

- Jeanette Abi-Nader, Executive Director of City Schoolyard Garden informed the Board that CSG staff and volunteers are working on the school gardens and are ready to work with the Nutrition Department during the coming school year.
- Siobhan Saul encouraged the Board to make sure to include all teachers and ensure that they have input since they will be working on the front line.
- Bonnie Yoder asked the Board to have the best plan for all teachers and students.
- Nancy Deutsch addressed the Board that there should be a community plan to address COVID.
- Margarita Figueroa asked that the Board make sure that everyone is required to wear a mask and also asked how staff will be compensated if they get the virus.
- Peggy Cannon addressed the Board with comments that grade **K-4** are very important and they will need good instruction.
- Bekah Saxon addressed the Board stating that not everyone is going to agree with whatever decision is made and noted that teachers and parents would like to see detailed plans.
- Shannon Giligan read a letter signed by approximately 150 Charlottesville City Schools teachers asking that the Division open schools in a virtual model and not face to face.
- Jessica Taylor spoke in support of the teacher letter urging for opening with a virtual school model.
- Tess Krovetz spoke in support of the teacher letter urging for opening with a virtual school model.
- Katrena Cooper asked the Board to take into account families that have several children in different schools when planning.
- Elizabeth Ike encouraged the Board to make sure that there is enough PPE and asked how teachers and staff will be compensated if they get the virus.
- John Wells addressed the Board with comments in favor of returning face to face.
- Dede Smith addressed the Board with comments in favor of returning face to face.
- Chris Myer encouraged the Board to make a decision that will fit the community whether face to face or virtual.
- Eric Newsome time is needed for lesson plans in class and virtual, cleaning, and training.
- Jennifer Conklin suggested to the Board that the division could start with virtual instruction and then gradually come back face to face.
- Emily Little expressed concern with a hybrid model of 2 days a week. She noted the difficulty in finding child care with such a schedule.
- Donna Chen noted appreciation for providing families with options and highlighted the risk of families having to use unlicensed day care which may lead to a rise in COVID cases.
- Lakeshia Washington asked what methods will be used if the division returns in a virtual model.
- Michelle Hernandez encouraged rigor and synchronous classes if a virtual model is selected noting that “everyone learns together”.
- Michael Signer addressed the Board noting excitement about a 4 day model adding that he would like to see 5 days of face to face instruction.
- Rebecca Gibson-Wilkins recommended following the guidelines that the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) released.
- Tim Wallace addressed the Board with comments that it would be a better use of time to train teachers to provide the best virtual learning experience rather than spend that time teaching students to socially distance themselves while in school.
- Joseph French read a statement on the sense of urgency of white supremacy culture and characteristics.

6.1 Board Member Comments:

- Mr. Wade noted that it is critical for the Board to make the right decision on opening or not. Staff and the Board Members have been thrown into this situation and have to make a decision that will not please everyone. He noted that during the emergency learning in the Spring some students did not get what they needed while others were happy how things ended. Staff is working hard on getting things ready and we also have a great community that will help in any way they can. He looks forward to receiving comments and thanked those that provided public comment.

- Ms. Torres stated that we have extraordinary teachers and not one of them said tonight that they refused to come back to work. We have to provide a safe environment for all. The concern of our health equity needs to be our focus. We have not passed the pandemic and we all need to do what is right for our community. I feel like it is risky for us to move fast.
- Ms. Puryear noted concern for the health and safety of front line workers and students.
- Ms Bryson-Morsberger stated that we need to make sure that we hear all of our teachers. We need to be realistic that we are not ready to be back into the schools. After we just went through the budget and we have cut positions how will we be able to afford all the PPE that is going to be required?
- Dr. Kraft thanked all that have spoken tonight. I feel like we need a lot of guidance from different sources to make sure we are making all the right decisions with what we need to reopen. I would like to hear from principals to know how they feel about opening. Would like to know the guidelines that are going to be in place.
- Mr. Bryant thanked everyone for their thoughts and concerns. Protocols are very important. How are we going to keep our bus drivers safe? The cleaning of the buildings? Are we going to require everyone to wear masks? Is it healthy for us to wear masks all day? Are we working on the ventilation in all the buildings? What support are we going to have in place for virtual learning? We need support emotionally. We need to develop a survey for our teachers and staff on how they are feeling about coming back to school.
- Ms. McKeever stated that we have discovered as a community how much we rely on the school systems adding that \oOur school system has done a remarkable job in putting together 2 plans to choose from. We cannot continue to do this alone and need the community to help. The community needs to have a safety net to help us. Our skeleton staff that is working now cannot be the only ones putting a plan together for our schools. We need help from the whole community making these decisions.

