

Henrico County Public Schools

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Meeting Notes

12/6/2021

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 12/6/2021 is as follows- 167.77 cases per 100,000 which is in the substantial category. The percentage of positive tests is up to 7.34%. Both are increased from last week.
3. **COVID Vaccine update**- Data was updated on 12/5/2021. Total number of children ages 5-11 years old that are fully vaccinated is 10%. Those who are 18 years old and over who are fully vaccinated is up to 74.9%.

RHHD continues to host several COVID vaccine clinics for the 5–11-year-old population in the school community. Information about these events is being disseminated by weekly emails to all parents in addition to being added to the Elementary and Middle School web pages. RHHD is also looking to partner with HCPS to hold COVID vaccine clinics in a few elementary schools on 12/17/2021 and again on 1/7/2022.

There have been some questions about booster immunizations for staff. Karen will send link to find COVID vaccines to Cathy Edwards after the meeting.

Other childhood immunizations- Other There continues to be students who are not compliant with school immunizations. Currently the plan is to exclude on 1/3/2022 if students do not either have the needed immunization or an appointment card for the immunization. Other school districts are currently looking at excluding students who do not have the necessary immunizations. DLT will review further before making any changes to the exclusion.

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 no substitute nurses who are not already working. There continues to be about 15 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. This is a concern. **Other school positions-**
no report

-Facilities- There are currently no additional BinaxNOW test kits in the warehouse. A shipment is expected soon.

-PPE- Wipes are in supply at the schools but additional ones have not been secured at this time. There continues to be an increase in need for disposable masks. There is at least a 2-week supply on hand for students and visitors to buildings. A reminder email will be sent out to COVID liaisons to make sure that visitors are handed masks if they do not have one when they are attending events in the buildings.

- Contact Tracing- The partnership between RHHD and HCPS is working well. There has been an increase in cases over the weekend. Josephine Lush from VDH is working well with the schools. There has been an update that all unvaccinated close contacts should test on day 1 and if negative again on days 5-7. Robin addressed concerns with pictures on social media of basketball games where the players and coaches were not wearing masks and it was not during active play. Opponents from other schools and school divisions need to follow HCPS guidelines when in our buildings.

-Doli- No updates

Volunteer and Visitor guidelines- Both are in the Tier 1 category. Discussion about instruction supporting indoor events such as Spelling Bee. Decision that with social distancing, the caller would not be wearing a mask when calling out the word and when the student was at the microphone then could take mask off to spell word.

Other-

COVID testing- The at home diagnostic testing kits continue to be handed out.

Athlete Testing Program- This is week 3 for high schools and the start of week 1 for middle schools. There have been some adjustments and clarifying of procedures for these testing events with Aegis. Hungary Creek Middle School was not able to get all athlete tested in the timeframe, so Aegis offered to test the students on Friday.

School Visits – Short Pump Middle and Quioccasin Middle school were the schools visited. Masking was good for all students in both schools. Quioccasin is doing an outstanding job at prevention strategies. Air scrubbers were suggested for the clinic if ill students are in there. It was decided that the air scrubber could be moved from the health isolation room to cover the clinic if staffing was such that both areas could not be staffed.

Next meeting will take place on Monday 12/6/2021.