We believe face-to-face instruction is best for all students under normal circumstances, given that students miss much more than academics when not in school.

We want students to return to school as quickly as possible, but when it is safe to do so for all involved.

We have spent the past several months working to “future proof” education in Chesterfield County, while developing plans for the eventual re-entry of students and staff.
We are prepared for student learning in 2020-21.

● **Our Goal:** Return to face-to-face instruction for ALL students
  ○ Start the school year in a virtual learning environment
  ○ Phase students back to face-to-face instruction, as quickly and as safely as possibly
  ○ Follow Virginia Department of Health (VDH) data and bi-weekly recommendations from the Superintendent’s Public Health Committee
Comprehensive plan to return to school in 2020-21:

- Public Health Committee report
  - Review of data
  - Cohorts to be phased in
  - Tentative timeline for return to in-person instruction
- Start of school expectations
- Technology support
Health Committee Report
Requested Clarifications

● **Cohort color assignments**
  ○ This metric supports the phased-in return of cohorts beginning in low-orange category with data trending downward or remaining steady
  ○ Operational feasibility should be addressed prior to each cohort’s return

● **Definition of ‘steady’ data**
  ○ Steady state vs. increase/decrease will be determined based on committee review of 7-, 14-, and 28-day moving averages

● **Weighting of data points**
  ○ Trending decisions based off first two data points (as stated in memo)
  ○ If hospitalization is an outlier, focus on first two data points
  ○ **Other data needs to be considered**
Chesterfield Health District

- **School age (0-19)**
  - 719 cases
  - 14.2% of all cases
  - 4 hospitalizations, 0 deaths

- **Staff age range (20-69)**
  - 4002 cases
  - 78.7% of all cases
  - 201 Hospitalizations, 27 deaths
No. 1: Cases (Seven-Day Average)

Cases per day and cases per 100k:

- Chesterfield cases per 100k
  - 8/9/20: 15.5
  - 8/23/20: 9.4
No. 1: Cases (Seven-Day Average)

Metric (Cases per 100k):

- <5
- 5-11
- 12-24
- 25+

Chesterfield County
9.4
No. 2: Positivity Rate

Seven-day average percent positivity

- CHD (Local Health District)
  - 8/5/20: 7.9%
  - 8/20/20: 6.5%
No. 2: Positivity Rate

**Metric**

- 5% or below (per WHO recommendations)
- 5.1% - 7.4%
- 7.5% - 9.9%
- 10% or above (per VDH goals/guidance)

**CHD**

6.5%
No. 3: Hospitalizations

Seven-day average of COVID-19 hospitalizations

- Central Region/Chesterfield
  - 8/9/20: 208.6/2.4
  - 8/23/20: 234.7/2.3
No. 3: Hospitalizations

Metric

- 4+ weeks of downward trend
- 2 weeks of downward trend
- 2 weeks of upward trend
- 4+ weeks of upward trend

* when no change or less than 2-week trend, consider previous trend.

Central Region

2 weeks upward trend

*Predicted Increase per Analysis
**Internal Data Summary**

**Overall**

- Cases per 100k:
- Positivity rate:
- Hospitalizations:

**VDH Metric:** Substantial Community Transmission (8/25: Central Region)

**Reminder of Recommendations:**
- Green: consider full in-person learning or hybrid
- Yellow: hybrid or virtual considering phased in cohorts
- Orange: virtual considering phased in cohorts or full virtual
- Red: full virtual
Substantial Community Transmission

- Part of VDH’s pandemic dashboard; consisting of 8 different data points (including cases per 100K and Positivity Rate)
- The VDH metric is not officially a part of our metric
- Factored by locality and region (6): Chesterfield; Central Region
  - Burden = **High**
  - Trend = **Fluctuating**
  - Transmission Extent = **At Substantial Community Transmission**
GOOD: Positive trends and movement in data

