

SURRY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS HEALTH MITIGATION PLAN 2021-2022



Surry County Public Schools

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Pandemic Mitigation Planning

INTRODUCTION

Per an order from the Virginia Public Health Commissioner, Surry County Public Schools (SCPS) is required to develop a health plan that includes information for implementing COVID-19 mitigation strategies before opening schools for in-person instruction in accordance with the *Virginia Phase Guidance for Schools*. This plan addresses the following key elements as associated with COVID-19 reopening of schools:

1. Local Health Conditions
2. Reopening Plan
3. Promoting Behaviors that Reduces the Spread of COVID-19
4. Maintaining Healthy Environments and Operations
5. Protecting Vulnerable Individuals
6. Preparing for When Someone Gets Sick
7. Planning to Close Down due to Severe Conditions

The opening of schools will be an ever-changing list of tasks that are influenced by COVID-19 conditions in and around Surry County. Decisions will be made based upon the best data received from the local health department, Virginia Department of Health (VDH), Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), Governor's office and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). The health and safety of students, staff and stakeholders will be our main focus.

The Health Mitigation Plan covers education in three possible phases of reopening.

- Phase 1: Virtual Instruction with Flash Drive and Packet Support
- Phase 2: Hybrid – In-Person Instruction (2-4 Days); Virtual (1-3 Days)
- Phase 3: 5-Day In-Person Instruction with Safeguards (as detailed below in the Health Plan)

The 2021-2022 school year will open in Phase 3, where 5-day in-person instruction will be offered to all students.

LOCAL HEALTH CONDITIONS

SCPS is a rural school division that serves less than 750 students at three schools (Surry Elementary School, Luther Porter Jackson Middle School, and Surry County High School). The school division and County of Surry is served by the Surry County Health Department, which is in the Crater Health District. Guidance on constructing the Health Mitigation Plan was sought from this source. As decisions relating to COVID-19 are being made, advice and data will be sought from the Crater Health District for the following areas:

- COVID-19 exposures/cases
- Diagnosis of infected school division employees
- Diagnosis of infected school division students
- Contact tracing
- Conditions that could result in classroom or school closures
- Overall public health conditions

Additional data will be sought from the CDC, VDOE, and VDH throughout the school year to help better the decision-making process as it relates to COVID-19. The health mitigation strategies may be revised as we navigate through everchanging COVID-19 conditions and as guidance from the CDC, VDH and VDOE changes. These strategies will be detailed throughout this plan.

REOPENING PLANS

In preparation for reopening schools, a COVID-19 team that consisted of the following school division and Crater Health Department employees was established:

Names	Email	Telephone
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Tracking Attendance and Interventions

In-Person Instruction - Divisionwide

Attendance will be recorded for in-person instruction when students are physically present in school. With the return to 5-day instruction, our previous methods for attendance will be put in place. However, if a student is required to isolate or quarantine at home and is able to participate synchronously or asynchronously in instruction, they will not be counted as absent. If a student is too ill to participate in instruction, this will be considered an excused absence. Students who are attending Virtual Virginia for 2021-2022 must follow the attendance rules as outlined by Virtual Virginia. If for any reason COVID-19 conditions require us to revert to divisionwide virtual instruction or hybrid instruction, the following procedures will be followed.

Virtual Instruction - Divisionwide

It is anticipated that attendance might be difficult to monitor in a remote or virtual environment. However, we acknowledge that the level of student engagement with both asynchronous and synchronous instruction is critical to student and school success. Our intent is to count students who are connected to classes online and to monitor additional indicators of student engagement to include product completion, engagement or contact with teachers, and progress toward learning goals.

Asynchronous Learning	Synchronous Learning
Monitor the number of students who log in to each instructional opportunity or assignment.	Take attendance at the start of the school day or class throughout the day.
Record the number and percentage of asynchronous assignments completed and turned in.	Record the number of assignments or projects completed.
Document phone calls, emails, and other meaningful interactions with teachers or other appropriate school staff.	Document phone calls, emails, and other meaningful interactions with teachers or other appropriate school staff.

