



Office of the Superintendent

March 26, 2021

Dear SCPS Families and Staff,

I hope all of you are doing well and enjoying the transition towards Spring-like weather and longer days of sunshine.

Hybrid Student Four Day a Week In-Person Instruction

[As presented at our regular school board meeting this week](#), hybrid students at all grade levels, preK-12, will begin four days of in-person instruction on April 20, coinciding with the beginning of the 4th quarter. Hybrid elementary students on Shift 1 will have face-to-face instruction in their classrooms from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., those on Shift 2 will attend from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Middle school students will have in-person instruction from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and high school students will be in the classroom from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Early Childhood students will attend from 9:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. ECSE and half-day VPI students will attend three hours, four days a week, in the morning or afternoon or as otherwise noted in their IEP. The option for 100% virtual instruction remains available for those families who do not wish to send their children into our buildings.

The CDC and VDH have updated the social distancing requirement to allow for as low as three feet of space between students, with six feet still preferred. In order to return as many students as possible to the classroom, there may be instances where children are seated closer than six feet. On our buses, this means students may need to sit two per seat. Our classrooms will be designed for physical distancing to be consistent with the new CDC guidelines. We will modify our lunch schedule to ensure that students remain six feet apart while eating. We will also continue to follow all our mitigation strategies, to include wearing face coverings and frequent hand washing.

Schedule Change for April 12-16

April 15 is a professional day for SCPS Staff. There will be no instruction, synchronous or asynchronous, for students. The following day, April 16, will be an asynchronous day for students and an additional work day for teachers to prepare for our students to return to four day in-person instruction beginning Tuesday, April 20.

In order to ensure A and B students have equitable in-person instruction during this week, group A hybrid students will attend in person on Tuesday, April 13, and B group hybrid students will attend in person on Wednesday, April 14.

Graduation Ceremonies

Last week, Governor Northam issued [preliminary guidance](#) on safe in-person graduations and commencements. Given this guidance, our high school principals are discussing graduation options for the Class of 2021. The next few weeks will enable us to fully develop plans and provide details for our families. In the meantime, thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to develop our plans.

Kindergarten Registration for 2021-2022

Kindergarten Registration opens online April 1, and we look forward to enrolling our newest students for the 2021-2022 school year. [A list of all documents required for enrollment is available on our website.](#) SCPS will host an in person registration event on Thursday, April 15, from 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. at the Alvin York Bandy Administrative Offices, Professional Development Center for individuals who need assistance with the online registration process. Translators will be available at this event.

Updated Immunization Requirements

A school entrance physical, completed within a year from the start of the 2021-2022 school year, and a current immunization record are required for enrollment. The Virginia General Assembly, during the 2020 General Session, updated the vaccination requirements for school enrollment and deferred the requirements until the 2021-2022 school year due to COVID-19 restrictions. Please be sure to complete your student's physical and update his or her vaccines as required for the enrollment process.

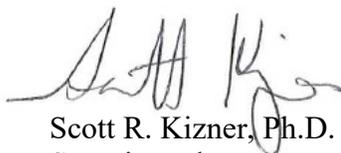
The change in the immunization code of Virginia for vaccines also affects 7th and 12th grade enrollment. Rising 7th graders are now required to receive the first dose of the Meningococcal vaccine along with the Tdap and HPV vaccine, and rising 12th graders are now required to have a dose of the Meningococcal vaccine for enrollment.

The Rappahannock Area Health Department is currently providing vaccines only for uninsured students due to the demands of COVID-19 vaccine clinics. Families who have insurance should obtain the required vaccines through their primary health care provider or local pharmacy.

Again I want to thank all of you as we continue to adjust our instructional models to provide more in-person instruction for our students. Working together we will have a better outcome. Our goal remains to open the 2021-2022 school year with a regular five-day a week schedule at all levels. We are planning for this, and a modified virtual learning model. More information will be provided over the next two months. Please feel free to ask questions and share your thoughts with your child's principal, and of course you can email me with any questions or comments.

Please enjoy your weekend. Hopefully everyone will continue to take the COVID-19 virus seriously so we can keep seeing improvements with our Stafford County COVID-19 data. On a personal note, I want to thank many of you for your well wishes as I am receiving treatment for a cancer called Multiple Myeloma, and I expect a positive outcome. My next letter will be on April 30th.

Sincerely,



Scott R. Kizner, Ph.D.
Superintendent