- Cases per 100,000 trending down - Yellow
- Percentage positivity also trending down - Yellow
Rationale: The Data

HOWEVER:

- Data stability is a concern.
- The committee acknowledged positive trends and movement in data, but looked deeper at the regional level to validate local decrease.
- The regional data does not look as favorable, leaving the committee to question if the county is ahead of the regional curve or behind it.
BAD: Negative trends/movement in data

- Hospitalizations trending up (Trend from Yellow to Orange)
- Region: Substantial community transmission discovered (VDH Metric) - RED
  - Not all staff live in Chesterfield; may quicken local transmission
- Local data analysis suggests likely upward trend - Report attached
  - Seven-day moving average likely to surpass 14-day moving average
Rationale: Other Factors

- Local testing capacity has limitations.
  - Volume capacity has improved, as has turnaround time; however, turnaround time is still a whole work week for a PCR test.
- Access to adequate number of VDH contact tracers is one month out from being in place.
- Labor Day weekend predicted by multiple sources to cause a potential uptick in all metrics.
Health Committee recommends

- Virtual start for all students
- Caution at this moment to give the committee a chance to see future movement; is Chesterfield ahead of the regional curve or behind it?
- Continued full virtual based on VDH designation of substantial community transmission
- Wait for data associated with September 14 work session
Questions/Answers

Are there any domestic travel restrictions?
None provided by the VDH or the federal government.

Does VDH have the appropriate contact tracing ability necessary locally?
We have been advised we are a month away from this.

Does each school have a nurse?
We are in the middle of the hiring process for this.
What are we doing to be prepared for in-person learning in terms of air quality?

We are changing out filters to meet MERV-related recommendations in all buildings. This also is being done in classroom trailers as opportunities exist.
How are we in terms of PPE?

All PPE has been ordered and is either onsite or en route. This includes masks, gloves, hand sanitizer stations, etc.

Will we conduct temperature checks on students upon arrival?

There is no recommendation to do so from the VDH. Health leaders have expressed concern about a false sense of security since an infected individual may be asymptomatic.
Have there been positive tests associated with school division employees thus far?

The Employee Medical Center reports 15 cases involving CCPS staff.

How have you communicated positive cases within a school building?

Given we are largely closed to the public, we have followed VDH and CDC guidance regarding individual notifications: Notifying staff in a facility who came into close contact with the infected employee. (VDH: Close contact defined as within 6 feet for 15 minutes or longer.)
How will you communicate positive cases in a school building?

In the interest of transparency and a continued trusting relationship between school-home, we plan to go above and beyond the VDH and CDC guidance:

- Once staff returns for virtual learning: Will notify all staff members in a building if there is a positive case within the facility; name of individual infected will not be shared; work directly regarding need for quarantine
- Once students return for in-person instruction: Will notify all staff/families if there is a positive case in facility/on bus; name of individual infected will not be shared; work directly regarding need for quarantine
Phased Cohorts

Students will be grouped in cohorts. Each cohort will be phased back into face-to-face instruction.

- **Cohort 1** - Select Special Education Level 2 students as determined by IEPs (Grades K-12)
- **Cohort 2** - All students in Cohort 1 and all students in PreK to second grade; CTC
- **Cohort 3** - All students in Cohorts 1 and 2 and all students in Grades 3-5
- **Cohort 4** - All students in Cohorts 1, 2, and 3 and students in Grades 6-12*

*Change from last meeting*
Phased Cohorts

Based on the trending downward metrics, there will be a phased approach to returning students to in-person instruction

- **Cohort 1** - Select Special Education Level 2 students as determined by IEPs (Grades K-12)
  - Attend four days per week (Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays)
  - All services will be provided in the self-contained (special education setting) as determined to be appropriate by the IEP team and with parental consent.
Based on the trending downward metrics, there will be a phased approach to returning students to in-person instruction:

