

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION FORM RESPONSES
 Thursday, November 11, 2021

| Timestamp | First Name: | Last Name: | Magisterial District: | Your written comments for the November 11 work session: |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| Oct. 27, 21 -- 6:31: PM | Erin | Downs | Tuckahoe District - Marcie F. Shea | Despite Dr. Cashwell publicizing the new policy paying teachers for covering classes with no sub coverage beginning October 18, there is no information available to teachers on how to record this time for payment. I reached out to Payroll directly and they said they had no information on 10/19. If the county is continuing to include this as a form of staff wellness, clear directions on how to record time for proper payment is an essential part of that policy. |
| Nov. 1, 21 -- 5:27: PM | Kelly | Taylor | Three Chopt District - Michelle F. Ogburn | Please advise how the board is holding HCPS accountable for not having a Lay Advisory Committee meeting since 2019. I have contacted them many times via email asking about resumption of the LAC, but only get told they are working on ideas and plans for LAC. "The Lay Advisory Committee acts as a liaison among parents, Henrico County Board of Supervisors, community members and teachers. It can act in an advisory role on topics its members deem important. The committee has brought these stakeholders together for open discussions regarding a variety of issues. Anyone interested in education and the school system is welcome to attend meetings." Active HCPS Policy P11-03-002 says this committee will exist. Please advise how the Board will ensure this commitment to engagement with the community will be upheld. |
| Nov. 6, 21 -- 7:51: PM | Christopher | Tingen | Brookland District - Kristi B. Kinsella, Fairfield District - Roscoe D. Cooper, III, Three Chopt District - Michelle F. Ogburn, Tuckahoe District - Marcie F. Shea, Varina District - Alicia S. Atkins | Good Neighbour Homes homes Community Service had as you know stolen my identity health records private wireless internet mobile network data transferred my identification health gold to United kingdom cause the entire state of Virginia is corrupt hello World World bAnk even stole my family's investments accounts that my dad left me in his will 32.1-272 un herd of 13 years of selling my data health tracking models threw intel csv data 11 years. |
| Nov. 7, 21 -- 6:33: PM | Ben | Shuphero | Brookland District - Kristi B. Kinsella | Stop creating more division. Do not test or require athletes and coaches to submit personal medical information or submit to invasive testing. It's discriminatory and faulty. Vaccinated individuals can transmit the virus, they can come down with the virus after being vaccinated. Testing only unvaccinated students is discriminatory and wrong. This is not equitable or inclusive. Tragically, it's normalizing medical discrimination. Make it a choice to test and allow athletes to play regardless if they choose to test or not. Or if you can't offer this choice - Test all players and coaches regardless of vaccination status. Vaccinated people can carry and transmit this virus too. Stop normalizing division based on personal medical choice. |

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| Nov. 7, 21 -- 7:29: PM | Concerned | Parent | Brookland District - Kristi B. Kinsella, Three Chopt District - Michelle F. Ogburn | <p>No required vaccine passport or testing of athletes or coaches. Winter sports is not different from fall sports - this was not required for fall sports. There was even indoor volleyball during the fall season. This VISSTA program was not used or mandatory to play during the fall season. It should not be applied now as a proof to play or coach. The VISSTA program is an OPTIONAL program for school systems. The VDH does not require school divisions to use this program. Make it completely optional for all players and coaches who want to participate in their winter sports season. It's COERCION to require students and staff to divulge their vaccine status or submit to testing in order to play or participate in any school activity. This is overreach to ask for this information or requiring weekly testing. This "policy" is NORMALIZING MEDICAL DISCRIMINATION during the winter sports season so that the Board can plan to expand this testing and vaccine passport requirement for other school activities. Once again the strategy for safety is creating more problems then helping. Kids are low risk for the virus and especially athletes are low risk for the virus. This is not about health or safety. It's about control, division, discrimination based on a narrative that is unethical at best. Don't do this. You have to know how wrong it is.</p> |

