a treatment. Thus her immune system is severely suppressed. And her school has re-opened!

Thanks, Ro

Joyce & John
DHS SDMAC
Phase 1b Vaccine Recommendation
Saturday, January 16, 2021 11:57:21 AM

My Phase 1b High Priority Vaccine Recommendation: -All people 65 and older -All face-to-face education and child care workers Schools need to open with the support of retired teachers as substitutes and people over 65 as child care workers. Thank you. John & Joyce Schmid

Sent from my iPad

From:	Mike Krull
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine Sub Cmtee Phase 1B
Date:	Saturday, January 16, 2021 9:25:20 AM

Could you please include teaching staff as well?

Without elementary, middle, high, college, and university staff, none of these entities would function properly. These are the people who facilitate the logistics of learning and student support, enrollment, and retention; which is needed now, more than ever.

These behind the scene staffers are absolutely necessary to a properly functioning education system. They have sacrificed so much, often their jobs and pay.

Please consider adding educational staff to this plan.

Thank you, Mike

Sent from my iPad

Our teachers are on the frontline of our children's future. Their exposure to students and colleagues puts them at great risk for Covid. Teaching has become heroic. Teachers must be kept safe in the present as they shape the future. Project them now. The future depends on it.

The Rev Mark M Clinger.

From:	Steve Manson
To:	DHS SDMAC
Cc:	Peg Manson; Sarah Kratt
Subject:	1B comments
Date:	Saturday, January 16, 2021 8:46:25 AM

I am a Pediatrician at Gundersen Health System in LaCrosse. I have observed the deletirious effects of virtual school on many children over the last year. They are suffering academically, socially, and emotionally, and it is taking a toll on their parents as well.

We must do our utmost to get the kids back in school. This means putting teachers and school personnel at the front of the line in group 1B. This will not only protect their health, but prevent school shutdowns due to teacher illness and quarrentines.

Steven Manson M.D.

- People over the age of 70
- Teachers
- Non-EMS first responders
- Child care workers

Add high risk people with underlying health conditions

DO NOT ADD people in jail. High risk people should be before people in jail so they can be with family and friends.

From:	Jessica Huber
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Saturday, January 16, 2021 8:32:21 AM

My comment - as a high school teacher who is about to return to in-person instruction, I urge you to include teachers in this phase and allow us to be vaccinated as soon as possible. There is evidence that the new, more contagious varients are present in Wisconsin. I fear for the safety of myself, my colleagues and my family if we cannot quickly and efficiently vaccinate teachers. I will be spending 90 minutes with three different groups of students in my classroom each school day. I want the vaccine to help protect them and their families as well.

Thank you for your time,

Jessica Huber

From:	James Murray
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine subcommittee phase 1 B
Date:	Saturday, January 16, 2021 8:20:59 AM

I read Phase 2. A bit confusing.

First all nursing home and assisted living should get the vaccine first. Common sense. Anyone over 65 should get it not determined by race! That is ridiculous.

Anyone with a health risk especially lung related and of course teachers

Cheryl murray

Hello,

I think we need to vaccinate our educators. By allowing teachers to be vaccinated it will allow for more in person class time which is desperately needed at this time. I work as a physical therapist in Eau Claire and see the direct impact on teachers, parents and the kids in my clinic. While I don't have any children of my own, I believe the lack of exposure in the schools is going to have a long term impact on progress in our state.

Thank you for taking comments and for this process.

Best regards,

Kevan LaPorte

Sent from my iPhone

From:	Claire Mazzeo-Gnau
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Saturday, January 16, 2021 7:53:06 AM

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Please include educators and other school workers (food service, custodial staff, etc.) in Phase 1B. We need to get the youth of the state back into school.

Thank you.

Claire Gnau

Suggest including school bus drivers in Phase 1B. Reason: face to face contact, at times job could include physical contact such as if a student needs assistance, population of drivers tends to be older, difficulty finding trained replacements (CDL driver license and background check is a requirement).

Include school bus drivers in group PUBLIC-FACING ESSENTIAL WORKERS or EDUCATION AND CHILDCARE.

Thank you for your consideration.

From:	Brenda K Gauchel
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Covid-19 Vaccinations
Date:	Saturday, January 16, 2021 7:04:30 AM

60 and over should be in the next phase and especially those 60 and over with underlying health conditions who are put at higher risk.

People in this category may have parents that are alive in their 80's and trying to keep them safe but also they're still being kept from their families because of the risk to both age groups, from their children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. They've worked their entire lives and should be taken care and their lives respected instead of thrown into this isolation while we watch suggestions of NBA players jumping the line because they pay so much money in taxes is absurd and teachers who are virtual, absolutely should not happen.

I hope this next vaccination eligibility is given to those at the highest risk for extreme illness and death and those in healthcare and for no other reason.

Sincerely,

Brenda K Gauchel

Sent from my iPhone

To whom it may concern,

I own and operate an on home daycare in Shell Lake, WI. I open my home to 7 different families and a total of 9 children everyday. I have been open the whole pandemic.

Due to the nature of childcare and the close physical contact with children, I feel very confident the vaccine will put my mind at ease for a possible exposure to Covid 19.

There is only one other state Liscensed Family Childcare in our small community. We cannot afford to close our businesses because of this virus. We are desperately needed to care for children of our essential workers.

Please consider daycare in the Phase 1b roll out of the vaccine. I am over 60 years of age and will be first in line if possible.

Thank you! Diane Reynolds Diane's Daycare Shell Lake,WI

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Hello,

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my concerns and thoughts about the next Tier 1B category for the COVID -19 vaccine distribution.

I strongly recommend that people identified with high risk health conditions, that may result in severe complications or possible death due to exposure to COVID-19, should be included in the Tier 1B vaccine distribution.

To determine who would qualify as a medical high risk inclusion for Tier 1 B a recommendation would need to be obtained from their from physician. I believe that including the high risk individuals into this Tier is necessary for saving lives of those very vulnerable in order to reduce the death rates.

These individuals are increasingly at a much higher risk, especially now, as the new strain of COVID has been identified here in Wisconsin.

Another important change I hope you will consider is the age range for Tier 1 B. The age range needs to be lowered to 65 or 62 rather than age 70. Take into consideration that many retired grandparents have taken on the role of childcare for their grandchildren, which provides parents the ability to continue to work.

With grandparents as caregivers they are at a higher risk for COVID-19, similar to that of teachers and daycare providers. Children in School are at risk of being exposed in many ways, and often they present as asymptomatic. This increases the probability of transfer expose to their grandparents/care providers. There are many grandparents in their 60's, rather than their 70's, that are caretakers for their grandchildren.

Thank you for taking my concerns into any consideration for possible changes in the distribution of Tier 1B vaccine participants. I am a grandparent that has been taking care of my grandchild and assisting with both her in school education as well as during her times of E-Learning Education. My husband is also involved as he was a teacher for 35 years. He also has heart disease, Lucas and a degenerative tissue disease which puts him at very high risk for complications if he would be exposed to COVID.

Sincerely,

Cindy Nebel Third District Alder

Stevens Point, Wisconsin

facebook: Cindy Nebel District 3 Alderperson

Open Records Notice: Email correspondence by a municipal official conerning any municipal business may be subject to the open records law.

