

Scott County Public Schools  
Health and Safety Plan (Phase III)  
September 11, 2020

Local Public Health Conditions

- A. As of July 30, 2020, the community case transmission in Southwestern Virginia is substantial. The Southwest Region as of July 30 reports moderate burden of disease and sustained transmission both of which are trending upward. Per Virginia Department of Health, as of July 30: Scott County has reported 51 cases, 6 hospitalizations and 3 deaths. Scott County case incidence rate per 100,000 (a 7 day moving average) is elevated at 11.3 which is above the national metric for measure of burden of disease and has continued to trend upward for the past 25 days. Scott County has reported 2 outbreaks of COVID-19. Scott County percent positive tests for SARS CoV2 virus is 8.7%, nearing the 10% indicator of great concern and trending up for the past 32 days. Of the metrics available at the locality level in Scott Co, we see the COVID 19 case incidence rate elevated and increasing; the number of outbreaks (2) and increasing; the percent positive tests at 8.7% and increasing, approaching the 10% level of high concern. The percent of healthcare workers infected remains 0 at this time (July 30). Other metrics regionally indicate that hospital bed and ICU bed capacity has decreased as more beds are occupied (based on reports from Ballad Healthcare system). ED visits are not evaluated as there is no ED in Scott Co and TN data is not available in the VHHA database (hospitals in Virginia only).

Wise County: 75 cases, 14 hospitalizations, and 3 deaths.

Lee County: 86 cases, 7 hospitalizations, and 0 deaths.

Russell County: 60 cases, 8 hospitalizations, and 1 deaths.

Washington County: 164 cases, 18 hospitalizations, and 4 deaths.

Sullivan County TN (southern border of Scott Co) reported a case rate per 100,000 on July 30 of 17.10, putting them in the "red zone" placing them in sustained community transmission.

- B. There will be a few variations from the Phase III recommendations:

The data from the Virginia Department of Health suggests a Phase II opening. Scott County Schools will open on August 24<sup>th</sup> with PreK-3, English learners and Students with Disabilities in person. Grades 4-12 will be remote. K-12 will still have a virtual option. The Scott County School Board plans to review metric after the first two weeks of instruction. Our plan could be adjusted then.

**On September 17<sup>th</sup>, all students will return to on-site learning. Students that choose a virtual option may do so.**

**On November 2, all students will be remote or virtual learners.**

#### STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

- Students may only ride the bus they are assigned.
- Students will sit in assigned seats as directed by their bus driver alternating aisle and window, when feasible.
- Students and drivers/bus aides will wear face coverings when riding the bus.

- Siblings/students living in the same household will be assigned the same in-person days and will be allowed to sit together.
- Buses will be loaded back to front and unloaded front to back. In the afternoon, schools will ensure social distancing in the afternoon.

#### BUS DRIVERS/BUS PROTOCOLS

- Bus drivers must disinfect the buses after each route (Masks and gloves will be worn):
  - Right after the morning and afternoon routes
- Bus drivers will monitor that students are sitting in assigned seats, staying in their seats, and not turning around in their seats to talk to other students. Students not following the rules may be suspended from riding.

Social Distancing within the classroom: Classrooms will be laid out to accommodate 6 feet of social distancing. **Where we cannot accommodate 6ft, students and staff will wear masks.**