7.1-4 **Adoption of Consent Agenda:** Items from the consent agenda included [Personnel Recommendations](#), [VACoRP Membership Agreement](#), and [Authorization of Signature in Absence of Division Superintendent through June 30, 2021](#). Mr. Wade made a motion, seconded by Ms. Torres, to approve the adoption of the consent agenda. Upon a roll-call vote being taken, the motion carried with Mr. Bryant, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, Dr. Kraft, Ms. McKeever, Ms. Puryear, Ms. Torres, and Mr. Wade voting yes. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

8.1 Return to School Update - 2020-2021: Dr. Rosa Atkins, Division Superintendent, provided an update on the 2020 Return to Learn Reopening Options. Items presented included [Return to Learn Reopening Options for 2020-2021](#), [2020-21 Revision COVID-19 Calendar Update](#), [COVID-19 Response Measures](#), [End of Year Survey Summary](#)

[Return to Learn Reopening Options for 2020-2021](#)

Options Intro:

- We are prepared to offer several options for parents to choose for their children.
- All options meet COVID 19 guidelines per the Virginia Department of Education and the CDC.

Draft 1 Proposed to the Community:

Hybrid:

Pros:

- Restores routines and face-to-face connections for students and families.
- Meets CDC guidelines.

Cons:

- Some families asked us to explore the maximum amount of F2F time we could offer, especially for younger students for whom distance learning is a challenge.

Draft 2 Considered Internally:

Two Weeks On; Two Weeks Off:

Looks like:

- 50% of students (Group A) attend F2F for two weeks while 50 % of students (Group B) are participating in at home / online learning.
- Alternate after two weeks, then 50% of students (Group B) attend F2F for two weeks while 50 % of students (Group A) are participating in at home / online learning.

Pros:

- Meets CDC guidelines for social distancing
- Two weeks of continual F2F instruction

Cons:

- Students are away from their teachers for two weeks at a time

Draft 3- Recommended Plan:

Grade Level	Options		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
K-6	Option 1 4 Days Face 2 Face		Face 2 Face (school)	At home/online			
K-6	Option 2 Online Only		At home/online	At home/online	At home/online	At home/online	At home/online
7-12th	Option 1 Hybrid	Cohort A(50%)	Face 2 Face (school)	Online (home)	Face 2 Face (school)	Online (home)	Online (home)
7-12th	Option 1 Hybrid	Cohort B(50%)	Online (home)	Face 2 Face (school)	Online (home)	Face 2 Face (school)	Online (home)
7-12th	Option 2 Online Only		Online (home)	Online (home)	Online (home)	Online (home)	Online (home)

*All options meet COVID-19 guidelines as recommended by the Virginia Department of Education and the CDC.

*Considerations/Assumptions

- Limited school bus capacity
- Some parents will opt to keep children home (option 2)
- Fridays will include planning, teacher workdays, and professional learning days

CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY SCHOOLS COVID RESPONSE

Mitigation measures

- Protective Barriers & Face Coverings
- Ventilation
- Cleaning Health & Hygiene
- Policies/Procedures & Containment Strategies
- Protective barriers and face coverings
- Plexiglass dividers are being provided for reception areas and other spaces where clear barriers are appropriate mitigation measures
- Students and staff must wear face coverings or masks, with exceptions only for those students or staff for whom it is not safe to do so due to medical considerations.
 - For personal comfort, fiscal responsibility & environmental reasons, CCS will request that students and staff provide their own face coverings/masks; however, CCS will have masks available

- CCS will provide face shields for any students or staff who cannot wear a mask or needs view of the face/mouth
 - CCS has the capability to make face shields in various sizes as needed to augment purchased shields

Ventilation

- Ventilation systems are managed and maintained under contract with the City. In response to COVID, City Facilities Maintenance is implementing the following mitigation measures:
 - Upgraded filters from MERV 7 to MERV 14 to trap more particulates that could carry the virus (MERV = Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value, a system used to evaluate the efficiency of air filters based on how effective it is at catching particles of varying sizes)
 - Higher MERV rating = higher air filtration capabilities
 - Systems will be set to increase outside air to the maximum amount that still allows for the system to treat/condition the air
 - A new program to routinely sanitize air handlers is being incorporated in the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

