RETURN TO SCHOOL WORK SESSION
• July 21, 2020
Agenda

• Return to School—Situational Analysis

• Health Department Updates and Q&A

• Superintendent’s Recommendation on Return to School Approach

• Additional Updates
### Reopening Schools Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 23</td>
<td>Governor Northam closes schools for the remainder of year</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>FCPS presents models for online or in-person school</td>
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<td>June 9</td>
<td>Governor Northam issues phased recommendations for fall 2020</td>
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<td>June 15</td>
<td>FCPS proposes a model for online or in-person school. Proposed online option for students with medical needs.</td>
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<td>June 18-19</td>
<td>FCPS hold public hearings on reopening schools</td>
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<td>June 23</td>
<td>FCPS proposes two options for enrollment: in-person or full-time virtual with student and staff choice</td>
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<td>Governor Northam announces Northern Virginia transitions to Phase 3 on July 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 29</td>
<td>FCPS announces two options for enrollment: in-person or full-time virtual with student and staff choice</td>
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Final Enrollment Preference Data (7/15/20)

Student Intent
Total Division Form Responses: 160,990/189,000

- 85% response rate
- Student In-person Preference: 112,712 (60%)
- Student Online Preference: 76,288 (40%)

Teacher Preference
Total Division Form Responses: 13,412/14,505

- 92% response rate
- Teacher In-person Preference: 6,946 (48%)
- Teacher Online Preference: 7,456 (52%)
Situational Analysis

- Health Conditions
- Health Conditions: Operational Impacts
- Health Data Decision Tools
- Testing Protocols and Infrastructure
Health Conditions

• Since the June 23 proposal, conditions are worsening nationally and regionally and have steadily deteriorated
• Record number of new cases in country and the mortality rate is rising
• Governor Northam stated last week that we will go back to Phase 2 if needed
• Multiple health officials in Maryland’s most populous jurisdictions yesterday asked the state to reconsider its in-person activities
• Regional school systems have announced virtual starts due to these concerns
COVID-19’s Regional Impact on Employees

1/3 of FCPS employees live outside of Fairfax County

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<th>Residents</th>
<th>Non-Residents</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Total</strong> # 22,343</td>
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Health Department Updates

Conversation with
Dr. Gloria Addo-Ayensu, MD, MPH

Director, Fairfax County Health Department
Health Conditions Questions and Answers
Health Conditions: Operational Impacts

- Leave of Absence (LOA) requests from staff are already doubled from last year and are expected to increase throughout the year.
- July application numbers for substitute positions are lower than usual.
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodation requests for individual health exceptions for teachers are at 1,522 - approximately 10% of our teaching workforce may not return in person.
- There is no deadline for ADA accommodation requests; this number is expected to increase throughout the year, causing additional staffing challenges.
- High number of ADA accommodations based on individual medical need is having a negative impact on scheduling in-person school instruction.
Lack of Health Data Tools

• No federal or state tool to inform the trigger point to determine if to open or close a school or school district

• Need for better data based decision tools

• Decision tools are under development by Virginia Department of Health (VDH) for future use
Testing and Testing Protocols

- No rapid testing available at this time in Fairfax
- No in-school testing of students and staff available at this time due to limited testing capacity and high costs
- 5-7 day testing period creates long waiting period for school action and notification regarding staff and students
Goal of In-Person Instruction Remains

- Our goal remains in-person instruction.
- We know that health conditions do not allow all of our students and teachers to return in-person at this time.
- We will continue to monitor health conditions.
Superintendent’s Recommendation

Acknowledging worsening national and regional health conditions, incomplete health data tools, and health conditions’ impact on operations, I recommend the following:

1. Begin with a virtual start to school year and reassess conditions prior to the end of the first quarter.

2. Should health conditions improve, we would first bring back students for intervention support on a limited basis.

3. Following that, we would work to scale students back in (no earlier than the end of the first quarter), starting with elementary school students, select PreK-12 special education and English Learners.

Our priority remains to establish a safe in-person learning environment for students and staff.
Questions and Answers with the Superintendent
Additional Updates

• Technology Preparations
• Telework Regulation
• Face Covering Regulation
Technology—Laptop Distribution

- High School students will continue to use their FCPSOn laptop
- Middle School students will be assigned a new FCPSOn laptop
- Elementary School students will be assigned a laptop
  - New devices provided to all 6th grade students and Title I 5th grade students
  - Returned devices from middle schools and existing viable devices will be distributed to all other elementary students
- TSSpecs will meet with administrative teams at each school to establish timelines and activities related to collection and/or distribution for that school
  - Distribution begins August 17
    - Schedule laptop distribution to HS (9th graders), MS and ES students
    - High School (10th -12th) graders connect to FCPS network for updates
    - ES students with loaned laptops connect to FCPS network for updates
Technology—Parent, Student and Teacher Readiness

• Convening a project team to consolidate supports for parents and families
  o Resources to include tip sheets/ trainings/ videos for successfully accessing virtual learning in our eight common languages

• Launching a help desk branch for parents

• Developing a portal to allow students to request technology help directly

• Developing methods for students to manage their BBCU/Google Meet class links in their Google Calendar

• Providing required professional development for all staff for high-quality distance learning
Technology—Load Capacity

Blackboard Collaborate Ultra (BBCU)

- The largest number of FCPS attendees was on April 28th with 312,753 attendees joining sessions. Collaborate performed well for FCPS throughout the spring.
- Blackboard confirms they have supported production load of 850,000 concurrent users in a single deployment, which is three times the size of FCPS.
- Collaborate has successfully supported user loads larger than FCPS daily since mid-March in deployments around the globe.

Google

- Google has also confirmed they can support FCPS load capacity.

Both Blackboard Collaborate Ultra (BBCU) and Google Meet are cloud-based applications that scale automatically in response to user load.
Telework Regulation

• Provides a structure for FCPS staff to request a work arrangement that allows for remote working from an approved alternative worksite

• Provides guidelines for principals/program managers as they consider telework requests and implement telework arrangements as practicable in their departments/schools
Face Covering—Regulation

Face masks are required for:

- Students two years of age and older
- Staff and visitors while on school property
- While on school grounds—buildings, school buses and other school-provided vehicles
- During the school day or during any school-sponsored activity

“Any student who refuses to wear a face covering while on school property and during FCPS-provided transportation and who is not otherwise exempt will be precluded access to face-to-face instructional programming.”
Face Covering—Exemptions

- Children under 2 years of age
- In the event the parent/guardian, student or school official believes a student’s health condition, communication impairment, or disability requires an on-going exemption from the face covering requirement for some portion of face-to-face instruction, such must first be reviewed and approved by school officials, including the student’s teacher and the principal, who may permit the exemption only where sufficient public health protections can be implemented without unreasonably interfering with the instructional program.

- For students: Physician’s statement that not wearing such a face covering is medically necessary to the principal
- For Staff: Physician’s statement that not wearing such a face covering is medically necessary and request for accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act due to a medical condition to Human Resources.

- Temporary Exceptions: Under the direction or approval of a school official and will be temporary; may be made only when safe to do so and when students are appropriately distanced, such as when eating and drinking, or when exercising under the supervision of a school official.

- Adaptations and alternatives if possible