Attendance will be monitored closely. Interventions for absences either virtually or in-person will be monitored according to the following or similar scale:

- Regular attendance – miss less than 5% of instructional opportunities.
- At risk – miss 5%-9% of instructional opportunities.
- Chronically absent – miss 10% or more of instructional opportunities.
- Severely chronically absent – miss 20% or more of instructional opportunities.

Interventions will include:

- encouraging relationship building between teachers or other employees with students who need attention.
- encouraging peer relationships.
- providing direct instruction in areas where students are not engaged.
- implementing telephone calls home to students and parents.
- engaging school social worker.
- provide additional support and training for families on technology usage.

- provide tiered academic support.
- provide social emotional support for students and families.

Additional intervention strategies will be employed based on the level and severity of attendance and engagement issues that arise during virtual and in-person instruction.

PROMOTING BEHAVIORS THAT REDUCE THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

Surry County Public Schools has developed multiple strategies to reduce the spread of COVID-19 within the student and employee populations. These preventative strategies are based on CDC guidance and are not meant to be exhaustive:

- **Face Masks** - Face masks are required in all SCPS facilities, on buses, and in vehicles. In general, while outdoors a face covering is not required; however, masks are required in crowded outdoor settings. Parents should send their child to school with a face mask. Gaiters are not acceptable unless they are prescribed by a physician. All students, staff and visitors must keep their masks on (some exceptions will apply), such as anyone who cannot tolerate a cloth face covering due to developmental, medical or behavioral health needs, to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Students and staff are required to wear face masks properly at all times - entirely covering the nose and mouth area unless otherwise indicated due to a disability or medical condition.
- **Social Distancing** - Students, staff and visitors must practice social distancing while in our facilities to reduce the spread of COVID-19. The distance deemed safe between students is 3 feet. Staff and visitors must maintain 6 feet between each other as well as 6 feet between themselves and students. When eating meals with masks off, students will be spaced at least 6 feet apart.
- **Seating Charts** - Seating charts that denote space between students for classrooms, meals and buses will be used to limit interactions between groups of students. If possible, all seats should face in the same direction. Plexiglass or plastic barriers (sneeze guards) and/or face shields, in addition to face masks may be used in classrooms.
- **School Clinic** - The clinic will space students at least 3 feet apart, and should be used only when medical attention is needed. Students who are showing symptoms of COVID-19 will be isolated in an area where all students are at least 6 feet apart. In order to reduce student traffic in the clinic, staff will be provided with first aid supplies for students in the classroom with minor cuts and scrapes.
- **Playground** - It is recommended that one class of students use the playground at a time. However, more than one class/group may be on the playground at one time if the classes/groups are playing in designated areas and are not mixing with one another. If crowded settings or sustained close contact cannot be avoided, a face mask is required.
- **Meetings** - The preferred meeting format will be virtual; however, when in-person meetings occur, 6-foot social distancing and mask are required.
- **Healthy Hygiene Practices** - Hand washing is a proven strategy to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Students, staff and visitors will be encouraged, and at times required, to wash hands with soap and water. Alcohol based hand sanitizing dispensers will be located

throughout the building where sinks and other hand washing facilities are not readily available. To ensure healthy hygiene practices, students, staff and visitors will be encouraged to wash or sanitize their hands often for the following reasons:

- After blowing their nose, coughing or sneezing
- After using the restroom
- Before eating or preparing food
- Before or after touching face
- After playing outside
- Before putting on or removing gloves
- Before or after providing routine care for another person who needs assistance (e.g., a child/student)
- After touching frequently touched areas (doorknobs, handrails, doors, etc.)

Students and staff are asked to:

- Encourage individuals to cover their mouth and nose with a tissue when they cough or sneeze, place the used tissue in a wastebasket, and then wash their hands
- If tissue is unavailable, encourage individuals to cough or sneeze into the upper sleeve or elbow, not onto their hands; then they should wash their hands
- Wash hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub with at least 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol alcohol content and rub until the contents are dry. [Hand Hygiene Protocol](#).
- Encourage individuals to avoid touching their face, nose and eyes with their hands, as much as possible.

In an effort to aid in hygiene practices, SCPS will provide hand sanitizing stations in high traffic areas; soap dispensers in bathrooms; hand sanitizer or wipes in classrooms or office spaces; and plexiglass or plastic barriers in office areas and some other spaces.