- **Cohort 2** - All students in Cohort 1* and all students in PreK to second grade; CTC
- **Cohort 3** - All students in Cohorts 1* and 2 and all students in Grades 3-5
- **Cohort 4** - All students in Cohorts 1*, 2, and 3 and students in Grades 6-12
  - Cohorts 2-4 attend two days per week
    - Group 1 (last names A-K): Monday and Tuesday
    - Group 2 (last names L-Z): Thursday and Friday
    - Wednesday is a cleaning day; virtual learning for all

*Level 2 Special Education students continue attending 4 days per week
TENTATIVE Timeline

If data improves... Next decision point is Sept 14

Earliest Possible Return Dates:

● Cohort 1 - returns to in-person instruction (4 days) on September 29
● Cohort 2 - returns to hybrid in-person instruction (2 days) on October 12
● Cohort 3 - returns to hybrid in-person instruction (2 days) on October 26
● Cohort 4 - returns to hybrid in-person instruction (2 days) on November 9

Student Cohorts 2, 3, & 4 will return to hybrid in-person instruction in two groups:

● Group 1 - Monday & Tuesday (Students with last name A-L)
● Group 2 - Thursday & Friday (Students with last name M-Z)

The Health Committee reports to the School Board twice a month
What happens if the data gets worse?

**In response to changes in trends:**

- Based on metrics, the Public Health Committee will recommend to phase in cohorts, pause cohort progression, reverse progression, or end all in-person instruction.

**In response to urgent issues:**

- In consultation with the VDH, the Superintendent will close individual schools and/or the school division when a significant health risk is present.
Overall Results - Return to In-Person Learning

- 5,083 responses (out of 6,524; 78.0% response rate)
- 396 (out of 4806 who answered; 8.2%) do not plan to return.
  - ES: 182 do not plan to return (out of 2424)
  - MS: 89 do not plan to return (out of 1029)
  - HS: 114 do not plan to return (1190)

  There is some variability, as some did not specify a school
Start of School
What to Expect: Virtual Start

- Welcome from the Principal
  - Recommendations for developing a successful virtual learning environment at home
  - What does a virtual learning environment look like
- Morning Meeting example
- Follow school schedule online
  - Elementary students meet your teacher online
  - Secondary students follow your class schedule
- Use of tools; Synchronous vs. Asynchronous activities
What to Expect: Return to In-Person

This Fall:

● Hybrid instruction for most students:
  ○ 2 days of in-person; 3 days of asynchronous
    ■ A-L report on Monday and Tuesday
    ■ M-Z report on Thursday and Friday

● Hiring: A Nurse in Every School

● MERV 13 Air Filters in Every School

● Multiple Hand Sanitizing stations in Every School

● Augmented Custodial Services
Supporting Students

- 90 percent of students have a CCPS Chromebook (Prek-12)
  - Students being contacted to ensure they have a computer
- 790 Households provided Comcast Internet install codes
  - Will continue inviting eligible households
- 754 Hotspot being distributed
- Five Chromebook support sites
- Self-help website linked on every school’s homepage
Increasing Capacity

- Bandwidth increased from 8Gbps to 16Gbps
- New Chromebook script allowing Google Meet, Canvas, Edgenuity and Dreambox traffic to go directly to the Internet
- Adding QR code scan log-in for Prek-1 students
- Adding the ability to login remotely to staff laptops for service
The School Board voted to endorse the Health Committee’s recommendations on August 11

- The Health Committee recommends:
  - Full Virtual Start for all students on September 8
  - Re-evaluate over next few weeks
    - Health Committee to continue to meet weekly
    - School Board to meet twice a month
  - Next decision point is on September 14 at the School Board Work Session
We are prepared for student learning in 2020-21

- **Our Goal:** Return to face-to-face instruction for ALL students
  - Start the school year in a virtual learning environment
  - Phase students back to face-to-face instruction, as quickly and as safely as possibly
  - Follow Virginia Department of Health data and bi-weekly recommendations from the Superintendent’s Health Panel