



British Columbia  
School Trustees  
Association

March 3, 2021

**The Honourable Adrian Dix**  
*Minister of Health*  
PO Box 9050 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

**The Honourable Jennifer Whiteside**  
*Minister of Education*  
PO Box 9045, Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Dix and Minister Whiteside,

**Subject: COVID-19 Vaccine Priority for Workers in the Public Education Sector**

At the February 20, 2020 meeting of the BCSTA Provincial Council, representing all 60 boards of education in our province, our members passed the following motion:

*“that BCSTA request the Ministry of Health assign high priority to the vaccination of workers in the public education sector when the COVID-19 vaccine becomes available as described in the February 19th update to the COVID-19 Immunization Plan which states “Note: Once additional vaccines are approved and become available, people between the ages of 18 and 64 who are front-line essential workers or work in specific workplaces or industries may be included in the later part of Phase 3.”*

Boards of education believe it is critical that the provincial government prioritize public education workers in the weeks ahead as part of the province's immunization plan. School staff are essential to maintaining the functionality of a critical sector that supports our society and economy. They are also responsible for supporting the general health and mental well-being of students. While the current safety precautions have proven to be effective in limiting the spread of COVID-19 in schools, this measure would add an additional layer of protection to keep schools as safe as possible.

Thank you for considering this request. We look forward to your response and are available to discuss the matter at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

**Stephanie Higginson**  
*President*  
British Columbia School Trustees Association

Motion: P220219.2

CC: Deputy Minister of Education Scott MacDonald  
BCSTA member boards of education