

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION FORM RESPONSES
Thursday, October 14, 2021

Timestamp	First Name:	Last Name:	Magisterial District:	Your written comments for the October 14 work session:
Sep. 22, 21 -- 6:13: PM	Dana	Granklin	Varina District - Alicia S. Atkins	Unhappy with the bus driver pay. Why is a newly hired bus driver with no experience making \$17.15 an hour while an existing employee with 9 years of experience making the same? Even with the new increases given to existing employees, amount remains the same. You advertise \$17.15 for new hires & even more with experience. Therefore, you need to make additional adjustments to existing employees' salary. Drivers are currently being overworked, under paid, and added responsibilities with additional paperwork, working over 7 hours per day. No breaks given. This is NOT how you treat committed employees with longevity. Request a review of pay for existing employees be given. Thank you!
Sep. 22, 21 -- 6:33: PM	Heather	Snyder	Three Chopt District - Michelle F. Ogburn	I teach for HCPS. Here is my list of concerns: 1. Class size. (I have 35 students in one class.) we need to cap class sizes to 25. Anything over that is chaotic, loud and overwhelming. Not to mention unfair to the students and teacher. Students don't get the attention they deserve with large classes. 2. Staying after contractual hours to wait for buses and student dismissal. Staff needs to be compensated for our time. Or, we need to start dismissal an hour earlier to get everyone home and to sports on time. 3. The lack of wellness Wednesday. We are still in the middle of a pandemic. The needs for wellness Wednesday remain the same. HCPS needs to care for its students and staff. We are not handling the stress well. Teacher moral is low. If this continues teachers will continue to leave the profession. At the very least we should have a half day on Wednesdays.
Sep. 22, 21 -- 6:47: PM	Cheryl	Kirk	Varina District - Alicia S. Atkins	As a transportation employee, safety of HCPS school bus drivers needs much improvement. I suggest an anonymous survey be sent to all transportation employees from an outside source addressing safety issues and other concerns we may have for your review.
Sep. 22, 21 -- 7:34: PM	Kathleen	Beasley	Varina District - Alicia S. Atkins	What about the children? Getting to school anywhere from an hour to two late. What about safety? We are driving precious cargo while filling out paperwork, who is on the bus where are they sitting, is their mask still on? Now taking pictures? Then we even get the shaft on pay. Disgusting I've spent 20 years of my life doing this job and this is the Thanks I get

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Sep. 22, 21 -- 8:09: PM	Kari	Chapman	Varina District - Alicia S. Atkins	I am submitting this comment in support for Henrico county bus drivers. We have tremendous responsibility in the safety of children. Schools would not function if it were not for us. Our job description has numerous titles. Bus drivers are being impacted by the Covid 19 added safety protocols and the shortage of bus drivers. This is becoming overwhelming but would be acceptable if knowing we were not being paid less than other counties. Bus drivers have been over looked for to long. It's time for change. Thank you
Sep. 22, 21 -- 9:14: PM	Lindsay	Bohnert	Three Chopt District - Michelle F. Ogburn	I am the parent of an 11 year old 6th grade HCPS student who was sent home today due to a Covid exposure. He will now be at home with NO educational support for 10 days!?!? And since he attends Middle School with approximately 1400 students and is in all 6thgrade courses with kids most of whom are under the approved vaccination age this will likely be a reoccurring issue. That is absolutely unacceptable! He has all advanced classes. He does not have an option to learn virtually, in person or get vaccinated to avoid mandatory quarantines!!! Henrico Public School System is failing to provide an equal and fair education to my son and other students in his position. HCPS's Covid plan is poor and puts no value on providing students with the education they deserve. These students deserve a virtual education option if they are forced to quarantine! Virtual platforms are in place and students have a school device...why aren't these resources being used at all? Allow the teachers to record class lectures and post in Schoology at minimum. I feel horrible for the students, teachers and administrators that have to suffer from this poorly thought out plan. The mental health burden this plan puts on quarantined students causes unhealthy anxiety and stress over falling behind while simultaneously socially isolating students....there are only negative outcomes in this scenario. HCPS is failing our children miserably and this plan needs to be changed immediately! Please help change this plan to deliver a fair and equal education to all HCPS students!
Sep. 24, 21 -- 9:59: AM	Angela	Johnson	Fairfield District - Roscoe D. Cooper, III	Why is it fair to give Veteran Drivers 15+ years 40cent raise. When new divers make as much as some old drivers. Not fair \$600 pay after taxes 15th and 30th. We need pay increase. Driver shortage. Having to fill in other runs. COVID SHEETS ,ATTENDANCE!!! Henrico needs show the driver they are appreciated !!!!! TIRED OF UNFAIRNESS IN THE WORKPLACE

