

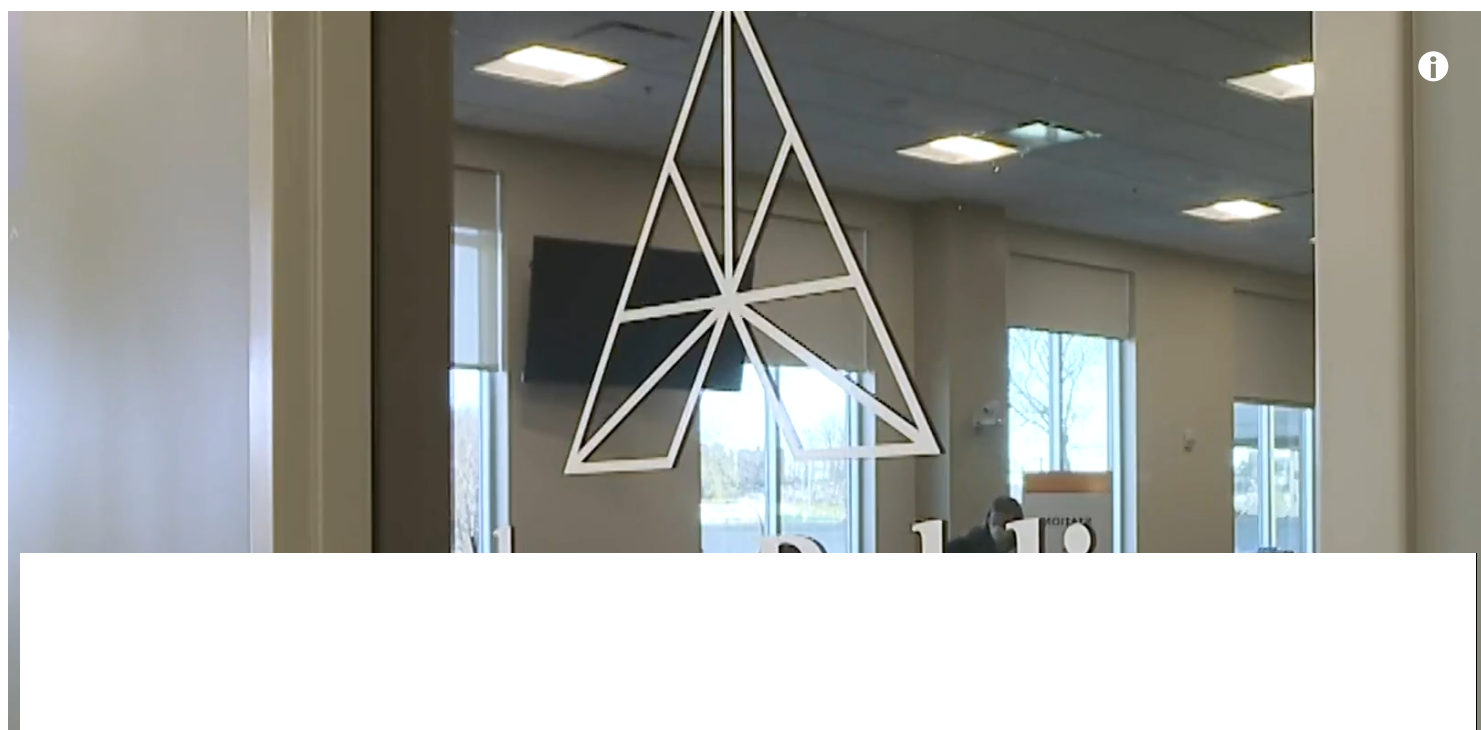
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BREAKING NEWS / COVID-19 vaccine FAQ

CORONAVIRUS

Northeast Ohio school district cancels class over COVID-19 vaccine reactions

Health officials say don't be discouraged by vaccine side effects



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by: Dave Nethers**Posted: Feb 8, 2021 / 06:01 PM EST / Updated: Feb 8, 2021 / 06:58 PM EST**

NAVARRE, Ohio (WJW)– Two days after employees were given their first round of **COVID-19** vaccinations, the Fairless Local School District canceled classes, attributing it to many developing side effects and becoming ill.