- Limit sharing of belongings. All SCPS employees and students need to keep their belongings separate from others. Students should be discouraged from bringing toys, blankets, pillows and other items from home. Under no circumstances shall any personal items be shared. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - Drinks and Food
 - Utensils
 - Books
 - Games
 - Electronics
 - School Supplies
 - Learning Aids
 - Grooming Supplies
 - Toiletries

- Staying home when sick and avoiding contact with people who are sick. All students and staff will have the same expectations if they are experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms. They will be counseled to stay home, and to report all symptoms to school nurses.
- Encouraging physical distancing. Information will be provided for all students and staff on the need for physical distancing throughout the school buildings and on buses. Floor decals and directional arrows will also be used in the schools. Position classroom desks and chairs so that students are facing in the same direction and are at least 3 to 6 feet apart, where possible, while wearing face masks. See Social Distancing for more information.
- Maintaining adequate supplies to promote healthy hygiene. An ordering process for products and supplies will be implemented to ensure availability for students and staff members.
- Communal areas. In order to abide by the requirements of the VDH to limit the number of students or staff members gathered in one area, rules and procedures will be implemented. Schedules will be established for hallway transitions, as well as arrival and departure at each school.
 - Restrooms. For communal restrooms, there will be a limited number of students in the restrooms at one time. Hall monitors will be used to ensure safe distancing as students enter the restrooms. Students and staff are required to wash their hands after using the restroom.
 - Buses. SCPS will resume normal bus capacity. Social distancing with seating charts will be created between children/families on school buses when possible. Masks will be worn by all drivers and passengers. Seats will be labeled to illustrate seating assignments for students. Students living in the same household will be allowed to sit on the same seat.
 - Meals and Cafeterias. Cafeterias will be utilized for food distribution. Meal distribution areas will be sanitized before initial use and after each subsequent use. Consumption of meals will occur in the classrooms or in cafeterias when social distancing is possible. All students will be encouraged to eat meals provided by the school division at no cost.
- Contact Tracing - The purpose of contact tracing is to identify staff/students who may have been exposed to an individual who tested positive for COVID-19. The following procedures will be followed when exposure is determined:
 - Notification of a positive COVID-19 test:
 - Staff members are to immediately notify the principal or direct supervisor (if not affiliated with a specific school).
 - Students/parents are to notify the school nurse. A copy of the positive test must be provided to the school nurse.
 - The Principal/Supervisor is to immediately notify the school nurse.
 - The school nurse will speak with the individual who tested positive (or parent of student for student cases) to determine immediate health and safety mitigation measures required for staff and/or students.
 - School nurses will contact staff/students who are directly impacted by the positive COVID-19 case.

- School nurses will contact the Crater Health Department.
- The school nurses will communicate with Principals or Supervisors as appropriate to arrange for cleaning and disinfecting.
- Educating Parents, Students and Employees on the following:
 - Signs and symptoms of COVID-19
 - The need to keep children home if they are ill or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. This will include information on the length of time that children should be isolated and conditions for their return to school.
 - The importance of keeping your child home if you suspect you or anyone in your home may be sick or have been exposed to COVID-19.
 - Taking and monitoring temperatures at home.
 - Need for accurate contact information and multiple emergency contacts and making sure that all telephone numbers are current in Powerschool.
 - Importance of coming to school quickly to pick up their children if called.
 - Hand washing, face covering, maintaining appropriate distances.

MAINTAINING HEALTHY ENVIRONMENTS AND OPERATIONS

Daily Health Screenings for Students and Staff. In order to promote a safe and healthy school/work environment, staff members and students should monitor their health daily. Staff and students will be required to complete a daily symptom checklist (see below), before reporting to school. Schools will conduct temperature checks for students upon arrival to school. Teachers will additionally conduct a visual assessment for students in their classrooms, who may be exhibiting COVID-19 type symptoms listed below, and notify a school administrator should there be a concern. School Nurses have developed a protocol for clinic visits to limit the exposure to students who are sick.