From:	Kristen Myers
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Covid vax order
Date:	Saturday, January 16, 2021 1:42:02 AM

It is obnoxious to reasonable people that elderly and the remainder of healthcare would wait behind people incarcerated. The idea that our Police ,Fire & remaining Healthcare also Corrections Officers etc.. should wait behind someone in jail for criminal behavior is ridiculous and makes responsible citizens angry. Just because the left continues the "I am a victim and have no accountability for my actions campaign of brainwashing felons and criminals/young people(which btw does not work)" does not mean the rest of us are oblivious to these stupid decisions. Next should be the elderly citizens, who should receive the vaccine first along w immune-compromised, auto-immune,etc..people who are at highest risk of adverse reactivity to virus and increased hospitalization rates. The fact that words like "essential" is still being used is nauseating..esp when referring to teachers who still seem to want to take another full year off instead of doing what everyone else is. It is my opinion that those in jail should be among the last certainly not ahead of people who pay for the accommodations of felons and vaccine incentives.

Sent from my iPhone

I think the next phase should include all school staff, as all staff generally have contact with kids and staff that have direct contact with kids. I also think that individuals 65 and over should be included along with those under 65 who have 2 or more of the listed health conditions.

From:	Beth
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccines
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 10:58:34 PM

Good afternoon,

I am urging you to include public-facing essential workers, including education and child care workers in face-toface learning in the next phase 1b for Covid-19 vaccine distribution. It is imperative our valuable assets in education are prioritized so that we may return our children to in-person education and keep our educators safe.

Our educators face increased risks due to the group settings and the difficulties to socially distance at all times. Their ability to educate our children will be greatly increased when they can focus on their education and not as much as on the distance they are standing or if everyone's masks are perfect.

As a parent in the Oshkosh Area School District whose children have had VERY LIMITED in-person education since March, I am begging DHS to please include them in the next distribution.

Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

From:	Sarah Westcott
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Support for Phase 1b vaccination guidelines
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 10:48:26 PM

I wish to support the proposed Phase 1b vaccination guidelines. Our children's school drew our attention to the inclusion of teachers and staff with direct student interactions in Phase 1b and I am glad to see it. There is increasing pressure for schools (and daycares!) to be open, so it will be good to offer teachers and staff as much protection as possible.

thank you, Sarah Westcott

From:	Catherine Deysach
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Phase 1b Opinion
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 10:41:54 PM

Daycare workers (especially before/after school childcare that take place in schools), teachers, and school staff that come into contact with children should be prioritized for phase 1b if we continue to push for in-person schooling. --

Catie Deysach

Creative Aging Program Coordinator | *Minnesota Conservatory for the Arts* Theatre instructor | *Minnesota Conservatory for the Arts* Girl Scout Leader | *Troop 47934*

"I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something and because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do." -Edward Everett Hale

To whom it may concern:

I am a third-grade teacher in Sparta Wisconsin. We have been teaching in a virtual learning environment since the last week of September. My students have been working hard to adapt to our virtual learning environment, but they are missing out on the rich teaching and learning that only can occur inside of the classroom. Furthermore, I worry about a population of our students that is more vulnerable to abuse and neglect without the security and care the school and those who work inside it provide.

Next week, we will begin to phase students back into the building. Well learning in-building is arguably what's best for our students, teachers are taking on a lot of risk to our health and safety during this pandemic without being vaccinated. I believe that schools are a foundation of our society. I believe it is incredibly important that students are learning in schools. And I believe that every person who works with children in our schools should be prioritized for the COVID-19 vaccine. Please consider vaccinating teachers, paraprofessionals, custodians, secretaries, counselors, cafeteria workers, maintenance workers, and any other essential staff of preK-12 schools in phase 1B of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Thank you for your consideration, Emily MacCallum

Please give vaccine to all educators ASAP. Schools can't re open successfully until teachers feel safe.

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Good evening,

All school workers should be included in group 1B: teachers, administrators, education assistants, custodial, food service, bus drivers, substitutes

Thank you Michelle Jensen

From:	Jeffrey Serak
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine Sub-Committee - Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 8:41:06 PM

Good evening,

My name is Jeff Serak, Director of Business Services for Brown Deer School District. I would like to thank the committee for considering teachers a high priority group. The School District of Brown Deer has had in person learning through almost the entire school year barring a temporary shutdown due to covid cases.

Our teachers are truly frontline workers and deserve to be in front of line as they work with classrooms of students day in and out.

In addition to our teachers, our custodians, educational assistants, bus drivers, lunch room workers, and administrators should also be included. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeff Serak

Sent from my iPhone

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the original message.

From:	Amber Okray
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Recommendation for Vaccinations in Phase 1b
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 8:25:34 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

I strongly suggest that face to face educators be some of the first to receive the vaccine while we are in Phase 1b. Also, you may need to do so by teaching specialty as I am an elementary music educator who teaches 550 students in person per week and has a lot of exposure while other teaching colleagues of my teach only their cohort of 20-25 students. We still are not positive as to how easily young children spread the virus and having teachers like me exposed to so many people makes me very nervous for my health and well being.

Thank you for your consideration, Amber Okray Elementary Music Educator Neenah Joint School District Neenah, WI

Sent from my iPhone

From:	Anthony Simonini
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 8:19:19 PM

I am writing to advocate that teachers be moved to the top of the phase 1b prioritization or vaccine. First responders are now being vaccinated, and teachers need to be next. In order for staff to feel safe in schools with kids, they must have the proper protection. DHS and the subcommittee need to give guidance that says teachers are at the top of list for phase 1b distribution and this needs to begin as soon as possible as schools are in dire staffing straits and without staff, children cannot attend school.

A.J. Simonini Madison, Wisconsin

Sent from my iPhone

To whom it may concern,

This is a note in support of prioritizing teachers and child care providers in the next Covid 19 vaccination stage. If we want to get our kids back in school, teachers and child care providers must feel safe going back to work.

Please include them in vaccination phase 1B.

OK to make these comments public.

Thanks for your consideration,

Lauren Cohen & Steve Kean Verona, WI

I hope 65+ and child care workers and teachers and bus drivers can be included in the next group. Thanks.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

From:	FRIEDSON, MICHAEL SETH
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 7:23:47 PM

Thank you for including college educators among those recommended for COVID vaccine eligibility during Phase 1B. The college classroom is an environment where educators are highly vulnerable to infection by the virus. Those who have devoted their careers to the betterment of the next generation deserve to have their lives and health protected while serving this vital role. While college educators are now striving to give students the best education that remote online instruction permits, this mode of instruction can never fully replicate the experience of being in a classroom. It is vital to the learning, socialization, and mental health of our students to resume classroom instruction when it is safe to do so. Providing the vaccine to college instructors should make it possible to do this sooner than otherwise would be the case.

Michael Friedson Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Criminology & Anthropology UW-Whitewater

From:	RAY JOHNSON
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Covid vaccination
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 7:12:07 PM

I am from lacrosse Wisconsin....our health department said to email who we think should be upcoming to recieve it. As a parent of a child with health issues throughout his entire life, I would recommend those working with children and those in child care..... Teachers, daycare workers, social workers, and speaking selfishly.... parents with kids with underlying health issues. I can say I have waited passionately doing what I have needed to do to keep my children safe and knowing how close we are, I am just praying to get it soon.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Good evening. Please include PreK-12 teachers and higher education faculty in the 1B group for vaccine distribution. Given our role in the classroom with students, we must be protected.

Best, Laurie Cooper Stoll La Crosse, WI

Please include teachers in the next phase of covid vaccine distribution.

Kathleen Gorman

Get Outlook for Android

From:	Kristen Rindfleisch
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	PUBLIC COMMENT on SDMAC VDS Phase 1b Recommendations
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 6:44:54 PM

We must keep things simple so that efficiency is the top priority. Any vaccine in a Wisconsin freezer that is not in the arm of a Wisconsinite represents countless additional infections. That's not acceptable.