#### Planning to Reopen

A. Scott County Public Schools (SCPS) has developed the following COVID-19 Task Force:

Name	Role	Contact Information
John I. Ferguson	Superintendent	<a href="mailto:john.ferguson@scottschoools.com">john.ferguson@scottschoools.com</a>
Jason Smith	Assistant Superintendent	<a href="mailto:jason.smith@scottschoools.com">jason.smith@scottschoools.com</a>
Jennifer Frazier	Secondary Supervisor/Food Services Supervisor	<a href="mailto:jennifer.frazier@scottschoools.com">jennifer.frazier@scottschoools.com</a>
Tammy Quillen	Elementary Supervisor/DDOT	<a href="mailto:tammy.quillen@scottschoools.com">tammy.quillen@scottschoools.com</a>
Brenda Robinette	Special Services and Middle School Supervisor	<a href="mailto:brenda.robinette@scottschoools.com">brenda.robinette@scottschoools.com</a>
Tiffany Howard	Nurse Coordinator	<a href="mailto:tiffany.howard@scottschoools.com">tiffany.howard@scottschoools.com</a>
Robert Sallee	Maintenance Supervisor	<a href="mailto:robert.sallee@scottschoools.com">robert.sallee@scottschoools.com</a>
Debby Brickey	Technology Coordinator	<a href="mailto:debby.brickey@scottschoools.com">debby.brickey@scottschoools.com</a>
Katrina Smith-Toole	School Psychologist	<a href="mailto:katrina.toole@scottschoools.com">katrina.toole@scottschoools.com</a>
Angie Vermillion	School Social Worker	<a href="mailto:angie.vermillion@scottschoools.com">angie.vermillion@scottschoools.com</a>
Tim Edwards	Transportation Coordinator	<a href="mailto:tim.edwards@scottschoools.com">tim.edwards@scottschoools.com</a>
Kathy Wilcox	HeadStart Director	<a href="mailto:kwilcox@scottcountyheadstart.org">kwilcox@scottcountyheadstart.org</a>

School Facility Point Person

School	Name	Role	Contact Information
Duffield Primary	Whitney Berry	Assistant Principal	<a href="mailto:whitney.berry@scottsschools.com">whitney.berry@scottsschools.com</a>
Dungannon Intermediate	Jennifer Meade	Principal	<a href="mailto:jennifer.meade@scottsschools.com">jennifer.meade@scottsschools.com</a>
Fort Blackmore Primary	Jennifer Meade	Principal	<a href="mailto:jennifer.meade@scottsschools.com">jennifer.meade@scottsschools.com</a>
Gate City High	Mike Lane	Principal	<a href="mailto:mike.lane@scottsschools.com">mike.lane@scottsschools.com</a>
Gate City Middle	Reagan Mullins	Principal	<a href="mailto:reagan.mullins@scottsschools.com">reagan.mullins@scottsschools.com</a>
Hilton Elementary	Kelsey Taylor	Principal	<a href="mailto:kelsey.taylor@scottsschools.com">kelsey.taylor@scottsschools.com</a>
Nickelsville Elementary	Rhea McConnell	Asst. Principal	<a href="mailto:rhea.mcconnell@scottsschools.com">rhea.mcconnell@scottsschools.com</a>
Rye Cove High	Yvonne Edwards	School Nurse	<a href="mailto:yvonne.edwards@scottsschools.com">yvonne.edwards@scottsschools.com</a>
Rye Cove Intermediate	Tabbitha Bledsoe	School Nurse	<a href="mailto:tabbitha.bledsoe@scottsschools.com">tabbitha.bledsoe@scottsschools.com</a>
Shoemaker Elementary	Kinsey Brickey	School Nurse	<a href="mailto:kinsey.brickey@scottsschools.com">kinsey.brickey@scottsschools.com</a>
Twin Springs High	Hope Hensley	School Nurse	<a href="mailto:hope.hensley@scottsschools.com">hope.hensley@scottsschools.com</a>
Weber City Elementary	Courtney Bolling	School Nurse	<a href="mailto:courtney.bolling@scottsschools.com">courtney.bolling@scottsschools.com</a>
Yuma Elementary	Amber Smith	Asst. Principal	<a href="mailto:amber.smith@scottsschools.com">amber.smith@scottsschools.com</a>
Scott County Career and Technical/Alternative Education	Greg Ervin	Principal	<a href="mailto:greg.ervin@scottsschools.com">greg.ervin@scottsschools.com</a>

- B. Local Health Department: SCPS has established an advisory relationship with the Lenowisco Executive Health Director, Dr. Cantrell, who has provided us with her contact information and is readily available when needed.
- C. Absenteeism Monitoring: SCPS uses PowerSchool to monitor student absences. In addition, each school has a school nurse who creates protocols for student and staff health issues. They also document daily absentee numbers which are sent to the Virginia Department of Education.
- D. Communication:
  - a. Orientation and training for staff will occur before the August 24<sup>th</sup> opening.. Orientation for staff in August, would stress the wide variety of symptoms that are seen and how mild some cases can be. Ensure parents know this too.
  - b. Any new policies will be communicated via email, county website, School Messenger, and social media outlets. Students will be communicated via email, School Messenger, website, and social media outlets.
  - c. If there are positive cases or an outbreak, the Local Virginia Health Department will be contacted to initiate public health investigation, contact tracing and consultation on next steps. Notification to the point person at the school will also be implemented. Parents will be notified via School Messenger and social media outlets on guidance on what the next steps will be. Staff will be notified via email and School Messenger.