Parents are expected to assist with daily screenings by checking the screening areas as listed below to determine if they should send their child to school. Do not send your child to school if they are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, as listed below. Students/parents and staff should review and monitor the following symptoms, and confirm the following:

- You or your child have not been exposed to anyone with a positive COVID-19 test in the past 14 days.
- You or your child have not been told to quarantine or isolate by your healthcare provider or health department.
- You or your child do not have any of the following symptoms which can be associated with COVID-19 within the past 24 hours:
 - A fever (100.4 F or higher) or a sense of having a fever (chills/shaking).
 - Gastrointestinal issues- vomiting or diarrhea, indigestion that cannot be attributed to another health condition.
 - A cough that cannot be attributed to another health condition such as asthma or other diagnosed condition.
 - Shortness of breath that cannot be attributed to another health condition.

- Chills that cannot be attributed to another health condition.
- Fatigue (unusual/not typical for you or your child.)
- A sore throat that cannot be attributed to another health condition.
- New loss of taste or smell.
- Muscle aches that cannot be attributed to another health condition or specific activity (physical activity).
- Congestion or runny nose.

If a student or staff member has any of the above listed symptoms, they should stay home and not enter the building. It is highly recommended that you consult with your primary care physician for clearance to return to SCPS.

Health Screenings for Visitors. In an effort to limit the possible spread of COVID-19, if **visitors** must enter a SCPS building, they will be required to complete a COVID-19 temperature and symptoms check, according to the CDC guidelines, prior to entry. This will include:

- Temperature checks
- A brief survey of 24 hour history (temps/illness/travel). Trained staff members will be available to assist with this process. Screening questions will cover the following areas:
 - Fever or chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea
- Hand sanitizing
- Attention will be given to maintaining confidentiality and privacy during the screening process.

Reminders will be provided to encourage students and staff members to stay home if they are feeling ill. Parents and guardians will be informed to keep sick children home. Preventative measures posters and signs will be visible in high-traffic areas as a reminder to students, staff, and visitors of ways to prevent the spread of COVID-19. These visuals will include information on wearing face masks, first aid treatment, physical distancing, water fountain/water station usage, and proper hygiene techniques.

Cleaning and Disinfecting Buildings and Buses. School custodians will use a daily checklist with specific locations within the buildings and classrooms that require daily sanitizing. Classroom teachers will be provided with supplies that will be used to sanitize surfaces as

needed. High touch areas such as doorknobs, push bars, sinks, urinals, stools, and handrails will be sanitized regularly.

School buses, cars and vans will be sanitized after each unloading of students. Door handles, handrails, and seats will be disinfected after the morning drop offs and after the afternoon routes.

All disinfectants will be Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved or otherwise comply with CDC disinfection guidance. Adequate disinfection products will be on hand.

Ventilation Systems. HVAC systems will be monitored to ensure the systems are ventilating properly. Filters will be routinely replaced according to manufacturer standards. Window opening will be encouraged to increase the circulation of outdoor air as much as possible.

Employees: Monitoring and Notification of Symptoms, Exposure and Positivity

Surry County Public Schools' employees must assess their health and check for symptoms of COVID-19 before reporting to work. "Employees" includes all full-time and part-time employees, substitutes, and contractors. If the employee notices any symptoms of COVID-19 as listed above, they must contact their supervisor immediately and not report to work that day. The supervisor will discuss options with the employee regarding working from home or taking leave depending on the employee's roles and responsibilities. The supervisor will notify the School Nurse who will coordinate with the employee and their supervisor when the employee may return to work. **All directives for isolation or quarantine will be made by Surry County Public Schools' nursing staff after consultation with direct supervisors.**

Guide of CDC Recommendations:

1. If an employee shows signs of illness while at home: Stay/Isolate at home, and contact your Supervisor/School Nurse immediately. Working from home is an option for employees whose jobs allow for this accommodation. Employees who have this option must work from home unless the severity of their symptoms do not allow for working. Employees must contact health care providers for medical guidance and testing referral for COVID-19. The employee must remain out of school or their work environment, and the School Nurse will contact them to determine immediate health and safety mitigation measures. The employee should continue to follow the guidance of his/her healthcare provider.
2. If the employee shows signs of illness while at school/work: The employee will be isolated from others. The employee must leave the premises immediately, if they are able to safely drive themselves home. If necessary, alternative arrangements will be made to transport the employee home. Proper medical attention must be sought.
3. As soon as possible, the employee must be tested for COVID-19. In the meantime, the school will clean and disinfect the area(s) where the employee was and work to ventilate the area(s) all while using proper protective equipment. Results of COVID-19 test must be shared with the school nurse. Additional guidance will be provided depending on test results.