All of category 1 recipients should be vaccinated NOW. Not one dose for 1A and wait for the second dose. Get the first dose to all of category 1 now. The more people who get the first dose, the fewer infections and lower rates of spread. Essential employees, medical staff and emergency responders, long-term care facilities workers and residents, police and fire fighters, 65+ age groups, teachers, etc. should all be getting vaccinated. Don't hesitate, just vaccinate!

I recommend following federal guidance that allows for prioritization of people at high risk, but open up the eligible recipient pool such that the queueing of people itself is not a bottleneck. Please fill requests of local pharmacies and healthcare providers, give them guidelines, and trust them to do the work of getting vaccines in arms. This will allow lives to be saved, virus mutations to be avoided, and future hospital burden to be decreased.

Based on publicly available data and reports of DHS attempting to intervene to prevent a provider from vaccinating teachers, it seems evident that DHS oversight is directly causing unnecessary burdens and more Covid infections. If DHS restrictions on Wisconsinite eligibility isn't the bottleneck, you must do a much better job showing that you're not actively preventing vaccines from being administered to other clearly high-risk populations because 1A is not yet complete. Please put vaccines in people, not in storage!

Thank you, Kristen Rindfleisch

It's a shame that the DHS is not allowing teachers and other actual essential workers to get their vaccines, especially when there's people outside of the 1A and !B groups are cutting the lines.

In Kenosha, at Froedert South, whoever is in charge of vaccine distribution is letting people doing vaccinations to allow family members who are not in either group to get their vaccines if there are extra doses. One person who is actively doing is Lorraine Fox, a retired diabetic educator. She has gotten her husband, daughters and grandkids vaccinated, ahead of teachers, state workers, and other essential workers.

That situation of her abusing her privileges is why there needs to be some consequences for her and Froedert South. If there are any extra doses, there should be a standby list of eligible people to be contacted.

To whom it may concern,

Please consider the inclusion of "substitute teachers" in your Covid19 vaccine distribution for group 1B. Substitutes are an integral part of the daily operations for any school district, and are often recent retirees leaning toward the "older" population. Substitutes have historically been in short supply, and a vaccine against Covid19 will help retain the already limited numbers of them who are otherwise willing and able to do this work.

I truly appreciate all of the work your departments have done and continue to do to keep our communities safe!!

Sincerely,

Janelle Laufenberg Stoddard, Wisconsin (Recently retired from and eager to sub for the School District of La Crosse)

From:	Andrea Hanson
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine subcommittee phase 1b
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 5:37:58 PM

It is of the utmost importance that educators and all staff (paras, support staff) of educational institutions, specifically public schools k-12, are vaccinated for Covid-19 as soon as possible. Our daily duty to educate and meet the needs of students is diminished if our staff members become infected from within or outside of the workplace. In addition, the pool of substitutes willing to work in the schools has decreased due to fears of infection.

The result is a halting of quality education for students due to lack of staff replacement (substitute) if a staff member is out with Covid-19. Also there is the potential to have to quarantine a whole class or grade level due to possible exposure, or inadequate staffing. In addition, if school substitutes are included in vaccination, the potential for a larger pool of willing substitutes increases, lessening the need for learning gaps or halted instruction. In-person schooling with mitigation practices in place is helpful, but for school staff to do their job effectively, we must be present and healthy.

Therefore educators and all support employees of educational institutions, especially k-12, should be vaccinated as soon as possible.

Thank You

Andrea Hanson

This email adheres to the policy of the School District of Onalaska <<u>http://www.onalaska.k12.wi.us/district/dataservices/emailPolicy.pdf</u>>

From:	Ken Bell
То:	DHS SDMAC
Cc:	plbell50@gmail.com
Subject:	SDMAC COVID Vaccination Approval Process
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 5:36:59 PM

I just read through the approval process for the COVID-19 Phase 1b vaccination plans.

What are you all doing? The approval complexity of this is ridiculous. This plan does not have to be delayed for perfection while people get sick and die Obviously you all have your vaccines and really don't see any urgency at all to get this approval done and vaccines into the arms of teachers, law enforcement offices and the elderly. I seldom get upset over processes in government but this is too much for me to deal with. You are going to waste a full week to move this along. Far be it for you to work over the weekend even though doctors and nurses have been doing this for nearly a year now. No wonder the governor is taking heat over the incompetence in getting the vaccines into the arms of citizens.

You should all be highly embarrassed and ashamed about your lack of concern and urgency to make this program work. All the while you are fine with sending teachers back to the classroom unprotected, sending police offices into our streets unprotected and I could go on and on. You knew this was coming and what were you doing during that time?

From:	Michele Asp
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine Priority
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 5:30:46 PM

Because you were kind enough to ask for our input, I'm sending this email. I have been one of the most compliant people on the planet with regard to masking and safe distancing. Since last March I was told that people age 65 or older were particularly vulnerable. I will be 67 on March 18th. I have been following the CDC guidelines for distribution and was pleased to see that they now recommend people age 65 and older get this *as soon as possible*. I understand essential workers, teachers and numerous others in your 1B category should go first, but am dismayed to see that prisoners and mink farmers are in 1B and I am not. I would certainly love to seems children and grandkids that I've not seen in over a year and I think that prisoners should also be vaccinated by *age priority*. Why is it more urgent to vaccinate 19 year olds in jails/ prison before those of us in the above 65 high risk group? If I were willing to disobey the recommendations and travel to FL or TX to visit friends, I would be eligible to get the vaccine now.

I am not biased against prisoners but they should be able to stay masked, distanced and would be safe from Covid if the prison staff is vaccinated. As for visitors, I've not been able to have them so that should not be a reason for them having the priority as their risk of serious complications or death is not as great. I would like to feel the sense of freedom that I've not had, through no fault or action of my own.

Thanks for your time.

Sincerely, Michele Asp

From:	<u>Kathi Gallus</u>
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 5:17:17 PM

I am replying - after essential workers, including all teachers- I think 65 and older folks should receive the vaccine . Kathi Gallus , Beaver Dam

Sent from my iPhone

Other states have taken the recommendations and moved ahead while wisconsin still has to think about it. It is so frustrating how slow this is moving. Just keep talking and thinking while people get sick and die.

Who should be next - People 65 and older, teachers only in the older age group and preexisting conditions. Those of any age with with preexisting conditions that put them most at risk. NOT prisoners. Let's prioritize those at most risk for needing our limited healthcare resources and at risk of death. Not the young healthy who are going to bars and trying to get it.

Those places that gave the vaccine to office staff working from home should be ashamed of themselves.

From:	DHS COVID VACCINE PUBLIC
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	FW: COVID-19 Vaccination
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 5:03:27 PM

From: Macy Roberts <macy@eauclaireschoolofdance.com>
Sent: Friday, January 15, 2021 4:34 PM
To: echealth@co.eau-claire.wi.us; DHS COVID VACCINE PUBLIC
<DHSCOVIDVACCINEPUBLIC@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: COVID-19 Vaccination

Hi,

My name is Macy Roberts, and I am a resident of Eau Claire.

I teach dance at Eau Claire School of Dance. I am here advocating for myself and my coworkers to qualify for the vaccine in stage 1B. We are in direct contact with students every single day, while teaching them dance and movement.

Dance and physical activity are valuable for all children to have access to in a safe environment. I feel that it is important that myself and my coworkers are vaccinated in the phase 1B group as once students start back to school in person, our students could transmit COVID to us from their in person learning experience.

Thank you for reading my concerns and your work to keep the Eau Claire Community safe.

Miss. Macy Dance Instructor Eau Claire School of Dance macy@eauclaireschoolofdance.com

<u>Joan Brandstaetter</u>
DHS SDMAC
Vaccine subcommittee phase 1B
Friday, January 15, 2021 4:58:36 PM

I think it is very important to get all educators vaccinated in phase 1B.