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| Nov. 8, 21 -- 9:11: AM | Ryland | Ward | Tuckahoe District - Marcie F. Shea | Hello, my name is Ryland Ward, I am a 10th grade student at Douglass Freeman High School, and I would like to address some concerns I have about the banning of certain books from our school libraries. I have always been an avid reader and enjoyed going to the library at my school, and part of what encouraged my love of reading was that I was able to find stories in which I saw myself and the world around me being represented. However, it has come to my attention that Henrico County recently banned a book from our schools after a parent expressed concern over the book's "sexual content". While I agree that it is important for students to be reading material that is age-appropriate, I also think that going down the path of banning books is dangerous and could have grave consequences. By prohibiting certain books from being on school shelves, you are also risking prejudiced opinions deciding what is "inappropriate" for students. It is evident that the recent trend of banning books throughout the nation has unfairly targeted books that represent the lgbtq+ and black, indigenous, people of color communities, which I believe is a violation of our constitutional rights of freedom of speech and freedom of press. Students deserve to have books in which they can see themselves represented, and I am deeply concerned that if we continue to ban books in our schools, we will lose this valuable representation. The Henrico County that I know is a beautiful and diverse community, and it's a safe place for everyone, regardless of race, religion, gender identity, or sexuality. As a student and a lover of books, I am asking you not to take our representation away from us. Thank you. |
| Nov. 8, 21 -- 7:33: PM | Kim | Clem | Three Chopt District - Michelle F. Ogburn | My son attends Glen Allen High and after the first nine weeks still has a bus pick up time at 9:32. My family has been providing him transportation to school each day to make sure he is receiving the instruction he needs to graduate. Even with the change in schedule this bus time would still cause him to miss most of 1st period. It has been very challenging for us to make sure he has a ride daily. It would be nice for the families of these extremely late buses to get an update. |
| Nov. 9, 21 -- 5:48: PM | Kristen | Martin | Tuckahoe District - Marcie F. Shea | I want to applaud administration and the school board for supporting and implementing VHSL Covid testing guidelines for winter sports. This practice will keep cases low so that kids can enjoy sports and also incentivizes student athletes to get vaccinated, by allowing vaccinated students to opt out. Well done. |

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| Nov. 9, 21 -- 8:43: PM | Stephanie | Gelem | Three Chopt District - Michelle F. Ogburn | I'm wondering why now, after a season of fall sports (including indoor sports), HCPS is requiring Covid testing and stating on forms that if parents don't agree that students can't participate. Let's me VERY clear that this is unfair for 6th graders that are under 12 and just recently have had the opportunity to start getting vaccinated. So now they are being singled out? Also, there is NO clear information on how, where and how often this is going to be expected from each child. Who is going to be doing the testing? Are they trained? Where is this happening? I find it completely ridiculous that concerns have not been addressed completely BY THE COUNTY to parents directly. |
| Nov. 10, 21 -- 9:57: AM | Concerned | Parent | Students at Tucker and Godwin | Please consider that vaccinated individuals can be positive asymptotic and can be contagious/spread. If testing is required, it should be for the total population, regardless of vaccination status. (Just as with masks) Address the vissta statement that recent prior infections should not be included in the testing. How will this be handled? Please address the mental health stress this testing is causing children and staff. |
| Nov. 10, 21 -- 11:10: AM | Rafi | Jaffary | Three Chopt District - Michelle F. Ogburn | What is the Scholl district plan on addressing current student overcrowding at Rivers Edge elementary school. Kids have to sit in trailers without adequate heating, water or convenient access to restrooms. |

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| Nov. 10, 21 -- 12:21: PM | Jessica | Burke | Tuckahoe District - Marcie F. Shea | <p>I know you are very proud of our status as a one-to-one district but have you truly stopped to consider how damaging the overuse of technology is to our students' academics? These cheap Chromebooks with tiny, grainy screens are developmentally inappropriate for elementary students. It is short-circuiting the learning process in our children's brains by eliminating the physical connection that comes with WRITING words and numbers. They can't type fast enough to record their thoughts and sentences leading to disjointed, misspelled writing. They are not using manipulatives or scratch paper as a primary means to understand math and thus missing critical concepts. The technology does not encourage them to slow down, read thoroughly, or check their work, so students rush through tests to get to apps and chat tools. I am repeatedly told that by using this technology HCPS is preparing them for the future. Other than teaching in HCPS, what career requires an employee to be skilled in Clever, Epic, DreamBox, SmartyAnts, Performance Assessment, Nearpods, Schoology, etc.? None. Furthermore, because these various apps are neither secure nor appropriate, our students are learning how to hack into each other's accounts and change avatars. While the students may occasionally be caught and told to stop, they know they can do it again because you won't take the computer or the app away. You are too tethered to it. In fact, our students know you are so beholden to the computer they can use it for bullying, cheating, inappropriate research, and other bad behaviors with zero meaningful consequences. Finally, the technology itself is a physical representation of the TRAUMA they suffered during virtual learning. Our students have suffered tremendously in the forced closure and continuing the overuse of technology in the classroom is only impeding their ability to recover from significant learning loss. Students need reading, writing, and math skills before basic typing and computer skills to be successful in future careers. The technology will change; the need clear, coherent communication skills and understanding math concepts won't. Why do you insist on continuing to use a teaching technique that does nothing to support our students academically AND perpetuates the behavior and social problems staff report have increased in frequency?</p> |
| Nov. 10, 21 -- 12:40: PM | Sara | Jamal | Three Chopt District - Michelle F. Ogburn | <p>I'm in agreement with school testing for screening purposes to capture outbreaks before they occur in school. It seems prudent to allocate resources to this particular endeavor to mitigate transmission specially going into winter season.</p> |

