

Henrico County Public Schools

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Meeting Notes

4/12/2021

1. **Welcome** – committee members who were present were welcomed. Not all committee members were in attendance.
2. **Review of Data**- Data was reviewed and presented by Beth Teigen. Using the new CDC guidance for school metrics the data for the week of 4/3/2021 is as follows; total number of new cases per 100,000 is at 144.9 which is in the highest category. The percent positivity of new cases is currently 5.5%. HCPS will continue to use the mitigating measures (now called preventative interventions) currently in place.

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

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/operation-strategy.html>

3. **COVID Vaccine update:** discussion about how to help students who are currently 16 years old or older access vaccine appointments if they want to be vaccinated. Currently Pfizer is the only vaccine available for 16–18-year-olds. They will need parental consent.

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

- **Staffing**- no further discussion (see summer information below)
- **Contact Tracing**- Contact tracing continues to be busy. The number of employee cases have dropped and the number of new COVID cases in students continues to increase.
- **Ill staff and students**- no further discussion

5. **Next Steps** –

COVID testing of students/staff- Currently there is a pilot COVID testing program from VDH/VDOE that includes COVID testing within the school environment. The reason for this is to try and have containment of COVID disease. This has been done in other areas of the country with success especially for sports teams. Robin has asked other school division school nurse

coordinators if they are doing testing. Currently there are several school divisions that are looking into this as an option, but none are doing so at this time. Many have responded that they do not plan to pursue this. The committee members raised the following questions: 1. Who would be responsible for following up on positive tests 2. If this is a rapid test, then what follow up would be recommended or required? 3. What type of training is needed to do these tests? 4. What is the liability for this? 5. HCPS will review and continue to research this. More information to come.

Competitions for States/Nationals to be allowed. Students and staff must follow the health plan preventative measures such as the wearing of face coverings and social distancing. Any other requirements such as COVID testing will also be followed if the sponsoring agency requests this.

Summer programs- Discussion about summer clinic staffing as well as what guidelines will be in place for the summer programs. Would the distancing be allowed to move to 3 feet instead of 6? More information and discussion to come before recommendations from the committee are given.

Next meeting will take place on 4/19/2021.

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>