Sent from my iPhone

Good afternoon,

I am urging you to include public-facing essential workers, including education and child care workers in face-toface learning in the next phase 1b for Covid-19 vaccine distribution. It is imperative our valuable assets in education are prioritized so that we may return our children to in-person education and keep our educators safe.

Our educators face increased risks due to the group settings and the difficulties to socially distance at all times. Their ability to educate our children will be greatly increased when they can focus on their education and not as much as on the distance they are standing or if everyone's masks are perfect.

As a parent in the Oshkosh Area School District whose children have had VERY LIMITED in-person education since March, I am begging DHS to please include them in the next distribution.

Thank you! Jennifer Beck

From:	Jon Bales
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Comment For Vaccination Committee Related to Group 1B Priority
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 3:56:41 PM
Attachments:	image001.png



Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC) <u>dhssdmac@dhs.wisconsin.gov</u> Vaccine Distribution Committee - Re: Vaccination Plan for Group 1B Attn: Martha McCamy

As the Executive Director of WASDA, the Association for School Superintendents in Wisconsin, I write in my role of representing the interests of the 421 school superintendents across our state.

Representing their collective voice, we recognize the critical role opening our K-12 schools will play in a successful state recovery in all respects. Superintendents want schools open. Indeed, superintendents and all school employees have been given the responsibility and accountability to not only support continued learning for all students, but to do so in as safe a way as possible for the sake of children, adults serving them and the community at large. While we have been able in some cases to address important elements such as mask wearing and social distancing, this is more difficult in situations where limitations of physical space are prohibitive. The vaccine will have a dramatic positive impact on this issue and lowering risk for infection. In all districts it will dramatically lower the risk of virus spread both in the school setting and the community at large. I ask the committee's support the following considerations from Superintendents:

- 1. Ensure all K-12 school employees across all roles are included as a high priority for inclusion in group 1B. This includes those persons directly in schools who are contracted through a 3rd party provider such as bus drivers, custodians and maintenance staff as well as substitutes for all roles.
- 2. Ensure this encompasses all districts across the state regardless of their current instructional deliver model.
- 3. Include the Superintendent or designee in the process of determining the vaccination plan for each district. This can be done in collaboration with local public health officials and the established "vaccinator" entity for the locale.
- 4. Encourage the identified vaccinator to examine the feasibility of establishing school facilities in each district as a vaccination site whenever possible.

Thank you for your consideration and please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any additional information. Phone: 608-235-8622 Email: <u>jbales@wasda.org</u>

Jon R. Bales Executive Director, WASDA

Seniors age 70 and above should be included in the first round of Phase 1B. Most deaths can be contributed to this age group. You plan on doing assisted living but there are seniors age 70 and above who still reside at home and should be included.

Teachers and school aides should also be included to get the schools fully open as soon as possible. Children are not getting a proper education virtually.

Thank you Karen Luczkowski

From:	<u>Mary Taylor</u>
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine Recommendation
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 3:21:01 PM

Good afternoon,

I am urging you to include public-facing essential workers, including education and child care workers in face-to-face learning in the next phase 1b for Covid-19 vaccine distribution. It is imperative our valuable assets in education are prioritized so that we may return our children to inperson education and keep our educators safe.

Our educators face increased risks due to the group settings and the difficulties to socially distance at all times. Their ability to educate our children will be greatly increased when they can focus on their education and not as much as on the distance they are standing or if everyone's masks are perfect.

As a parent in the Oshkosh Area School District whose children have had VERY LIMITED inperson education since March, I am begging DHS to please include them in the next distribution.

Thank you! Mary Taylor

From:	Dana Poad
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Please vaccinate VASD teachers
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 3:16:01 PM

To whom it may concern,

Please consider vaccinating the teachers in the Verona Area School District. This doesn't just protect them, especially those teachers who are at higher risks but it also protects the children that are attending in person learning who are unable to receive the vaccine at this time. Please allow them to protect themselves as well as these kids that we put our trust in when they are in their presents.

Thank you for your time,

Dana Poad

Tom Alesia
DHS SDMAC
Vaccinate teachers and staff
Friday, January 15, 2021 3:12:22 PM

Please emphasize vaccinations as soon as possible for teachers and school staff. We're in unknown territory and it's hugely important to our safety. Tom Alesia, Indian Mound Middle School, McFarland

Sent from my iPhone

From:	Jill Horton
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	COVID-19 Vaccination distribution
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 3:02:24 PM

Good afternoon,

I am urging you to include public-facing essential workers, including <u>education and childcare</u> workers in face in face learning in the next phase 1b for COVID-19 vaccination distribution. It is imperative that our children go back to school 5 days a week.

As a parent in the Oshkosh Area School District, my children have had a total of 6 in person school days since September. I am begging the DHS to include the teachers in the next distribution.

Thank you! Jill Horton

Librarians and teachers need the vaccine to stay safe.

--Lia Stark

From:	Joseph Nowinski
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	SDMAC VDS Phase 1b Recommendations FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 3:00:13 PM

Hello,

I am placing an opinion for public comment.

I applaud the addition of adding teachers to the Phase 1b COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Program. This is the right step forward for the state if Wisconsin to protect educators who have been struggling to maintain composure and health during this time. It will also accelerate a return to in-person classrooms for more places.

However, I am also saddened that people from age 60-70 are not added in the Phase 1b Vaccine Distribution. Those individuals are still within a major risk group and deserve to be added to the list of recipients.

Thank you for hearing my comments, Joseph Nowinski



From:	Sara Dougherty Noe
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Priority for 1b vaccine distribution
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 2:51:41 PM

Good afternoon, I am urging you to include **public-facing essential workers, including education and child care workers in face-to-face learning** in the next phase 1b for Covid-19 vaccine distribution. It is <u>imperative</u> our valuable assets in education are prioritized so that we may return our children to in-person education and keep our educators safe.

Our educators face increased risks due to the group settings and the difficulties to socially distance at all times. Their ability to educate our children will be greatly increased when they can focus on their education and not as much as on the distance they are standing or if everyone's masks are perfect.

As a parent in the Oshkosh Area School District whose children have had VERY LIMITED in-person education since March, I am begging DHS to please include them in the next distribution.

Thank you!

Sara Noe

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in regards to those who are included in tier 1B for the vaccine. It is paramount that educators and school staff remain as part of that group for various reasons:

1) Many children are asymptomatic, making them unaware carriers bringing the virus into a confined school filled with hundreds if not thousands of other people.

2) Children are spreading the virus to adult staff, which is severely affecting their health and ability to teach. Many educators have pre-existing health issues, are of an older generation, and/or are pregnant. That makes contracting COVID an immense danger for them.

3) With so many staff contracting COVID, schools have had to shut down and go virtual because there are not enough substitutes to fill in for them. (This has personally happened twice already this year for the school in my area.) By closing schools, there are numerous downfalls:

- Students no longer receive the same education they would in a classroom.
- Many students are struggling during digital learning and earning much lower grades than usual.
- Students' mental health is declining as they struggle through closures.
- Parents now have to take off work in order to have an adult at home to supervise their children. As a result, the workforce in the communities is negatively affected as they have less productivity and employment.

4) Most schools do not have the means to enact all of the necessary safety and sanitation protocols to create a safe educational environment in spite of COVID. For example, classrooms are small and cannot space out students enough, money is limited so schools cannot afford proper ventilation, etc.

Educators are working countless hours trying to keep up with the demands of this crazy school year during the pandemic. Not only do they have to go above and beyond anything they've faced prior in their careers to help students succeed and receive a proper education, they also have to risk their health and even their lives in order to do so.