Massillon high school employees receive COVID-19 vaccine a week early →

School employees across Ohio started getting their first round of the COVID-19 vaccinations, including Massillon City Schools and Medina County Schools on Friday, Akron Public Schools over the weekend, in addition to Tuslaw Local Schools in Massillon, Plain Local Schools in Canton and Fairless Local Schools in Navarre on Saturday.

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CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 VACCINE SIDE EFFECTS

- Pain, swelling at the injection site
 - Fever
 - Chills
- Tiredness
- Headache

If you have pain or discomfort, talk to your doctor about taking an over-the-counter medicine, such as ibuprofen or acetaminophen.

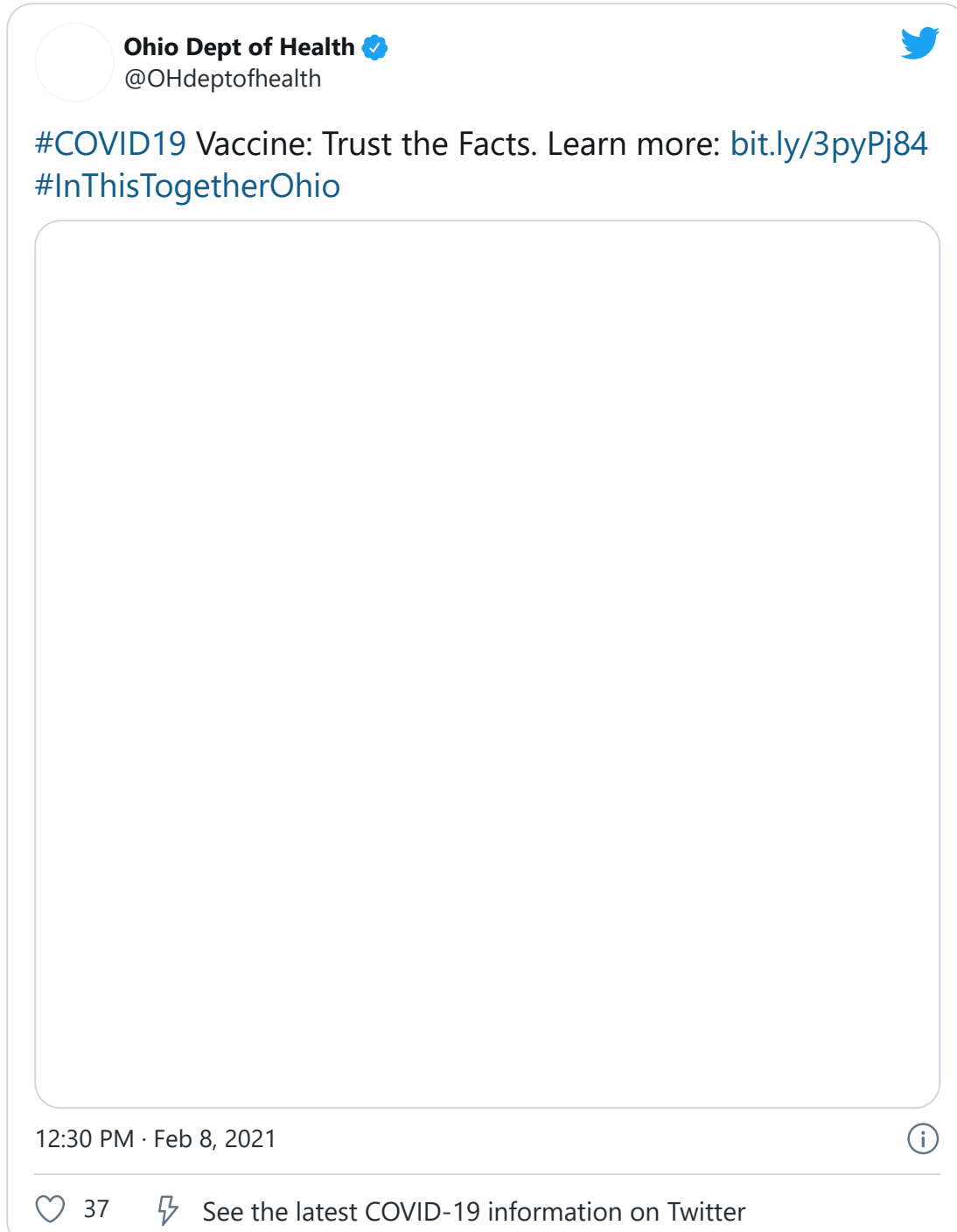
Based on information from the CDC

In most cases, as much as 80 percent of the eligible employees are accepting the vaccinations. Medina County schools canceled classes on Friday to allow employees to all be vaccinated on the same day. Other districts are choosing to have their mass vaccinations over the weekends so as not to interfere with classes.

'Step towards normalcy': 80 percent of Woodridge Local Schools staff volunteer for vaccine →

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also not surprised that a number of the people who are getting the vaccinations are reporting side effects, calling that perfectly normal for any vaccine.



“I’m very encouraged. We want to make sure that all of our school personnel are safe, and we want to try to help protect them so it is very very encouraging for us.”

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Ahmann said she was aware that Fairless Local Schools canceled classes on Monday, but was not familiar with the number of employees reporting illness related to the vaccines.

“As far as specifically the call-off numbers in Fairless, I haven’t spoken to them, but I am not surprised if people are having some of the reactions like that to the vaccine. In fact, it’s kind of good news because we know they are responding,” Ahmann said.

“Sometimes we see it after the first dose, sometimes we see it after the second dose. I had my second dose last week and had a 103 fever the next day. Although I would much rather have a 103 fever for 24 hours than COVID-19 for two weeks,” she said.



A screenshot of a tweet from the Ohio Department of Health (@OHdeptofhealth). The tweet text reads: "#COVID19 Vaccines: Trust the Facts. The vaccines currently available do not contain a live virus meaning they can't give you COVID-19 or cause a positive viral test. Learn more: bit.ly/3pyPj84 #InThisTogetherOhio". The tweet is dated 6:05 PM on Feb 7, 2021, and has 18 likes. Below the tweet, there is a link that says "See the latest COVID-19 information on Twitter".