- E. Community Response Efforts: The division will maintain open communication with the Department of Health and local Emergency Services Department and report any suspect cases to Local Health Department.
- F. Student Health Services
  - a. SCPS nurses are fully aware of all safety and health protocols related to COVID-19 and have helped order the appropriate medical grade PPE for their use, and assure they are trained in use, donning and doffing, fit tested for N95, medically cleared to wear N95, have eye protection (face shields will provide that), etc. In addition, medical face shields will be ordered for SCPS students and staff members for use during the 2020-2021 school year as needed.
  - b. Each school will maintain typical (non-COVID19) health services.
  - c. Scott County Public Schools maintains a working relationship with the local CSB (community service board) as well as other agencies such as Family Preservation Services and Health Connect. SCPS has 11 masters level counselors, 1 school social worker and 1 school psychologist that is available to students and to staff when needed. SCPS staff/faculty have been trained with Mental Health First Aid.

#### Promoting Behaviors That Reduce Spread of COVID-19

- A. Trainings will be provided for all staff, students and families prior to reopening schools re: Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette, use of cloth face coverings, staying home when sick, encouraging physical distancing. Adequate supplies will be provided to promote healthy hygiene.
- B. All schools will order and keep adequate supplies to promote healthy hygiene.
- C. Preventative measures signs will be posted in high traffic areas that will educate students and staff and serve as reminders of ways to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- D. Physical Distancing
  - a. Modify Layouts
    - i. Classrooms: Classrooms will be laid out to accommodate 6 feet of social distancing. Where we cannot accommodate 6 feet, students will wear face coverings. All students will have assigned seats in the classroom. Schools will cohort students (same group/cohort of students together all the time—classroom, eat lunch in room, staggered recess, play together not mixing with children from other classes, etc so if a child is positive, s/he has exposed fewer individuals reducing the risk of having to close multiple classrooms/grades/school)at the elementary/intermediate levels.
  - b. STUDENT TRANSPORTATION
    - Students may only ride the bus they are assigned.
    - Students will sit in assigned seats as directed by their bus driver alternating aisle and window, when feasible.

- Students and drivers/bus aides will wear face coverings when riding the bus.
- Siblings/students living in the same household will be allowed to sit together.
- Buses will be loaded back to front and unloaded front to back. When loading in the afternoon, schools will ensure social distancing.

#### BUS DRIVERS/BUS PROTOCOLS

- Bus drivers must disinfect the buses after each route (Masks and gloves will be worn):
    - Right after the morning and afternoon routes
  - Bus drivers will monitor that students are sitting in assigned seats, staying in their seats, and not turning around in their seats to talk to other students. Students not following the rules may be suspended from riding.
    - i. Communal Areas: Will limit use consistent with the Executive Order. Social distancing will be followed. Whenever 6 feet cannot be maintained, then students will wear masks.
- c. Food/Dining
- i. Breakfast: Breakfast will consist of grab- n -go. All meals will be consumed in the classroom with social distancing.
  - ii. Lunch: Students may pick up meals in the cafeteria or meals may be delivered to the classroom. Social distancing markers will be in place in all areas of the cafeteria. Students will take their meals to the designated area in each school with appropriate social distancing in practice.
  - iii. Off-site meals will be distributed to the students as they leave.
  - iv. Students not on campus, and taking virtual only classes, may pick up meals or delivered as needed.
  - v. Students are not allowed to have outside food delivered to school grounds. No parents visiting for meals; no volunteers in classrooms; no visitors other than required (no socials, parties, homeroom moms, etc.)
  - vi. Students may bring bagged meals to school upon arrival.
- d. Gatherings: Gatherings, if necessary, will be limited to 250 people with following social distancing guidelines.
- e. Sports
- i. Recreational: Scott County will follow guidance from the Virginia Phase Guidance for recreational sports.
  - ii. School Related Sports: Scott County will follow guidance from the Virginia Phase Guidance and VHSL regulations for school related sports.