Please consider making educators a priority on the vaccination list. No only is it the right thing to do for educators; it's the right thing to do for the community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

~ Sarah Andreini

From:	Michelle Kipp
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Public Comment - Phase 1b COVID Vaccine
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 2:06:11 PM

Good afternoon -

I am writing today in support of prioritizing all school district staff (teachers, support staff, custodians, and contracted substitutes) in Phase 1b of the COVID vaccination queue. Should further tiers be necessary, please consider vaccinating middle and high school employees first, as the student populations in those grades (ages 10+) have been shown to transmit COVID in the same way as adults. Elementary school teachers should be a very close second.

Similarly, I'm also advocating for <u>all</u> childcare workers to be in a priority status within 1b. These individuals are not only serving in high-contact community roles, but are often supporting virtual learners (who are in hybrid instruction models) thus making them a key component of education as well. Please remember that not all childcare providers work in large centers; many have home-based businesses (still with FEINs) and should be included under the childcare umbrella. Defining where nannies will fall must also be considered.

Thank you, Michelle Kipp

From:	Heather Jones
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine subcommittee. Phase 1B.
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 1:53:46 PM

Hello,

I am writing to implore you to consider including teachers and staff that are currently working remotely into phase 1B. It is our goal that everyone at our school is in-person, but for some of us, the risk is too great. Our current in-person staff is being extremely overly taxed and staff at home are anxiously waiting to get vaccinated to give them much-needed relief from being so truly overworked. We want to get back to work and help out now. *Please*, include this group in phase 1 B so we can safely give these heroes risking their lives the relief they so desperately need. I believe having everyone on-site vaccinated will also give parents peace of mind in sending their children back. Please, I implore you, include <u>all</u> faculty and staff in Phase 1 B.

Thank you for your consideration and thank you for all the important work you are doing.

With gratitude,

Heather Jones Development Project Manager Madison Country Day School 608-850-6000 hjones@madisoncountryday.org Zoom- https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5047040243

Hello,

I'm submitting these public comments related to the Vaccine Subcommittee's recommendations for Phase 1B of the COVID-19 vaccine program.

As someone who works in public education (De Pere High School), I strongly agree that educators and school

personnel should be included in the next Phase.

Our district has returned to face-to-face learning and so, our contact with students and parents, as well as each other, have increased.

Obviously, the pandemic has had a very significant impact on the education sector. It forced most if not all schools to pivot to distance learning last spring, and many districts in our state continued virtual instruction this fall and into the winter. OUr district was able to reopen in September, but only for about 3 1/2 weeks when the number of staff and teachers being required to quarantine due to potential exposure or diagnosis greatly limited our ability to continue effective face to face instruction.

In addition to the logistical difficulties of virtual learning (internet connections being a major one), there is a huge mental/emotional impact on our students. Many students' grades have suffered and many more require mental health services, which our district simply cannot provide to the best of our ability while still virtual learning.

I strongly believe that the sooner our education staffs can get vaccinated, the quicker we can get back to a "normal" school routine and the most optimal methods of instruction. It's the very least that we owe our students -- our future leaders! -- after all the disruption they have suffered to their education in the past 10 months.

Therefore, I **urge** you to include education personnel -- at all levels -- in Phase 1B of the vaccination allocation.

A return to in-person learning will also greatly help the state economy, by allowing more parents to return to the full time workforce if their kids no longer need supervision/help with school during the daytime hours.

Thank you for your consideration and time reading this email.

Kerry Guyette De Pere High School

From:	Chris Johnson
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 1:51:30 PM

Please include faculty and staff working in higher education in the priority group for phase 1b of the COVID-19 vaccination procedure.

I have been unable to perform my work as a college professor in ways that fully meet the needs of my students. The demands for distancing have made it impossible to be sure students are learning crucial information and retaining it. It has made my work as an advisor and mentor extremely difficult and far less effective.

This will have an impact on the students' lives and careers in the long term.

I also dealt with a life threatening illness last year (cancer) and have felt especially at risk when working in the college setting when in person with groups of students. Because my treatments went mostly successfully (although I am still under some treatment protocols) I do not believe I fit officially into the high risk category - however this does not mean I am not at serious risk.

Thank you, Chris Johnson

--

Chris Johnson, Professor and Director of Dance Department of Theatre and Dance Beloit College, 700 College Street, Beloit, WI 53511 (608) 363-2713, johnsnc@beloit.edu Pronouns: She/Her/Hers

From:	<u>Alice Torti</u>
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 1:46:53 PM

Good afternoon,

I would like to express my opinion that all teachers & school staff with direct student contact should receive the COVID-19 vaccine in Phase 1B, even if they are currently teaching remotely. Our students are served best when we can all work in-person. While in other industries remote work may be a suitable alternative, many studies have shown that remote teaching is not equivalent and that the student experience is compromised when their teacher is not in the room. Asking teachers who are working from home to delay vaccination will only result in a delay to our return to full strength.

Thank you for soliciting public comment!

Alice Torti

Director of Finance & Operations <u>Madison Country Day School</u> 608.850.6372 5606 River Road Waunakee, WI 53597 Self-expression and self-identification is one of my professional and personal values. One way to practice these values is to share personal gender pronouns. My name is Alice and I use she, her, hers pronouns.

Our mission is grounded in two key beliefs about children and learning:

· Effort is generally more important than ability.

[•] Every child possesses an extraordinary capacity to learn.

From:	Treinen, Cathy
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine Subcommittee & Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 1:46:27 PM

Hello:

I work at Lodi High School as an Administrative Assistant in the main office of the high school and to the high school counselors. I am sending this email because I believe vaccinations should be offered to any individual faculty, staff or administrator in a K-12 setting. Food service, custodians, tech employees all have interaction with students on a daily basis. Especially in smaller schools. Please offer vaccines to all.

Thank you.

Cathleen M. Treinen Lodi High School Admin. Asst. "Courage is being scared to death- and saddling up anyway." -John Wayne

Teachers. So our children can get back to school.

Thank you,

Megan Janes

Sent from my iPhone

Dear subcommittee members:

As a teacher in higher education at Beloit College, I write to strongly urge you to include higher education workers in group 1B for vaccinations. Returning to normal learning and teaching methods is imperative at all levels of education--not just K-12--and this ought to be recognized in our vaccine prioritization program, as other states have done.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully, Matthew Tedesco, PhD Professor of Philosophy Affiliated faculty member: Environmental Studies, Law & Justice Beloit College

From:	<u>Kristi Paskey</u>
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	vaccine subcommittee and Phase IB
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 1:35:16 PM

Hello,

I just wanted to write to say that group 1b should include ALL educators. There are many districts and educators not returning to in person because of the lack of a vaccine. It seems counterintuitive to not include these staff members as many of them and the districts could open or return once they are vaccinated. There are also times where other staff members that don't have daily interaction will need to help out and they should be included as well.

I would also like to see the age group be 65 and older instead of 70 and older.

Thanks! Kristi Paskey, Windsor, WI

From: Jeff Walters <jeff.walters@huhs.org>
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2020 12:49 PM
To: DHS Webmaster <DHSWebmaster@dhs.wisconsin.gov>; Palm, Andrea J - DHS
<andrea.palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: COVID response

December 11, 2020

Secretary Andrea Palm Department of Health Services 1 West Wilson Street Madison, WI 53703

Secretary Palm,

I serve proudly as Superintendent of the Hartford Union High School District and write with a request for those with influence on the upcoming vaccine distribution for COVID-19.

