

Henrico County Public Schools

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Meeting Notes

2/8/2021

1. **Welcome** – The committee members were welcomed.

2. **Review of Data**- The timeline for HPCS return to face to face learning was reviewed. Employees are to report to the school building one week prior to when their students return. The schedule has time built in so employees who choose to do so, can receive the second vaccine with minimal disruption of learning. See timeline below.

2/22/2021- grades PK-2 (Mon/Tues. face to face)

3/1/2021- grades 3rd-5th; 6th and 9th (Mon/Tues. face to face)

3/8/2021- all grades PK-12 (Mon/Tues./Thur./Fri face to face)

The data was reviewed and presented by Chtaura Jackson. The number of cases per 100,000 individuals is 673 with a positivity rate of 9.9%. This is a change of -17.3%. The region has seen a decrease in cases over the past 19 days. In schools there has been a plateau of cases. She did reiterate the need for strong mitigating strategies.

www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/key-measures/pandemic-metrics/

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/indicators.html#thresholds>

School Dashboards

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/outbreaks-in-education-settings/>

3. **COVID Vaccine**- Over 6000 vaccines were administered in the first round of vaccinations for HPCS and other school employees. If employees missed the first vaccine, then there may be an opportunity to get vaccinated at the upcoming events. Francine is keeping a list of all new hires. The second vaccine appointments are being emailed in stages to employees. HCPS school nurses have been helping with the vaccination clinics for the school employees as well as other members of the community (>75 years old). There was some concern with employees who may have intense reactions to the second vaccine and their ability to work the next day.

4. **VDH/VDOE New Recommendations**

- **Impact on re-opening timeline** discussion below in next steps about a HCPS dashboard.

5. **Review of Preparedness for Re-opening**

- **PPE – N95 update-** A stock of Makrite N95 has been ordered. Other types may need to be ordered as Karen gets the numbers of what N95 is needed at each school to Cortney this week. Another fit testing is scheduled for 2/12/2021. Chtaura went over the preference for N95 in the health isolation room PPE but states that if an individual cannot fit test to N95 then use of 2 surgical masks is acceptable. For individuals entering the room where a student is being suctioned then only a N95 is to be used.

Other- water bottles are being ordered for schools that need this. (2 water bottles per student). There was a question about ACE centers and PPE availability. Cortney has already reached out to these programs.

- **Staffing-** Clinic aides continue to be hired.

- **Contact Tracing-** The group has been working hard and is currently caught up as of Friday (2/5/2021). The committee discussed what actions need to be taken when students and employees report an illness. Each Monday the nurses are sent a letter to give to families that outlines whether the student must stay out for 24 hours or 10 days depending on community spread. If there is a question about a chronic illness vs. COVID illness, collaboration with the school nurse is encouraged. A note will be required if the student/staff member is to return prior to the 10 days. This note must state the condition is non communicable. A negative COVID test does not clear an individual. Chtaura Jackson has requested that attendance is taken every day for those who are participating in sports. This would include staff who are at practice. Currently four schools have had their sports programs impacted due to an exposure/positive case. Three of the schools kept attendance and this was helpful with contact tracing.

6. **Next Steps –**

A HCPS COVID information dashboard was discussed. Committee members would like to some metrics along other means of presenting information for a variety of audiences. Videos and pictures of the mitigating strategies were a suggestion.

Next meeting is scheduled for 2/15/2021

VDH COVID – School K-12

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/schools-workplaces-community-locations/k-12-education/>

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/182/2020/09/Noncritical-Infrastructure-Worker-Algorithm.pdf>