## Maintaining Healthy Environments and Operations

- A. Health Monitoring of Staff and Students:
  - a. Staff: Staff will be required to self-screen at home using screening form provided by the school (temperature check and complete a self-check of symptoms). If fever over 100 or any new symptoms, then staff would not come to work and consult PCP for consideration of evaluation for COVID-19.
  - b. Students: Parents will be asked to screen students before sending them to school using screening form provided by the school (temperature check and symptom check) and keep that record on their parental form. If fever over 100 or any new symptoms, then student would not come to school and consult PCP for consideration of evaluation for COVID-19. Once students reach school they will be screened (temperature check). Parents will communicate to the school if the Local Department of Health has put the student in isolation (if child has coronavirus) or quarantine (if exposed to coronavirus) or if anyone in the home is in isolation or quarantine from exposure
- B. Hygiene Practices
  - a. All frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned during the day. Schedules will be created to increase cleaning while still performing routine cleaning. Transport vehicles will also be cleaned frequently and increased cleaning above routine cleaning will be scheduled. All schools and departments will maintain adequate supplies. An inventory sheet will be developed that monitors supplies on hand. Supplies will be stored in compliance of the manufacture's recommendations. Schools will assure that cleaning and disinfecting supplies are EPA certified effective against SARS CoV2, the virus that causes COVID-19 (see EPA List N for products that meet this standard).
  - b. All schools will provide adequate handwashing/hand sanitizing stations.
  - c. Adequate supplies will be in place to minimize sharing to the greatest extent possible.
- C. Ventilation systems have been checked and are operating properly. We will increase outdoor air circulation in areas that is available.
- D. Water bottle fillers will be checked, cleaned, and sanitized throughout the school day; fountains will not be available. Water bottles will be encouraged to be brought from home, labeled clearly with the child's name.
- E. Gatherings/Field Trips/Volunteer: There will be no field trips or classroom volunteers. There will be no school dances or pep rallies. Other gatherings, if necessary, will be limited to 250 people with following social distancing guidelines.
- F. All back up staff will be trained on protocols and expectations. This will ensure continuity of operations.

## Protecting vulnerable individuals

- A. If an employee has a medical diagnosis of health condition that is underlying, preexisting, or a mental illness then the employee can request certain reasonable accommodations to perform their daily duties. Location reassignment, change in works hours, and additional job requirements

are possible depending on each individual situation. Documentation, communication, and correspondence is required from the licensed medical provider to the office of Personnel and Human Resources. The office of Personnel and Human Resources can assist employees in this paperwork and process. Children for higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 will be offered virtual learning and may work from home as needed.

- B. Sick leave policies for staff are updated to follow guidance from Families First Coronavirus Response Act. Student truancy policies are waived due to COVID-19 so that student may stay at home or self-isolate when sick or have been exposed.
- C. Return to work/class

- a. If an employee becomes ill at work or if another person is exhibiting symptoms of COVID19 at work, they should put on a mask if not wearing one and be escorted immediately to an isolation area pending pick up by a parent or if a staff member, immediately exit the building; call supervisor/person in charge to inform they are leaving for evaluation. Staff will escort the symptomatic, masked person out of the building (staying 6 ft away). Employees returning to work from an approved medical leave should contact HR. You may be asked to submit a healthcare provider's note before returning to work. If you have been diagnosed with COVID19, you may return to work with current VDH and CDC criteria for release for isolation have been met, per health department release.

If you have symptoms that could be COVID19 and do not get evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID19, it is assumed that you have COVID19 and may not return to work until current VDH and CDC criteria for release for isolation have been met, per health department release.

- b. If a student presents with a temperature, over 100, they will be sent home. If student has been diagnosed with COVID-19, the student may return to school when current VDH and CDC criteria for release for isolation have been met, per health department release.

If a student has symptoms that could be COVID19 and do not get evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID19, it is assumed that student has COVID19 and may not return to school until current VDH and CDC criteria for release for isolation have been met, per health department release.