Our district opened for students on September 1 amidst the pandemic, and to this day, we have not wavered from our "Return to Learn" plan, which includes offering our families and students a choice between everyday, face-to-face, on campus instruction and live, virtual, digital classroom access. With the option for students to switch models every four and a half weeks, we consistently have seen more than 1000 of our 1300+ students attend face-to-face, every day on campus. While offering this flexible choice, we know that there is no replacement for the magic that happens within a school building.

We have taken many steps to keep our campus open, including the many mitigation strategies other districts have implemented - the use of plexiglass, sanitizer, deep cleaning, and many other safety efforts. We have also provided care for the school-aged children of our staff when their neighboring district schools went virtual. This allowed us to keep our staff in the classrooms where they are needed, rather than have them at home caring for their own children who were learning virtually. Our staff could have chosen to take the leave eligible to them, but instead, they modeled the commitment to keep us open using the support we provided.

Per CDC guidelines, we have designated our staff as critical infrastructure employees. We would not be open without having taken this measure. We are proud of the work our team is doing to support teaching and student learning, while maintaining an environment that is as safe and healthy as possible.

Now I need your assistance, leadership, and commitment to prioritize educators as essential employees when it comes to the timeline for vaccine distribution. Keeping schools open should be of the highest priority. We know doing so is good for kids, their families, and frankly, the overall success of our community and economy.

Educators are essential, and I look forward to a discussion regarding my request.

Stay well, and thank you for your consideration!

Jeffrey A. Walters, Superintendent Hartford Union High School District

Cc: Governor Tony Evers

Jeffrey A. Walters

Hartford Union High School District, Superintendent

(262) 670-3200 ext. 4010 | jeff.walters@huhs.org

805 Cedar Street, Hartford, WI 53027

I definitely think that educators and those that work in school settings should be in phase 1B, including higher education and daycare workers.

Thank you for reading my comment.

Sierra Colavito Associate Professor, Biology University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

Dear Subcommittee Members,

I support all outlined in the Phase 1B draft. I would like for you to include Student Teachers as well, as they are required to be where their cooperating teacher is (virtual or in person). These are preservice teachers that will be working in the schools in the coming weeks and months, preparing for their own classrooms.

I also support vaccinating only those in higher education that come in close contact with students.

Thank you,

Gina T'ai

Gina T'ai (she/her) Arts Channel Coordinator Associate Professor Department of Theatre and Dance Beloit College 608.363.2165 taig@beloit.edu https://ginatai.com/

From:	Milbach, Zach
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine Public Recommendation
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 12:34:22 PM

Hello,

For my public recommendation I believe Teachers / Educators need to be in the 1b group. We keep talking as a state and nation we want kids back in school and this will help in all of this. So if we want to continue opening schools get the teachers and their aids vaccinated ASAP.

Zach Milbach, CISSP Information Security Analyst Sr. Schneider 920.592.2090 (Desk) LC-02 (desk location) 3101 S. Packerland Drive PO Box 2545 Green Bay, WI 54306 www.schneider.com

1B
) pm

Good afternoon,

My name is Roger Stanford. I am the President of Western Technical College. I am submitting my comment and request that we value higher education and the risks associated with teaching at the technical college level. A majority of our programs cannot be taught online. While 70% of our students have online learning ... half of our instructors must teach on campus. Most will need to be on campus by summer. It is impossible to teach most health care, apprentice, public safety, trades, networking, culinary etc..... at a distance. Therefore our essential works are here and working with students. Our **additional** essential workers at the college are our safety team, custodial team, food service team, and of course all of the faculty.

As for students, most of our students have to have at least one face to face course during this pandemic. Many of our healthcare students have been included already with their clinical assignments, but our others students that must come to campus to learn have not had access to a vaccine. Employers are begging for our graduates and we want to ensure the safest learning environment. Please consider students of the technical college system. A system with curriculum that is competency based and overall requires face to face.

I respectfully submit this email for consideration,

Respectfully,

Roger

Roger J. Stanford, PhD President 400 7th Street North La Crosse, WI 54601 stanfordr@westerntc.edu Executive Assistant: Janice Strupp, 608-785-9210 <u>struppj@westerntc.edu</u> *Twitter: @W*esternTCPres

Every Student • Every Day



Please accept this as my public comment to the proposed roll out of phase 1B of the COVID vaccine.

I support the people given priority in this phase. I would especially like to thank the committee for considering childcare and K-12 educators.

Thanks, Rachel Pufall

From:	Catherine Kiener
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	COVID - 19 Vaccine
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 12:04:23 PM
Attachments:	image002.png

Regarding the vaccination distribution list: All workers from front line (Nutrition Managers), direct contact (Senior Center staff) and volunteers (home delivered meals) who serve seniors in the community should have a priority to receive the vaccine. The Seniors 70 and older should also be considered a high priority. The sooner we can get them vaccinated and open up opportunities to reenter the community for education, recreation, and social opportunities the sooner health problems associated with safer at home and social isolation can be corrected.

Catherine Kiener, CPRP, CTRS Director Port Washington Adult Community Senior Center 403 West Foster Street Port Washington, WI. 53074 Direct: 262-284-5821 Fax: 262-284-7224 www.cityofportwashington.com



facebook

Over 45 Years Promoting Healthy Aging for Adults & Seniors

From:	Aszya Summers
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	To Vaccine Subcommittee; Re Phase 1B Public Comments
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 11:53:55 AM

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to implore you to include Zoo professionals in Tier 1B COVID-19 Vaccine Roll-Out in the state of Wisconsin. I am the Curator of Animal Care and Conservation Education at the Racine Zoo, and myself and my staff are essential personnel who have been working every day through the pandemic. Regardless of closures, our animals still need care. Staff replacement is difficult as our jobs are highly skilled. An outbreak leading to insufficient staff trained in working with large carnivores, for instance, could put us in a critical position. We do not want to put any of our staff or animals at risk, and we do not want Wisconsin to be the next in the news for another zoonotic outbreak. While we are utilizing every PPE and preventative measure available, recent news out of San Diego Zoo, arguably the top zoo in the nation, of an outbreak among their gorillas shows zoos to be just as high risk of spreading as mink farms – perhaps greater, as we also interact with the public on a regular basis. We have worked closely with other zoos and the USDA to try to reduce risks. But with nearly 1,000 animals at the Racine Zoo, many of them, including great apes, big cats, mustelids (mink relatives) and more proven to be susceptible to COVID-19, vaccination is essential for our staff and a critical step for public health.

Throughout the summer and fall of 2020 and into today, our Zoo also has worked directly with children in both education and childcare. Our camps – Zoo Camp in the summer, and Zoo School during the school year – provide not only educational benefits, but are critical child care for parents. While we have followed all CDC recommendations, and additional restrictions recommended by the American Camp Association, vaccination of our education staff is crucial and should be included alongside all other childcare professionals.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security understands these points, and as such, lists, "Workers performing services to animals in human care, including zoos and aquariums" as critical infrastructure workers in, "Advisory Memorandum on Identification of Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers During COVID-19 Response".

(https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/Version_3.0_CISA_Guidance_on_Essential_Critical_Infrastructure_Workers_3.pdf)

While we understand the need to prioritize receipt of limited vaccinations, including all zoo professionals in Wisconsin, defined as those working in institutions with live animals maintained primarily for public exhibition, would be a miniscule number compared to other groups included in Tier 1B. Please make the right decision and include zoo professionals in Tier 1B of COVID-19 Vaccine Roll-Out.

Sincerely,

Aszya Summers Curator of Animal Care and Conservation Education Racine Zoo aszya.summers@gmail.com

Dear Committee Member,

While I understand the importance of those working in education to be vaccinated as soon as possible, I don't understand why you feel it's not important for people in the food chain to be a priority.

