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Governor Kate Brown Provides Updates on COVID-19 in Oregon

January 08, 2021

OHA is making progress towards goal of 12,000 vaccinations per day, National Guard to provide vaccination support

Salem, OR—**CORRECTION**
Governor Brown has activated Oregon National Guard members to support vaccination efforts, beginning with the Salem Health vaccination event at the state fairgrounds. However those members are being called up on orders and processed this weekend, and are expected to begin in their support role in Salem by Tuesday. This will not impact Salem Health's operations, which will be administering vaccines as planned this weekend.

Governor Kate Brown held a press conference today to update Oregonians on the status of COVID-19 vaccinations in Oregon, as well as school reopening plans. The Governor was joined by Patrick Allen, Director of the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Colt Gill, Director of the Oregon Department of Education, and Dr. Dean Sidelinger, State

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Epidemiologist

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"OHA is working with health care providers, pharmacies, and local public health partners to make steady progress toward achieving our goal of 12,000 vaccines administered per day," said Governor Brown. "We continue to look at how we can use every tool we have to swiftly vaccinate Oregonians, and in that spirit, I am deploying the National Guard to provide vaccination support, starting this weekend with Salem Health's vaccination event at the state fairgrounds. These partnerships will help us achieve the critical mass of community immunity we need.

"On the education front, at the start of the new year, Oregon's COVID-19 health metrics for returning to in-person instruction became advisory, empowering local school districts and communities to make decisions regarding in-person instruction that best meet the needs of their families and students. All Oregon schools will still be required to adhere to health and safety measures in order to open any in-person instruction, and they must continue to work in close consultation with their local public health authority."

More information on vaccines is available at covidvaccine.oregon.gov (https://covidvaccine.oregon.gov/) .

A copy of the Governor's remarks is available here (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BZH9KSiRO81K_aEQSR9RasTxwbKDiQCJ/view) .

A recording of today's live-streamed press conference is available here (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0USRNdXiQwQ&feature=youtu.be) .

An HD recording of today's press conference for members of the media is available here (https://vimeo.com/498465452) . Please note, the video starts at the 35:26 mark.

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