Cleaning

- The cleaning solution system CCS has in all buildings uses hospital grade virucidal solutions that are registered on EPA List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS- CoV-s (COVID -19)
 - Each classroom will be stocked with microfiber cloths and a spray bottle of the disinfecting surface cleaner, and will be given instructions for attending to high-touch areas (light switches, door knobs, desktops)
- Screen wipes will be provided at touch screens
- Sanitizing charging carts ordered for each school for Chromebooks and other devices
- CCS has invested in new disinfecting equipment, both foggers and electrostatic sprayers, to enable more rapid and comprehensive disinfection of spaces
- New cleaning protocols and checklists are being developed with CCS custodial staff

Health and Hygiene

- Hand sanitizer for each classroom
 - Gallon jug with pump ordered for all classrooms
- Touchless thermometers provided for all schools
- CDC & VDH guidance will be followed in conjunction with data-driven best practices for:
 - Health screenings
 - Quarantine practices
 - Provision of medical grade PPE to appropriate staff
- Abundant signage and other routine communications will reinforce:
 - Social distancing
 - Hand washing
 - Face coverings
 - Self screening & self quarantine

Policies/Procedures and containment strategies

- Students will be scheduled in small class sizes to promote social distancing
 - Class sizes determined by each class space
- Furniture will be arranged to maintain social distancing
- Traffic patterns outside & inside buildings are being restructured to minimize contact
 - Students will not congregate in common spaces (meals will be in classrooms)
 - Appropriate waste containers will be provided
- Containment strategies will include:
 - Revised guidance for when staff/students should stay home
 - Compliance with Families First Coronavirus Act (FFCRA) while in effect
 - Joint planning with ACPS in close partnership with local health officials
 - Case management and contact tracing
 - Closure decisions / switch to remote learning

Procurement

Procurement has been and will continue to be a challenge, but we have been able to successfully source all areas of COVID supplies thus far, including:

- Masks
- Face Shields
- Gloves
- Cleaning Solutions
- Disinfecting Equipment
- Touchless Thermometers (and batteries)
- Plexiglass Dividers
- Hand Sanitizer
- Sanitizing Charging Carts
- All first-round purchases have been RECEIVED
- Second-round purchases estimated delivery for July & August

Transportation

- Layered Mitigation Measures:
 - Limited seating on buses
 - Face coverings required
 - Cleaning between routes
 - Open windows for air circulation

Safe Routes To School: A working group of City & School staff is meeting weekly to develop resources and solutions to assist families with alternate transportation to schools (i.e. walking, biking, scooters, expanded car drop-off points, etc.). A resources web page is in development to provide maps and other information.

Summary:

- KEY CONCEPTS:
- Layering Mitigation Strategies – A multi-pronged approach
- Partnerships:
 - ACPS
 - Local Health Department Officials
 - City Departments
 - Staff
 - Families
 - Students
 - Community Partners
- Complex & Fluid Situation – Flexibility is essential to navigate the changing situation, new information/data, and unfolding guidance. Plans are still evolving as we learn more and get feedback.

Phase Guidance for Virginia Schools: Phase III In-person instruction may be offered for all students, however physical distancing measures should be implemented.

Programmatic Recommendations: Health, Safety and Physical Distancing Recommendations

CDC advises that individuals maintain six feet of distance to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

The World Health Organization (WHO) advises that schools maintain a distance of at least one meter (approx. three feet) between everyone present at school, and is monitoring ongoing research. Additionally, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) says spacing as close as three feet may have similar benefits if students wear cloth face coverings and do not have symptoms of illness. VDH & VDOE - July 1, 2020

----Balancing Risks to Mitigate Negative Impacts (for Students, Staff & Community)---