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| Nov. 10, 21 -- 1:46: PM | Burnt Out | Teacher | Brookland District - Kristi B. Kinsella, Fairfield District - Roscoe D. Cooper, III, Three Chopt District - Michelle F. Ogburn, Tuckahoe District - Marcie F. Shea, Varina District - Alicia S. Atkins | Hello, I am writing as a concerned, burnt out teacher to continue to request the School Board revisit concerns from both students, parents, and teachers regarding the health and well-being of our school communities. We are NOT okay. Adding two early release days between now and the New Year is barely going to make a dent in the challenges of this school year. We are drowning. Additionally, many schools, my own included, are not changing anything about the schedule for Wellness Wednesdays. How is not changing anything addressing the burnout of teachers and students? I beg you on behalf teachers and students to reconsider adjusting the calendar and actually attempting to tackle the issues we are bringing to your attention. |
| Nov. 10, 21 -- 2:17: PM | Laura | Santacruz | Brookland District - Kristi B. Kinsella | I would like an explanation on why winter athletes will be subjected to testing. This was not the case for volleyball in the Fall so why the discrepancy? Furthermore, sports such as winter track do not even practice indoors. The inconsistencies of these nonsensical rules are discriminatory. |
| Nov. 10, 21 -- 2:23: PM | Cassie | Wolfe | Tuckahoe District - Marcie F. Shea | Good afternoon. I noticed on Facebook a group of parents trying to get as many people as possible to push back on winter sports testing requirements. I am not sure what the messaging will be from this group to the SB, but to each other, the reasoning seems counter productive to our public health. Concerns over treatment of unvaccinated students vs vaccinated students, administering a medical procedure at school, this being a way to make a "scarlet letter" for unvaccinated families, what will the liberal public schools do with our information, etc. I urge to to learn more about the true concerns of parents. Testing is a way for us to get closer and closer to eliminating quarantines, eventually masks, etc. It is a public health measure that would not be in question if everyone in our county had not politicized all things Covid. Testing is a no-brainer and however you want to appease these voices (test everyone, let them test at their doctors office) is fine with me as long as you DO NOT remove the testing policy. Thank you. |

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| Nov. 10, 21 -- 3:11: PM | Andrew | Clay | Brookland District - Kristi B. Kinsella | I would like clarification about the weekly testing of student athletes. It has been stated that participation in weekly testing would always be voluntary. However, if you can't participate in sports without complying to the weekly testing; it's nothing more than coercion. It's seems to also be discriminatory, as both the vaccinated and unvaccinated can acquire and pass on the virus, per the CDC and VDH. If we are hoping to deflect asymptomatic spread, shouldn't all athletes be tested? Further, how will students' privacy be protected? Who will be administering these tests, a qualified health care provider? Who will be liable if an unforeseen injury or side effect is a direct result of weekly testing? I would like to add that your quarantining policies are also discriminatory, as mentioned before; the unvaccinated and vaccinated can be carriers. It's time to stop quarantining healthy students. |
| Nov. 10, 21 -- 4:13: PM | Nancy | Dole | Three Chopt District - Michelle F. Ogburn | Please remove the disgusting book "Lolita" from Henrico County School libraries. How has this book slipped by all these years? Are we to encourage our young girls to give in to the desires of men? "Humbert goes on to a career as a teacher of English literature, he spends time in a mental institution and works a succession of odd jobs. Despite his marriage to an adult woman, which eventually fails, Humbert remains obsessed with sexually desirable and sexually aware young girls. These nymphets, as he calls them, remind him of Annabel, though he fails to find another like her. Eventually, Humbert comes to the United States and takes a room in the house of widow Charlotte Haze in a sleepy, suburban New England town. He becomes instantly infatuated with her twelve-year-old daughter Dolores, also known as Lolita. Humbert follows Lolita's moves constantly, occasionally flirts with her, and confides his pedophilic longings to a journal. Meanwhile, Charlotte Haze, whom Humbert loathes, has fallen in love with him. When Charlotte sends Lolita off to summer camp, Humbert marries Charlotte in order to stay near his true love. Humbert wants to be alone with Lolita and even toys with the idea of killing Charlotte, but he can't go through with it. However, Charlotte finds his diary and, after learning that he hates her but loves her daughter, confronts him. Humbert denies everything, but Charlotte tells him she is leaving him and storms out of the house. At that moment, a car hits her and she dies instantly." |