

Henrico County Public Schools

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Meeting Notes

12/13/2021

1. **Welcome** – committee members who were present were welcomed.

2. **Review of Data**- Data was reviewed and presented to the committee.

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/key-measures/pandemic-metrics/school-metrics/>

The data as of last week is as follows: 188 cases per 100,000 which is in the high. category. The percentage of positive tests is up to 7.1%. **the data has not been updated on the VDH website for this week. The illness letter will be sent this morning for last week's data. The 10-day letter will still be in effect.

3. **COVID Vaccine update**- Data was updated on 12/13/2021. Total number of children ages 5-11 years old that are fully vaccinated is 15.2%. Those who are ages 5-17 who are full vaccinated is 39.5%. Those who are 18 years old and over who are fully vaccinated is 74.1%.

RHHD is partnering with HCPS to hold COVID vaccine clinics at four elementary schools on 12/17/2021 and again on 1/7/2022. Those schools are Laburnum, Glen Lea, Dumbarton, and Ridge Elementary Schools.

Beth will ask Adrienne Cole-Johnson to connect with the health department in discussions about offering COVID vaccines at after school programs such as HEF and YMCA. This is in the planning phase currently.

Other childhood immunizations- Other There continues to be students who are not compliant with school immunizations. More discussion about exclusion to come.

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 currently 3 RN and 1 LPN positions open. There is going to be another LPN vacancy in January due to a retirement. There are very few applicants for these positions. The two nurses hired to work at Godwin High School are currently in orientation. There continues to be about 13 clinic aide positions open. When nurses call in or have to isolate/quarantine, there is no one in the clinic and clinic backups are having to manage the medical needs of the students. School Health Services has begun to try and cover clinics with clinic aides from other schools whenever possible.

-Facilities- 600 BinaxNOW COVID test kits have arrived. They have a December expiration date. Facilities will work to get these out to the schools this week. More tests kits with future expiration dates have been ordered. 3900 were ordered and hopefully will arrive this week so they will be in the schools for 1/3/2022. Two kits continue to be handed out for unvaccinated exposures to test at day 1 and again on days 5-7 if first one is negative.

-PPE- PPE continues to be in supply. There was a shipment of disposable and cloth masks that have been delivered. Wipes continue to be used in large supply, but some are starting to limit their use to only high touch areas.

- Contact Tracing- 11 positions to assist with contact tracing and athlete testing are still open. Josephine Lush will continue with contact tracing during the winter break. She has been given access to school spreadsheets. Karen will update nurses to review case spreadsheets on 1/3/2022 so they are aware of who needs to be in quarantine or isolation.

-Doli- No updates

Volunteer and Visitor guidelines- Both are in the Tier 1 category

Other-

COVID testing- The at home diagnostic testing kits continue to be handed out. There has been reports by at least 4 nurses that the proctors will not allow the kits that have an updated expiration date. James to follow up with Geri on this.

Athlete Testing Program- testing continues to go well with a few adjustments as needed. The samples that were obtained on Thursday came back on Saturday. All athletic directors have been notified of any positive cases. In addition, parents receive text messages and emails when their child tests positive.

School Visits – none this past week.

Instruction- Clarification on whether virtual options can be offered if students are out due to isolation or quarantine. With more elementary students being vaccinated, there may be some students who will not need to quarantine. DLT has stated that the use of virtual instruction is not forbidden but will also not be enforced unless the entire class is out.

Next meeting will take place on Monday 1/3/2022.