

Henrico County Public Schools

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Meeting Notes

8/23/2021

1. **Welcome** – committee members who were present were welcomed.
2. **Review of Data**- Data was reviewed and presented by Chtaura Jackson. Using the updated VDH metric dash board <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/key-measures/pandemic-metrics/school-metrics/> the data for the week of 8/8/2021-8/14/2021- 157.5 cases per 100,000 which is in the high category. The percentage data for week 8/6/2021-8/12/2021 is 6.7%.
3. **Vaccine update**- Total number of those 12 years old and older who are fully vaccinated is 72.7%. The breakdown per age is 18-year-old and under is 22.0%, those who are 18 years old and over is 73.4%.

The FDA granted full approval today to Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for those age 16 years old and up.

It is expected that booster doses for those who received the MRNA vaccines will be approved on September 20, 2021. Boosters will be available to those who received their second COVID vaccine at least 8 months prior. This is expected to be on a rolling basis as the first doses were given on a staggered tiered approach. The CDC and FDA have not yet made this recommendation, but it is expected soon. Third doses for those who are immunocompromised have already received approval and those doses are being given currently.

The event at Brookland Middle School went well. The total numbers were 165 childhood vaccines given with 123 COVID vaccines administered. The total number of vaccinations administered over the five summer events were 494 childhood vaccines and 343 COVID vaccines.

4. **Updates to COVID CDC guidance and Governors orders**- No new executive orders have been announced.

5. **Review of Preparedness**-

- **Staffing- School Health**: There are still 6 open RN/LPN positions open for school year 2021-2022 There are 29 clinic aide positions open for next school year. If these are not filled, then the schools will need to provide staff backups for the health isolation room. **Other school positions**: Fairfield Middle School principal position is open. There are still many open

positions for bus drivers, IA, nutrition workers and clinic aides. HVA has been recruiting for their open positions via social media.

-Facilities- The facilities team is looking at whether windows can be opened for improved air flow. The relative humidity in the air is a determining factor for this. Also reviewing if additional air scrubbers could be obtained to use in other areas.

- Contact Tracing- HCPS School Health Services is currently doing all contact tracing. There is a concern that employees are already having to quarantine and isolate with the start of the school year, this may lead to staffing shortages. School Health Services is having trouble keeping up with the volume of cases that need to be worked. Exact numbers are not available this week.

COVID screening- the COVID screening forms have been updated and will be sent out again this year for all students and staff. The student one has been sent to the Rycor online form system for parents/guardian to fill out. The employee form should be distributed and signed again this year. The employee form will be uploaded to Talent Ed for those who have access to this system. All other employees will need to sign a paper copy. It only needs to be completed once per school year. An email with this information is scheduled to go out on 8/24/2021.

In person staff meetings/professional development- discussion about trying to hold meetings virtually as much as possible. If in person meetings are being held then face coverings and social distancing should occur. Education about this and the proper way to wear face coverings to be sent out via HCPS leadership.

6. Next Steps –

Sports- Infographic was distributed. This was guidance for students. Adults should follow the CDC guidelines.

Volunteer guidelines- see below

Visitor guidelines- A visual guide to explain visitor and volunteer guidelines and how community transmission affects activities has been developed. The committee discussed and made changes to the guide. Principals will have discretion for this based on the size of the event and needs of the community.

Field Trips- The group discussed that field trips are an important part of education and should be allowed with preventative measures in place. A checklist will be developed that includes procedures for how to layer preventative measures before, during and after a field trip. This would always include face coverings, cohorting and keeping groups together during the entire trip with seating charts for the bus. This information would be communicated to parents/guardians, so they are aware. The group came to a consensus that most field trips

should be limited to outdoors only when in a time of high community transmission. This would include only traveling to a place with the same or lower community transmission rates.

Cafeteria Management- the committee gave suggestions for how to have students eat in the cafeteria while maintaining social distancing and trying to prevent exposure. This would include the possible use of air scrubbers, using plexiglass dividers on the tables, having lunch outside, staggering lunch times/places, brown bag lunch with options chosen earlier in the day. This information will be brought to the Division Leadership Team for consideration.

Assemblies- Assemblies should take place with distancing maintained at the greatest extent possible. Having pep rallies and other activities held outdoors or virtually were suggestions that were mentioned.

Performing Arts- should have the same guidelines as sports. Spectators may be limited as space allows for the greatest social distancing.

Other-

COVID testing screening programs were mentioned as another preventative measure that could be offered. James Upshaw is contact for this program.

Additional items for discussion for next meeting:

Temperature checks

Face coverings- refusal and consequences.

Whether vaccines will be required for all staff

Next meeting will take place on Monday 8/30/2021. Meetings will be held weekly.