People will live, and civilization will go on if the schools can't be opened up quickly. Education will at some point be returned to normal.

Can you say the same if our food chain goes down and people can't get the product they need to eat?

If you want to see riots and looting, let people go hungry to the point they are desperate. I don't know many parents that wouldn't take matters to extremes to feed their children.

Sincerely , MERLIN HEMP

From:	d.sliter51@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Diane Sliter
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Requesting inclusion of vaccines for frontline, essential hunger-relief workers in phase 1B of the Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory vaccine subcommittee recommendation
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 11:36:52 AM

Dear Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee Vaccine Subcommittee,

Thank you for your efforts to ensure efficient and equitable distribution of vaccines. It is incredibly important and necessary that the Phase 1B recommendation for the COVID-19 vaccine include hunger-relief frontline workers and volunteers. These workers and volunteers are essential to continue the unprecedented distribution of food to those Wisconsinites experiencing hunger during the pandemic and economic crisis.

Oregon Area Food Pantry has seen a 42% increase in distribution of food to pantry guests from 2 years ago. The pandemic has made it more difficult with the risk of exposure to volunteers not only to each other but also from pantry guests and donations that are dropped directly at the pantry. I need to protect these dedicated and hard working volunteers to continue to provide food for these families in great need in the community. I am pleading that Pantry volunteers be included in Covid-19 Phase 1B Vaccines.

Thank you, Diane Sliter Managing Director Oregon Area Food Pantry

Collaboration between our hunger-relief organizations, public health, and those administering the vaccine will be essential to planning for equitable and efficient distribution, addressing concerns, educating about and adhering to appropriate protocols.

The COVID-19 vaccine is a critical step toward ensuring the safety and health of staff, volunteers, and those accessing food resources. It also ensures that food banks have the capacity to continue distributions at this unprecedented rate to feed Wisconsinites experiencing hunger. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Mrs. Diane Sliter



From:	Suzanne Todey
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 11:24:35 AM

As a school board member, I am urging the distribution of the COVID 19 vaccine to school staff just as soon as possible. We need our kids in school and we cannot accomplish that if we do not have healthy staff. This not only impacts the learning of students, but also the work schedules of parents, and the success of business and industry. Our entire economy is dependent upon students being in school. Please proceed with haste.

Thank you.

Sue Todey, Board Member Sevastopol School District

From:	Beth Johnson
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine subcommittee - Phase 1b
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 10:57:27 AM

While the period for public comment is still open for Phase 1b of vaccinations, I would like to advocate that along with educators, the support staff of those educational institutions also be included in this category for vaccination. This would include school office workers, student advisers, facilities staff/custodians, etc. These individuals see as many students as the teachers/professors and should be vaccinated in Phase 1b in order to reduce the spread of COVID-19 at our educational facilities.

Beth Johnson Appleton, WI

From:	Caryn Neibauer
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 10:11:54 AM

Thank you for your careful consideration of groups that should be included in Phase 1B.

I thoroughly support including individuals 70 and over, and those employed in education in Phase 1B.

Please provide insight into how people 70 and over will have the vaccine administered. (Doctor offices, pharmacies, etc.)

Also which pharmacies have received contracts to administer vaccines. (Walgreens, Walmart, etc.,)

Thank you.

From:	Deb Nackers
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	educator vaccines
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 9:55:02 AM

Please consider approving educators for the next round of vaccines. Many of us are at risk with many factors or care for family that are at risk. We will be closed up in rooms with 30 students at a time and working closely with many of them for individual support. With the education boards talking about returning sooner we really need it. Thank you for your consideration

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

From:	Dana O"Shea
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Tier 1b Teachers
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 9:39:49 AM

I just received an email from my district informing me that teacher will have to be teaching in person in order to qualify for Tier 1b status based on your recommendations. I am currently on FMLA because my district is teaching in person. Why can't I get vaccinated along with my peers so I can return to work as soon as possible?

From:	Loren Glasbrenner
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine subcommittee
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 9:34:27 AM

As a superintendent of schools for the River Valley School District representing the students, parents, and staff of four communities (spring Green, Plain, Arena, and Lone Rock), **please support the vaccination of educators and school staff in Phase 1b.**

Our students need to have a safe learning environment; this is one vital step in ensuring the education of Wisconsin.

Mr. Loren G. Glasbrenner District Administrator - River Valley School District <u>lglasbrenner@rvschools.org</u> 608.588.2551 x8001 Hello,

First I wanted to thank the committee for their hard work and dedication to helping the people of Wisconsin through these extraordinarily difficult times. I am sure that regardless of the plan you propose there will be people upset. Thank you for doing the research and sticking with professional, science/data-driven decisions.

I wanted to speak in favor of the criteria listed for phase 1b. While I was surprised the proposal was for those over 70, not 65, I understand that those five years of age likely added far too many people to the list than anticipated vaccine delivery. I very much appreciate the addition of educators and individuals in congregate settings. I am really hoping this includes our correctional facilities and urge you not to eliminate this portion of the proposal. I previously worked with the state TB program. If there is one place where infection spreads like wildfire, it is our correctional facilities. Please do not allow people to push you from this recommendation.

Lastly, I would ask that you consider adding a clause to the "non-frontline health personnel" for contractors being brought into healthcare settings to do essential work at these times. I know there are many hospital construction projects that require contractors to work inside the hospital for weeks at a time who would not be covered under the current phrasing.

Again, I thank you for you work with this.

Stay Well,

Taylor LaBorde, MPH

Medical College of Wisconsin MD Candidate, Class of 2024 Pronouns: She/Her/Hers 715-203-5865 tlaborde@mcw.edu

From:	<u>c.j.schultz4</u>
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Phase 1B
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 9:32:27 AM

I personal think you are the best to decide who is in this category. You are the ones that have all the facts and the education to make this decision. No matter what you decide people are going to complain. Most of us want the vaccine and want it now but i know it's not feasible. I'm sure you probably already considered this but I will throw it out there. The military is use to handling mass vaccinations for deployments, maybe they can help? I personally have mixed emotions about who should get the next round. I am 63 but severely over weight and high blood pressure but my husbnd and son both work in factories. I know where my husbnd works they dont all wear masks and it worries me. I stay at home and bet groceries online. They have no choice. Dear committee,

I agree with the public facing essential works.

I disagree with several of the Phase 1B categories.

1. Educators should only be in this phase if they are conducting In Person learning. If a district or school is not allowing in person learning, those teachers should fall to a lower tier.

2. People in Jails and prisons should Not be put before the law abiding citizens. Only the staff for these facilities should be in the phase.

3. Supply chain such as transportation ie truck drivers are an overlooked essential group. These people kept our state supplied with necessary products while everyone else sheltered at home.

I urge you to take a common sense look at what groups you are prioritizing. This should not be a political decision. The health and safety of Wisconsinites is in your hands.

Sincerely, Nancy Brochhausen

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

From:	Heather Royer
To:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Educators are Essential Workers and Deserve Prioritization
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 9:25:20 AM

Dear Department of Health Services-

I begin this request with a profound accolade to the incredible work you have done to support the health of our communities during this devastating pandemic. You are overworked and underpaid and yet every day strive to deliver the best care possible. For that I am endlessly grateful.

Although my children's school is partially opening for in person classes, I have chosen to keep my children home from school because I am concerned about the continued spread that in person education contributes to. Most importantly, I am concerned about our teachers. They HAVE to return to work and yet are not protected from this deadly disease.

I am writing to request that educators are prioritized in vaccine distribution.