4. If the employee tested positive for COVID-19 they should immediately begin home isolation. The school will compile a list of other students and staff who may have come into contact with the COVID-positive employee and let them know so that they can quarantine until they are able to be tested. The COVID-positive employee or employees, should only return to school/work after **14 days** have passed since their positive test, the employee is fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication, and symptoms have improved.

Students: Monitoring and Notification of Symptoms, Exposure and Positivity

Parents are asked to monitor their child's health on a daily basis, and to **keep their child at home when sick** to prevent the spread of illness of any kind. Parents/guardians should make sure the school has up-to-date phone numbers including the emergency contacts and those persons authorized to pick up the child from school.

If a child exhibits any symptoms related to COVID-19, or other illness, he/she should stay home.

If a student presents with symptoms at school, the School Nurse will contact the parent/guardian, or emergency contact, to pick up the student. The School Nurse will contact EMS if the situation is an emergency. A designated isolation space/room will be used for sick versus well students. The School Nurse will coordinate with the parent when the student can return to school.

Guide of CDC's Recommendations:

5. If a student shows signs of illness while at home: Keep your child at home, and contact the School Administrator/School Nurse immediately. Students who are able to participate synchronously or asynchronously in instruction are expected to do so. They will not be counted as absent. However, if a student is too ill to participate in instruction, this will be considered an excused absence. Parents must contact health care providers for medical guidance and testing referral for COVID-19. The students must remain out of school, and the school nurse will contact them to determine immediate health and safety mitigation measures. The student should continue to follow the guidance of his/her healthcare provider.
6. If the student shows signs of illness while at school: The student will be isolated from other students. Parents or guardians will be contacted to make arrangements for the student to go home or seek proper medical attention.
7. Once the student is picked up from school, the parent or guardian should get the student tested for COVID-19 as soon as possible. In the meantime, the school will clean and disinfect the area(s) where the student was and work to ventilate the area(s) all while using proper protective equipment. Results of COVID-19 test must be shared with the school nurse. Additional guidance will be provided depending on test results.
8. If the student tested positive for COVID-19 they should immediately begin home isolation. The school will compile a list of other students and staff who may have come into close contact with the COVID-positive student and let them know so that they can quarantine until they are able to be tested. The COVID-positive student or students, should only return to school after **14 days** have passed since their positive test, the

student is fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication, and symptoms have improved.

PROTECTING VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS

Vulnerable Individuals. SCPS may offer students and staff members alternatives to in-person instruction and employment upon medical proof of underlying conditions that could put them at high risk for severe illness. These accommodations will not exempt an employee of job related duties in the event that a suitable accommodation is not available. Parents of students who are at high risk must notify the building principal or school nurse to develop a plan that will accommodate their child's needs.

Confidentiality will be maintained at all times.

PREPARING FOR WHEN SOMEONE GETS SICK

Symptomatic Individuals. Parents should notify their school administrator or nurse in the event that their child shows symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19. Children should remain at home and isolate themselves if they are showing symptoms of COVID-19. Guidance from the CDC and VDH will be used to determine groups of students and employees that should not report to school. According to recent information the following students and employees should **not** report to school and upon entering will be removed:

- Unvaccinated students or employees who display COVID-19 symptoms as identified above
- Unvaccinated students or employees who, in the last 14 days, have had close contact with and/or live with any person having a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis; and
- Unvaccinated students or employees who, in the last 14 days, have had close contact with and/or live with any person displaying COVID-19 symptoms

SCPS' unvaccinated students or staff members that are found to have symptoms of COVID-19 while in school will be immediately isolated from others until they can leave campus. Furthermore, siblings and other household members will also be removed from the schools as they will be considered close contacts. **Close contact** is defined as being within 3 to 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 and will be quarantined, except when both students are wearing masks and other prevention strategies are in place. Having exposure to the person's respiratory secretions (for example, coughed or sneezed on; shared a drinking glass or utensils; kissing) while they were contagious with or without a face mask will also be considered close contact (VDH, 2020). Schools will have designated isolation rooms that will be supervised. Once an individual has been diagnosed with COVID-19, the school nurse will consult the Crater Health District for guidance.