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Sep. 24, 21 -- 1:11: PM	Taimoee	Naviwala	Three Chopt District - Michelle F. Ogburn	REES, Holman and Deep Run are already very crowded. As the county continues to allow more houses to be built in this area, those shouldnt be zoned to be in these schools. Redistricting to accomodate these new developments while removing existing areas from these schools is unfair. School board should make sure that county is aware that these new developments will be zoned elsewhere to preserve the current neighborhoods school districts.
Oct. 8, 21 -- 9:38: AM	JOHN	HUTCHESON	Springfield Park Elementary	Does Henrico Co Schools use any material purchased from Panorama? If not, can you promise not to in the future?
Oct. 8, 21 -- 4:14: PM	Dwight	Flammia	Tuckahoe District - Marcie F. Shea	Mills E Godwin senior parking lot had a make over. Is it complete? Hopefully not, because it looks like taxpayers did not get the expected results. I understand the increase in meal tax supported these efforts. We deserve better and whoever did it needs to find another line of work.
Oct. 11, 21 -- 10:15: AM	Sarah	Carr	Tuckahoe District - Marcie F. Shea	Secondary schools need more ESL complement. Some high schools are already experiencing overcrowded ESL classes, making it extremely challenging to appropriately serve students at their linguistic level. This is not a new phenomenon, and is consistent with migration and enrollment trends recorded over the past decade. The past year was an outlier in terms of data- we are currently "back to normal"; that is, under resourced. Yes, we received more complement in accordance with the law this year. However, the complement is distributed district-wide, and secondary schools - particularly those with large ML populations- are consistently provided with complement at a higher teacher to student ratio. This unfairly penalizes these students, who are more likely to be immigrant youth. Please consider adding more complement to ensure appropriate class sizes (12-18) for ML students in Secondary. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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Timestamp	First Name:	Last Name:	Magisterial District:	Your written comments for the October 14 work session:
Oct. 11, 21 -- 6:11: PM	Kathy	Beasley	Varina District - Alicia S. Atkins	Buffin Rd and Rt5 Please don't wait until there is a school bus with kids on it killed here A simple light that changes two hours in the day. I don't know what is happening there now but it looks like I will be trying to cross four lanes of traffic instead of two! Giving out apps to the parents that can track my bus is not a good idea. That is taking things to far! I just seen on the news driver stabbed in front of all the children,you know we piss people off too. If a parent doesn't trust me to get their kid to school by all means take them their self. Even though we are short of bus drivers let's not cut our standards also it would help if we consolidated some open routes where a route maybe longer but not racing out doing two or three separate routes and kids are later to school missing class time. Thank You K. Beasley
Oct. 12, 21 -- 12:03: AM	Lydia	Hummer	Three Chopt District - Michelle F. Ogburn	will there be any change in the school schedule because of COVID. will schools be going back virtual or thinking about going back virtual due to the increase of COVID cases in school and just in general around the county . I have an eight grader goes to Tuckahoe Middle School and she comes home all the time saying she's exhausted and she's tired will there be any changes in the schedule like ending school a hour early or having a day of every week like in Harrisonburg County.
Oct. 12, 21 -- 9:32: AM	Catherine	Lam	Three Chopt District - Michelle F. Ogburn	Hi, I had some comment/questions that I wanted to ask. 1st Question/ Will there be any changes in the schedule for kids like last year they would end a hour early and they had wellness Wednesday and if so when would this occur. my 8th grader keeps telling me that she is exhausted with the 5 day week long school days and which that they still had wellness Wednesdays or like one of the week no or even just a half day like in Harrisonburg VA. (also due to covid-19/delta) 2nd Question/ will schools go back virtual due to covid-19/delta going up quickly or will there be a option for kids to go virtual because a lot of kids at my daughters middle school are getting quarantined and missing school so will there just be a option like last year how they did for the 4th Quarter. Thank You So Much for Reading This and Answering Them. Sincerely, Catherine Lam

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Oct. 12, 21 -- 3:13: PM	Candice	Kennedy	Every district	<p>I would like to address the lack of appreciation for already employed drivers. I appreciate the raise that was given, but at this point we have full capacity, multiple runs, extra precautions to follow while only to be given a raise to what new employees will make. Which new employees will also get bonuses for signing on. What about your current employees? Yes, there are incentives but they haven't even been explained just noted that we "could" earn it. We can get a bonus if we don't miss any time? We are in the middle of a pandemic dealing with a bus full of children. To me that isn't a fair bonus. Or the safety one, there are things that are out of our control right now that would make a lot of people miss work, I just feel as though drivers are underpaid and overworked. We are hardly ever shown appreciation. I love what I do but the lack of appreciation and money make it very hard to enjoy it these days!</p>
Oct. 13, 21 -- 10:54: AM	Jessica	Dean	Educator in Henrico County	<p>As an educator within the county, I am burnt out. I have lost my planning period for two days in a row this week, and many other days this school year. Teachers are being pushed to their limits this year with coverage due to the shortage, or illness, of staff members. I understand monetary compensation has been offered starting October 18th, but what about the countless other times I have been forced to give up planning periods to fill in for other educators this year? How can you ensure we are given adequate time for planning, as we are supposed to by Virginia Law for the remainder of the school year? I would like to see this addressed. Thank you. "Each full-time middle and secondary classroom teacher shall be provided one planning period per day or the equivalent, as defined in 8VAC20-131-5, unencumbered of any teaching or supervisory duties."</p>