This will allow our children return to school and our teachers will be safe, a top priority for all. Thank you again for all you have done to navigate this pandemic. We are grateful for you. Heather Royer PhD, RN

Nurse Scientist

Mother of two elementary school children in the Verona Area School District

--

Heather Royer

Dear sir or madam-

I urge you to approve school staff and administrators as eligible to receive the COVID vaccine under Phase 1b. These people are working on the frontlines and this will help us bring kids back to school. Please do the right thing. Thank you,

Matt

Hello Martha,

My name is Ashley and I am a dance instructor here in Eau Claire. I believe we should be included in the next phase of people getting the vaccine as we are dealing with hundreds of kids a week just like educators and child care workers. In my opinion it isn't right that we are not included in this phase and that we should be.

Thank you very much Ashley Kinning

Sent from my iPhone

To Whom it May Concern,

Grocery workers in Wisconsin have been on the front lines since the start of the pandemic. They cannot work from home and are faced with thousands of people a day who may or may not respect social distancing regulations. My husband, a produce assistant at Metcalfe's Market, and his colleagues work long hours to make sure Madison-area families have food and essential home goods to continue to work and educate in our remote world.

The CDC recommends that "Frontline Essential Workers" be part of the 1B vaccination rollout. Grocery workers are on the frontline. They are as essential as healthcare in ensuring the safety of our population. The following organizations consider grocery workers to be Frontline essential workers:

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)

Virginia Food Industry Association

The Centers for Disease Control

The Dept of Homeland Security's guidelines for Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency

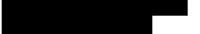
Further, the NCSL released the following information regarding the "Critical Retail Sector."

"The retail industry is composed of a complex network of occupations working in concert to meet the everyday needs of people across the country. From keeping grocery store shelves stocked to delivering consumer goods, many occupations within retail are deemed essential due to the role they play in maintaining everything from food to personal security. For this reason, all states with available guidance have deemed occupations within the retail sector essential. Workers in the following settings have most commonly been deemed essential across the states: grocery stores, pharmacies, medical supply stores, convenience stores, pet stores, hardware stores, office supply stores and liquor stores. Since the majority of retail occupations cannot be done remotely, many essential retail employees have continued carrying out their work in person. This has sparked debate around worker protections as retail workers, who are often low-wage earners with limited benefits, such as grocery store clerks, face risks to exposure daily."

https://www.ncsl.org/research/labor-and-employment/covid-19-essentialworkers-in-the-states.aspx

Wisconsin must not leave our essential grocery store workers out of the 1B vaccine rollout. We must protect critical essential retailers so that everyone can continue to safely provide for their families and themselves.

Thank you, Allison E. Martinson



Constituent of Rep. Lisa Subeck and Sen. Kelda Roys

Allison E. Martinson

When we speak, we are afraid our words will not be heard or welcomed. But when we are silent, we are still afraid. So it is better to speak. <u>Audre</u> <u>Lorde</u>

From:	Michelle
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccination Subcommittee - Phase 1b
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2021 9:10:13 AM

Dear Vaccination Subcommittee,

I was made aware today that Grocery Store Workers were not being included in group 1b. Of all the groups being most directly affected by COVID, after healthcare workers, I'd say it is grocery store workers. We need to prioritize their safety, especially now as the UK variant has hit the state.

And with that, we also need to make sure we're prioritizing all staff at nursing facilities. My sister is a temp caregiver and was told it may be a long while before she gets her vaccine. My other sister's mother in law has already gotten COVID from being a caregiver that goes in and out of homes. They were already dealing with shortages prior to COVID and now, it's worse than ever. Some of her patients didn't receive basic care in the two weeks she was absent!

Educators should also be up on the list, but honestly, I think they can wait until after these two categories are dealt with because ideally, they can be operating from home in the mean time. I'm grateful that my community has protected its educators that way. However, there is no working from home for grocery and caregivers.

Let's make sure these two essential worker groups are covered in their entirety. THank you!

Michelle Dunphy

Good morning,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment regarding this. I am writing to support the vaccination of teachers in the Waukesha SChool District, with an emphasis on Elementary who have been Face to Face since September.

Education and health are of upmost importance to our children. Without the AMAZING teachers and staff, this cannot happen.

I would like to strongly push for all Waukesha School District, especially Elementary teachers and staff to be vaccinated ASAP.

Our Elementary teachers and fought this battle in the classroom all school year with success, yet with fear. I beg of you....get these teacher the vaccination ASAP. If that means a day off of school to do it and I homeschool that day, I will JUMP at the opportunity to do that for our teachers. PLEASE help get our district teachers, with a push for those already in person all year, a vaccine immediately.

Thank you for your time.

Tracy

Hello!

I saw a post on FB asking folks to review the tier 1B vaccine recommendations and send in any comments. I would just like to advocate that when it's time to vaccinate educators, teachers currently working in person are prioritized FIRST in Dane County. It would be hard to swallow to see MMSD educators getting their vaccine ahead of or even at the same time as districts that currently are working with kids and in the same building as so many other adults. I ask this because vaccines seem so limited and while MMSD educators certainly do need the vaccine, there are so many of them that I fear it could delay getting the vaccine to educators already working in person.

Please consider prioritizing educators by who is already working in person with students.

Thanks so much for the consideration,

Jillian Block Creekside Elementary Principal - SPASD --

This is an email from Sun Prairie Area School District and may contain information which is privileged and confidential. Any unauthorized disclosure, copying, distribution, or use of the contents is prohibited. If you have received this email in error, please immediately notify the sender and destroy the message. Please include teachers in phase 1b as schools and communitys push to go 5 days a week.

Thank you Andrew Bradley

From:	Eric Hartz
То:	DHS SDMAC
Subject:	Vaccine Sub-Committee Phase 1B
Date:	Thursday, January 14, 2021 9:37:04 PM

To whom it may concern:

As a school board member of the Monona Grove School District, I am writing to advocate for all K-12 teachers and staff to be included in the Phase-1B Vaccine group and do whatever you can to try and mitigate this group so we can safely get our students back to in person learning. Students and families are struggling and teachers are concerned about the spread of Covid-19 in the schools. If we can get our teachers vaccinated it will help us get our students back to in person learning as soon as possible. The online/hybrid learning platform is not ideal for our students, and we are seeing a significant impact on their mental health.

Sincerely, Eric J. Hartz

Eric J. Hartz Ed.D. Monona Grove School Board Chair Teaching, Learning and Equity Committee Personal Committee

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To whom it concerns,

Is there a distribution phase that includes School Bus Drivers and School Bus Monitors? Will they included in Phase 1B with Education?

There are School Bus Drivers and Monitors that would return to work once they are able to get the vaccine. Finding drivers is not easy and this industry has struggled to fill open positions, just like trucking (freight) companies.

Thank you,

Josh Page Contract Manager

North America Central School Bus 785 Noble Road New Richmond, WI 54017 Office: 715-246-3261 Fax: 715-246-7310

"Safety First, Quality Always"

While I appreciate that you are opening this to public comment, time is of the essence here. WI is far behind other states - this is no time for red tape. State officials have had months and months to figure out a vaccination plan. Why are we now dragging our feet? I would hope our state officials are working nights and weekends to get this expedited ASAP!!!!

I am happy to see that teachers are included in phase 1B, but again, WI is taking too long. Racine is set to go back to school and now MPS is discussing the same, yet none of those teachers have received any information about vaccinations yet. Other states are already vaccinating teachers. Why are we failing?

I supported Governor Evers but this is not looking good.

Get our teachers vaccinated. Let's get moving Wisconsin.

Thank you,

Dana Jones

Please include teachers in 1b as recommended by the subcommittee.

Sincerely,

Christa Marlowe 53207