Each building administrator will identify an area (**isolation area/room**) within their facility to comfortably accommodate students or staff who are exhibiting symptoms associated with

COVID-19 and are waiting to be picked up by a parent/guardian or family member. The following precautions will be taken:

- The designated space should accommodate physical distancing of at least 6 feet for multiple individuals if needed.
- Any symptomatic students or staff who are waiting to be picked up will remain under visual supervision by a staff member who is at least 6 feet away.
- Both the supervising staff member and the symptomatic student or staff will wear a cloth face covering unless there is another health condition that prevents it.
- Any area that the student or staff member who shows COVID-19 symptoms came in contact with will be cleaned/disinfected, once identified.
- Isolation room will be immediately cleaned and disinfected according to CDC guidelines as soon as the student or staff member displaying COVID-19 symptoms has left.

After the student or staff member has left the isolation room and campus, the room will be sanitized immediately. This room will receive daily cleaning from the custodial staff. See **Appendix A** for a flowchart on Evaluating a Child/Person with COVID-19 Symptoms or Exposure.

Safe Transportation for Those Who are Sick to Home or Healthcare Facility

- **Students.** The transportation of symptomatic students will be the responsibility of the parents/guardians. In the event of an extreme emergency that prevents the parent/guardian from providing transportation, the following option will be used:

The school division will provide transportation home for the student in a school division vehicle. Once this vehicle is returned to the schools, it will be sanitized before next usage. The driver who transports the student and the student must wear appropriate personal protection equipment at all times.

- **Staff Members.** Staff members who are able to transport themselves home or to a medical facility must do so. However, if a staff member is unable to transport themselves, the school division will provide transportation home in a division vehicle. Once the vehicle is returned to the school, it will be sanitized before next usage. The driver who transports the employee and the employee must wear appropriate personal protection equipment at all times.

Cleansing and Disinfection Procedures for Areas Used by Sick Individuals

- **Isolation Room.** The isolation room will be immediately disinfected once the student or staff member exhibiting symptoms has left.
- **Other Areas of the Building.** If an individual is found to have symptoms at the end of the school day, an investigation will be conducted to identify all areas within the building that were accessed and will be cleaned adequately.

A symptoms monitoring log is available in **Appendix C** to use during your isolation/quarantine period. The school nurse will notify the Crater Health District of all positive cases of COVID-19. Isolation/Quarantine decisions and directions will be provided from representatives at the Crater Health District once all information is provided.

Reporting Protocol - SCPS

For the safety of others, the following procedures/actions must be followed in the event that a student or staff member believes that they have COVID-19 or has tested positive for COVID-19.

1. Do not come to school or work.
2. Contact a medical health professional if this has not already been done.
3. Notify the school nurses and school administrators during work hours.
4. Provide the school nurses with the following information:
 - a. A reliable phone number where you can easily be reached throughout any potential isolation/quarantine period.
 - b. Provide copies of confirmation letters of a positive or negative COVID-19 test from a medical facility or your physician.
 - c. Provide a list of all close contacts up to two days prior to when symptoms of COVID-19 started.
 - d. Provide phone numbers of all close contacts (if available).

PLANNING TO CLOSE DOWN DUE TO SEVERE CONDITIONS

Conditions for Reduction of In-Person Classes. If in the course of the school year, the Crater Health Department determines that the safety of students and staff is threatened based on reports of COVID-19, classrooms or school departments may experience closure for a period of time. Should this happen, SCPS will employ alternative education plans for these classrooms or school departments that could include a return to full virtual instruction or hybrid instruction.