- Dr. Atkins stated that the Division will follow the Virginia Department of Health recommendations on how to safely move school forward. She added that this is a community decision that needs to be made together and that it is a sound decision to have supplies on hand before making any decisions.
- Ms. Torres asked how funding stands with gathering supplies and asked if additional staff will be needed.
Ms. Powell responded that the Division is using some of the CARES Act funding but that money saved from the Spring is being used as well. Dr. Atkins stated that the Division will need more employees and especially substitute teachers.
- Ms. Torres also asked about cleaning solutions being used and what impact they may have on those with health issues. Ms Powell responded that the cleaning solution that will be used daily is the same solution that they have been using for years. The electrostatic sprayers will be used when no one is in the area. The solution will leave a chlorinated smell once finished. Ms. Torres asked if we are asking teachers to clean. Ms. Powell responded that they will be asked to clean high touch areas. Ms. Torres asked about running water in each classroom for the ability to wash hands and about the spacing out of the children in each classroom. Dr. Atkins stated that the principals have been going through each classroom and measuring and spacing desks out so that the classrooms will be socially distanced. The principals are also looking at gymnasiums and cafeterias so that they can spread out. Ms. Powell shared not all classrooms have sinks but most of the younger classrooms do.
- Ms. Bryson Morsburger asked what percentage of staff and parents responded to the survey and if the Division will be surveying again since the proposed starting model has been changed. She also asked if staff members who are at a greater risk be given considerations for different job duties noting that custodial staff will be at a higher risk since they will be cleaning 5 days a week. Ms. Powell responded that facilities staff can test rooms for air quality and if staff has questions or concerns about their rooms they can talk to administration in their buildings.
- Dr. Kraft thanked everyone for all the mitigation processes that have been done. Dr. Kraft asked about how we are looking at the COVID numbers and what we are doing with that data. Dr. Baptist has been reviewing the data the health department is giving us daily. The seven day average in this area is continually going down. Dr. Atkins stated that we received information from VDOE and the CDC that we need to look at the data in our area to make decisions on schools. We are also working closely with the VDH and getting guidance from them on making decisions as we move forward. Dr. Kraft asked if we have looked at outdoor learning. Ms Powell stated that we have looked at many different options. It seems like it would not be feasible to set up big tents on the property. The principals have been discussing some pop up tents that they may use. We have also looked at awnings at the schools. Dr. Kraft would like to make sure that we are giving our teachers a break during the day.
- Mr. Bryant asked if staff has considered looking into sanitizing stations? Ms. Powell responded that staff hasn't looked into those stations but can. She added that the initial priority was to buy PPE in bulk to ensure that the Division will have enough supplies. Mr. Bryant asked how staff will ask students to keep masks on. Dr. Atkins responded that parents and families will be asked to help make sure their students comply with the request and that teachers will also make sure that students are wearing masks.
- Ms. Puryear thanked Ms. Powell for obtaining cleaning supplies and asked about school supplies. Ms. Powell stated that the teachers are working on a basket to have all supplies for each student. Ms. Puryear asked who would clean the buses. Ms. Powell said this would be done by the bus drivers after every run. This will take the driver about 20 minutes for each cleaning and will have an impact on travel times. Ms. Puryear asked what the Division's liability will be if someone gets sick. Ms. Powell responded that protocols will be in place for isolating the sick person. The insurance company has said that they will back us 100%.
- Dr. Kraft suggested that the Board receive input from Dr. Denise Bonds from the Virginia Department of Health and perhaps other physicians as well.

9.1 Comments from Members of the Community:

- Elizabeth Ike addressed the Board with comments that the community is behind you and that the failure on the both the state and federal levels is making it harder to make good decisions.

- Daniel Despot addressed the Board noting that it would be helpful to see what a student schedule would look like in a virtual setting and an in person setting.
- Michael Signer noted appreciation for the work done.
- Sage Bowyer addressed the Board with comments in favor of wanting to see the kids go back to school.

10.1 Board Member Comments:

- Mr. Bryant noted appreciation for those who provided public comment and that he is hoping that the plan decided upon will be safe for everyone.
- Ms. Bryson Morsberger stated that even though we may not all agree we are all working to provide a plan that is best for the community as a whole.
- Ms. Puryear expressed appreciation for those who worked to draft the plans and those who are working behind the scenes.
- Dr. Kraft thanked staff for their hard work and noted that she feels better after reviewing the information presented.
- Ms. Torres thanked everyone for pulling so much together.

11.1 Superintendent's Comments: Dr. Atkins noted the importance of doing what is best for the community and that staff is committed to do what is best for staff and students and that staff will continue to work on getting ready for school whether virtual or face to face. She also noted that the decision will be made by the board and that staff will provide any information that the Board would like to have.

12.1 Work Session Wrap-Up - Dr. Kendra King: There were no requests from the Board.

13.1 Upcoming Meetings: Ms. McKeever read the list of upcoming meetings and activities.

14.1 Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 10:22 p.m.

A video of the July 6, 2020 meeting can be located at:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tQTMWo8xxWnfCDvUqvMU1oaqubZtWQIn/view?usp=sharing_eil&ts=5f0497e6



Jennifer McKeever, School Board Chair



Julia Green, School Board Clerk