



COUNTY OF YOLO

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County, YCOE Hosting Town Hall on Youth Vaccines

Public Health and Education Leaders to Address How to Keep Schools Open and Safe

Woodland, CA - Parents and guardians are invited to attend an upcoming town hall on November 1 at 6:30 p.m. to receive direct information from the Yolo County public health officer on COVID-19 vaccines for children five to 11. The virtual event will be held on Facebook Live and Zoom.

Yolo County Public Health Officer Dr. Aimee Sisson will focus on the expected COVID-19 vaccine rollout for children during the town hall. In addition, the town hall will answer questions about the safety of pediatric vaccinations and address updated COVID-19 guidelines for schools. The town hall will also feature County Superintendent Garth Lewis.

Dr. Sisson has concluded the earliest potential date for approval of vaccines for children would be November 3. The final decision depends on approval at both the state and federal levels.

On October 26, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's independent advisory committee plans to meet to discuss emergency authorization for Pfizer's vaccine for children five to 11. If approved, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices will meet on November 2 and 3 to offer its own recommendations to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

If approved at the federal level, the Western States Scientific Safety Review Workgroup would then complete a review of the federal process and determine the safety of pediatric vaccines for public use in California.

“With information constantly coming out from the FDA, CDC, and state of California, many parents are wondering what it means for them locally,” said Dr. Sisson. “During the webinar, we will cover questions regarding vaccine safety, when children five to 11 might be eligible to get vaccinated, and vaccine mandates.”

The town hall will also seek to answer questions on recent updates related to schools, including the indoor mask mandate and the state's recent vaccine requirement to attend schools.

On October 1, Governor Gavin Newsom announced California would become the first state to add the COVID-19 vaccine to the list of vaccinations required for school. Implementation of the vaccine mandate would not occur until the vaccines receive full FDA approval, which is not expected soon.

On Wednesday (October 20), the California Department of Public Health also announced the universal indoor mask mandate in K-12 schools would continue through the winter, stating "now is not the time to let our guard down."

The town hall is designed for parents and guardians of students but is open to all members of the community. The virtual town hall begins at 6:30 p.m. on Facebook Live at www.facebook.com/YoloCOE.

Spanish translation for the town hall will be provided via Zoom. Advance registration is requested at https://ycoe.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Di9PvtjwRQi2j39YTU0bvw. The public is invited to submit questions for the forum at <https://forms.gle/2LS9KhCxRDeQR8tk7>.

Additional information on the town hall is available on the Yolo County Office of Education website at www.ycoe.org.

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