Conditions for Complete School Closure. If a person or multiple people with confirmed cases of COVID-19 have been identified in our school community, a determination of potential partial or full closure of facilities will be made after consultation with the Crater Health Department. The facility may be shut down if the health department deems doing so is appropriate. The affected areas or buildings, the entire building, or the entire school division may be closed to everyone, per CDC recommendations. After a thorough cleaning has taken place, students and staff will be allowed to return to the areas of the building only after approval is received.

VACCINATIONS

Although not required for school attendance, vaccination is the most effective way to protect our school community from the continuous spread of COVID-19. Vaccination appointments are widely available at surrounding pharmacies and health departments for anyone age 12 and older. SCPS will keep our community informed when vaccination opportunities are expanded to students under the age of 12.

CONCLUSION

SCPS will continue to place the health and safety of students and staff members at the forefront of all decisions as we continue to navigate the unexpected twists and turns associated with this pandemic. We look forward to a day and time when normalcy is returned to our schools.

Appendix A

Appendix A: VDH Algorithm for Evaluating a Child with COVID-19 Symptoms or Exposure

Evaluation Flowchart

In addition to using the evaluation flowchart, SCPS nurse(s) will:

- Contact Crater Health District Epidemiologist for guidance and recommendations to determine a course of action upon a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis.
- Based on recommendations from the Crater Health District, we may implement a short-term dismissal for potentially affected students and staff to allow for health officials to gain a better understanding of the COVID-19 situation.
- We will communicate dismissal decisions to staff, parents, and students as needed.
- School nurse(s) will assist the Crater Health District with contact tracing.
- Students or staff members will be notified if they have been in close contact with a person diagnosed with COVID-19 and will be required to stay home and self-monitor symptoms.
- If there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 in a school, the facility may be shut down if the health department or superintendent deems doing so is appropriate. This decision will be made with the assistance of the Crater Health District Epidemiologist.

Appendix B - Isolation, Quarantine, and Fully Vaccinated Guidelines

Isolation. Isolation is the process of separating people who have tested positive for COVID-19 from people who are not sick, even in their own home. If someone has tested positive for COVID-19 the student or staff member will be isolated at home and must remain isolated until they are released from isolation by the Crater Health Department. **For both students and staff members who have tested positive for COVID-19, in order to reenter Surry County Public Schools a 14 day quarantine is mandatory from your positive test date.**

Quarantine. Quarantine is the process of keeping someone who was in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 away from others. If an unvaccinated student or staff member has been in close contact with a person who has COVID-19 while they are contagious, they too need to be quarantined. People who are in quarantine should stay home and monitor their health closely in case they become ill. **For both students and staff members, in order to reenter Surry County Public Schools, a clearance letter from a Healthcare provider or Primary Care Physician, or a Negative COVID-19 test must be submitted at the end of your 14 day quarantine period.**

Fully Vaccinated Staff and Students. Fully vaccinated staff and students are expected to maintain all mitigation measures at all times while on Surry County Public Schools grounds. In the event you are notified you have been exposed to a positive case of COVID-19, you **are not required to quarantine.** It is recommended that you monitor yourself for symptoms from the time of notification. If you become symptomatic **you must begin quarantine and test no sooner than five days from when symptoms began.** Notify your designated school nurse immediately. Your positive test results must be submitted to your school nurse.

Appendix C: Student and Staff Symptom Checker

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

The attached charts have been provided to assist with monitoring for 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) for the 14 days since the last possible exposure. Please use them to record your temperature twice daily and any symptoms, should they occur. Measure your temperature twice a day (once in the morning and once in the evening) and record the temperatures on the log that you have been given. It is good to take your temperature at around the same times each morning and evening. Do not eat or drink anything for 30 minutes before taking your temperature, and do not take any fever-lowering medications (aspirin, Tylenol, Aleve, etc.).

People with COVID-19 usually have mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of fever, cough, shortness of breath. Some people have other symptoms, including chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell. Not everyone with COVID-19 will have all symptoms and fever might not be present. These symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure.

If you feel feverish or develop mild symptoms (e.g., cough, sore throat), stay home, rest, and separate yourself from other people in your home as much as possible. Most people sick with COVID-19 develop mild symptoms that get better without medical help. By staying home, you reduce the chance of spreading the illness to others, including healthcare workers who are needed to care for the more seriously ill.