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Plain Local Schools and Tuslaw Schools, also in Stark County, had their vaccinations on Saturday and held classes as usual on Monday.

In a report published in December, the FDA said of 38,000 participants in a test class for the Pfizer vaccine, 84.1 percent reported injection site reactions, such as redness or tenderness at the injection site. About 63 percent reported experiencing fatigue, 55 percent reported headaches, 38 percent reported muscle pain, 32 percent reported chills, 24 percent experienced joint pain and 14 percent reported fever.

First group of teachers with Akron Public Schools gets vaccine as statewide rollout continues →

The FDA report concluded, “The frequency of serious adverse events was low (less than 0.5 percent) but were more frequent after dose two than after dose 1.

Summit County Health Commissioner Donna Skoda said she is aware of some school districts considering using a calamity day following the second dose of the vaccine for employees, but she was not aware of any districts in Summit County that have canceled classes following the first dose.

“We vaccinated our vaccinators and I can tell you that some have reacted. Some haven’t. Some have felt bad for a day, some had a headache, some body aches some fatigue and then we had a couple who felt really rotten for a couple days. So it doesn’t really know, but I tell you that it is no reason to not take a vaccine,” Skoda said.

Educators in Medina County receive COVID-19 vaccine as part of state’s Phase 1B group →

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“I don’t know the situation today in Fairless, but that makes total sense and I do know that it has been hard for all school districts to get substitutes, you know, teachers, bus driver substitutes. It’s very hard because we are in the middle of a pandemic so if they do have some you are right it would make it very difficult,” Ahmann said.

Cleveland schools plan two mass vaccination sites for staff →

Both Ahmann and Skoda said the fact that Fairless canceled school on Monday should not persuade those who are considering a COVID-19 vaccine to change their minds.

(FOX 8 photo)

“We are really close to it. We know all of the cases, we know the people who have unfortunately passed on, but I have to tell you that illness that I have seen people have is nowhere near the destruction that COVID has caused,” Skoda said