

# Henrico County Public Schools

## HEALTH COMMITTEE

### Meeting Notes

5/17/2021

1. **Welcome** – committee members who were present were welcomed.
2. **Review of Data**- Data was reviewed and presented by Chtaura Jackson. Using the CDC guidance for school metrics the data for the week is as follows; total number of new cases per 100,000 is at 56.79 which is in the substantial category. This is again, down from last week. The percent positivity of new cases is currently 3.3%. The percent change is -38.5 %.

Discussion about whether to use the 10-day letter vs. the 24-hour letter for students/employees who are ill this week since the number is close to the threshold. Decision was made to go with the numbers on the school metrics webpage and use the 10-day letter since they are still over 50 per 100,000.

<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:** The FDA and CDC have approved children aged 12-15 years old to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Children younger than 12 are expected to be approved by September. The hours will be extended for the vaccine events at the raceway for the next two weeks. This is to allow parents/guardians who want to get their 12–15-year-olds vaccinated. The second doses will be scheduled at the Eastern Recreational Center. Dr. Viray is trying to clarify if a workplace or school can ask someone whether they have been vaccinated with the COVID-19 vaccine. If students call into school with symptoms after receiving the COVID-19 vaccine, then the 10-day letter would not apply if all other circumstances have been vetted and no more than 24 hr-48 hr. post vaccine. Chtaura Jackson agreed with this recommendation.

4. **Updates to COVID CDC guidance and Governors orders-** The Governor of Virginia is expected to release all COVID-19 requirements starting 5/28/2021. This is 2 weeks earlier than previously thought. Social distancing requirements and other prevention methods be upheld until the end of the school year even with changes expected to come including the wearing of face coverings by all individuals in Pk-12 school buildings. The only changes that may arise

would be to increase the number of spectators at graduations. No other changes are expected. There may be more revisions when it comes to workplace enforcement of COVID 19 restrictions under DOLI.

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

- **Staffing**- There are at least 7 openings for licensed summer clinic staff. There are also openings for clinic aides for summer positions.

- **Contact Tracing**- Robin is working on identifying all employees who may have contracted COVID via a workplace exposure vs. community or household exposure. This is for Henrico Risk Management. The HCPS School Health Services contact tracing nurses will continue working cases until the end of the school year. Contact tracing responsibility will then shift to the individual schools reaching out to the health department for guidance on who would need to isolate and quarantine for each case.

**PPE**- Cortney states that there are supplies in the EOC warehouse that must be removed before July 1, 2021. HCPS may acquire some items to use for summer as well as next school year.

## **6. Next Steps –**

**COVID testing of students/staff**-more information to come next week from Robin. It does not appear that any COVID testing will occur prior to the end of the school year.

**Summer programs**- There is a question about whether a health plan is needed for summer programs and for next school year. Dr. Teigen will find out and report to the group. There are a few schools that have reported to have many students signed up for their summer programs. There will be a transition to social distancing of 3 feet in summer programs if necessary. Seating charts will need to be completed each day on the buses and in the classrooms. Question came up about how eating of breakfast and lunch will occur during the summer. Desk shields will be used only if desired by the teacher/student. Discussion about if a student is placed on quarantine during a summer course if they have an option to review content virtually or be allowed to make up work so they do not have to drop the class. Mark will connect with Justine Jordan to see what has been decided. Mark is also going to reach out to Justine about COVID screening forms and the ability to get a list from home schools to the summer coordinators of who has already signed the form. This would replace the need to screen everyone and/or send forms home for screening. Cortney will review all items discussed for Summer Academy on the COVID liaison meeting on Friday.

**Volunteer guidelines**- The committee agreed to open volunteer opportunities to Tier 2 since transmission is in the substantial range instead of high. This allows for volunteers to work inside but not around students. Volunteer activities may move to Tier 3 if community transmission continues to decrease. Cortney will make sure that Debbie Long from the PTA is aware.

**Additional items for discussion-**

**Student and teacher absences-** Teacher/staff absences were up last week but HCPS still can supply teaching substitutes as needs arise.

**Social Emotional Learning-** SEL standards are expected to be released on 7/1/2021 and this will help empower teachers to build activities into their lessons. Christina will review whether there is support such as morning meetings built into the summer schedule as students transition from all virtual to in building activities and learning.

**Field Day-** There may be an invitation to students who are all virtual to participate in field day activities. Mark will follow up and let the committee know. There will need to be a list of what students attend and where they are in case there is a positive case and contact tracing needs to occur.

**Link below as a guide for reopening of schools.**

[https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5f85f5a156091e113f96e4d3/t/60885fa500e63d4a1980ec2f/1619550124862/FINAL+ROADMAP\\_4.27.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5f85f5a156091e113f96e4d3/t/60885fa500e63d4a1980ec2f/1619550124862/FINAL+ROADMAP_4.27.pdf)

**Next meeting** will take place on 5/24/2021.