- School/division closures will be identified by the VDH, Governor's executive order, or absence percentage suggested by LHD. (typically 40%)

### Preparing for When Someone Gets Sick

- A. Isolation areas have been set up for students/staff that present with symptoms. If it is determined that students need additional support and are sent to the office, students should be triaged prior to coming to the office

For a person who is not coughing or sneezing, we will not offer aerolized medications this year, only inhalers with spacers, these have been proven to be just as effective as an aerosolized generating medical procedure (AGP), and occupied the room for a short period of time, any risk to health care personnel and subsequent patients likely dissipates over a matter of minutes. In

addition to ensuring sufficient time for enough air changes to remove potentially infectious particles, healthcare personnel should clean and disinfect environmental surfaces and shared equipment before the room is used for another student.

In general, the office will need to establish the following three areas:

<p><b>General Waiting Students waiting to be triaged (present to office with unscheduled needs)</b></p>	<p><b>Well Student Area (those students that have scheduled medical needs e.g. procedures, meds)</b></p>	<p><b>Students with COVID-19 Symptoms Area (may need multiple spaces)</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students with nonCOVID-19 symptoms (e.g., injury, assessments)</li> <li>• Ask if they have been around someone with COVID-19 or have signs and symptoms of COVID-19. If yes, send immediately to COVID-19 isolation and call parent/send home.</li> <li>• Physical distancing marked off</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area for well students with health care needs that cannot be addressed in the classroom (e.g. diabetic and other noncontagious health care needs).</li> <li>• Ask if they have been around someone with COVID-19 or have signs and symptoms of COVID-19. If yes, send immediately to COVID-19 isolation and call parent/send home.</li> <li>• Physical distancing marked off</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Areas for students with possible COVID-19 symptoms; away from others</li> <li>• Physical distancing marked off or in separate rooms</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff conducting triage may consider wearing gloves and masks, depending on the level of COVID-19 community transmission. Plexiglass or plastic barriers may be in place.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A trained staff member or school nurse provides care.</li> <li>• Staff delivering care may need to consider wearing gloves and masks.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional non-health compromised staff may be necessary to monitor students in areas not visible by the school nurse or health technician. Restroom facilities need to be nearby for sick students (separate space) as younger students may have GI symptoms. Staff caring for someone who is suspected of COVID 19 they should be in full PPE (N95, eye protection such as a faceshield or eye goggles, not glasses; gown and gloves. Same for nurse if caring/observing child/employee with suspect COVID in the same room and within 6 ft</li> </ul>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students sanitize/wash hands,</li> <li>• Clean area after students leave</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students sanitize/wash hands,</li> <li>• Clean area after students leave</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students sanitize/wash hands</li> <li>• Students put on masks</li> <li>• Non-contact thermometers</li> <li>• Isolate student</li> <li>• Separate phone (disinfect)</li> <li>• Separate restrooms</li> <li>• Parents/guardians will provide transportation to isolated students, unless symptoms are so severe that they require emergency services. Staff will transport themselves home if able and if symptoms are not severe. If symptoms are moderate to severe, staff will be transported via medical services to local health facilities. If you call 9-1-1, please share with the dispatcher if the individual has signs or symptoms of COVID- 19. **Severe symptoms could be Trouble breathing, Persistent pain or pressure in the chest, New confusion, Inability to wake or stay awake, Bluish lips or face (not all possible symptoms).</li> <li>• Notify Public Health/contact-tracing team</li> <li>• Ventilate the room to outside air after student leaves</li> <li>• Clean area 24 hours after</li> </ul>
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- B. Parents/guardians will provide transportation to isolated students, unless symptoms are so severe that they require emergency services. Staff will transport themselves home if symptoms are not severe. If symptoms are moderate to severe, staff will be transported via medical services to local health facilities.
- C. Adequate cleaning and disinfection procedures will be followed for isolation areas and to any areas of exposure.
- D. Local Virginia Health Department will be contacted to initiate public health investigation, contact tracing and consultation on next steps. Notification to the point person at the school will also be implemented.

Planning to close down if necessary, due to severe conditions

- A. Class/Long term school/division closures will be identified by the VDH, Governor's executive order, or absence percentage suggested by LHD. (typically 40%).