- If you are at a **higher risk of getting very sick with COVID-19** (e.g., 65 years or older or have other health issues like chronic lung disease, heart disease, diabetes, cancer, or a weakened immune system) or if your illness is getting worse (e.g., difficulty breathing or persistent fever after using fever-reducing medication), call your healthcare provider
- If possible, and if it is not a medical emergency, you should have a family member or a friend drive you in a private car. Do not take public transportation (such as a train, subway/metro, bus, taxi). Carry any paperwork (for example: fever chart and local health department contact information) with you so you can show them when you arrive at the emergency department.
- If you become very ill and it is a medical emergency, call 9-1-1. Tell the operator about your travel history or exposure to someone sick with COVID-19 and symptoms and let the ambulance crew know when they arrive.

You may wish to record contact information for your healthcare provider, the health department, and a local emergency department for easy reference if you become ill or if you have questions. Local Health Department:

- ❖ Name: _____
- ❖ Phone Number: _____
- Healthcare Provider:
 - ❖ Name: _____
 - ❖ Phone Number: _____
- Local Emergency Department:
 - ❖ Name: _____
 - ❖ Phone Number: _____

Surry County Public School Student and Staff Daily Monitoring Log for COVID-19

Please complete the table below, recording temperature and symptoms each day. For each symptom listed, indicate "Y" for "Yes" and "N" for "No". Day 1, Day 2, etc. corresponds with the number of days since your last known exposure to the virus.

Name (Last, First): _____ Date to complete monitoring (14 days following last potential exposure): _____

	DATE						
	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
Medications taken today? *	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
If Yes, List:							
Temperature (morning)	°F	°F	°F	°F	°F	°F	°F
Temperature (evening)	°F	°F	°F	°F	°F	°F	°F
Felt Feverish?	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
Chills?	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
Rigors or Shivering?	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
Muscle Aches?	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
Fatigue (tiredness)?	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
Runny Nose?	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
Congested or stuffy nose?	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
Sore Throat?	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
Cough, (new or worsening of a chronic cough)?	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
Wheezing?	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
Shortness of Breath?	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
Difficulty Breathing?	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
Nausea or Vomiting?	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
Headache?	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
Abdominal (gut) Pain or Tenderness?	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
Chest Pain?	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
Diarrhea-(3 or more loose or looser stools in a 24-hour period)?	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
Loss of Appetite?	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
New Smell Disorder or Loss of Smell?	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
New Taste Disorder or Loss of Taste?	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N

*List all medications taken today, include fever-reducing medications, such as (Aspirin, Advil, Motrin, Ibuprofen, Aleve, Naproxen, Tylenol, or Acetaminophen) and Steroids.

Notes/Comments: _____

Surry County Public School Student and Staff Daily Monitoring Log for COVID-19

Please complete the table below, recording temperature and symptoms each day. For each symptom listed, indicate “Y” for “Yes” and “N” for “No”. Day 1, Day 2, etc. corresponds with the number of days since your last known exposure to the virus.

Name (Last, First): _____ Date to complete monitoring (14 days following last potential exposure): _____

DATE	Day 8		Day 9		Day 10		Day 11		Day 12		Day 13		Day 14	
	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
Medications taken today? *														
If Yes, List:														
Temperature (morning)														
Temperature (evening)														
Felt Feverish?														
Chills?														
Rigors or Shivering?														
Muscle Aches?														
Fatigue (tiredness)?														
Runny Nose?														
Congested or stuffy nose?														
Sore Throat?														
Cough, (new or worsening of a chronic cough)?														
Wheezing?														
Shortness of Breath?														
Difficulty Breathing?														
Nausea or Vomiting?														
Headache?														
Abdominal (gut) Pain or Tenderness?														
Chest Pain?														
Diarrhea (3 or more loose or looser stools in a 24-hour period)?														
Loss of Appetite?														
New Smell Disorder or Loss of Smell?														
New Taste Disorder or Loss of Taste?														

* List all medications taken today, include fever-reducing medications, such as (Aspirin, Advil, Motrin, Ibuprofen, Aleve, Naproxen, Tylenol, or Acetaminophen) and Steroids.

Notes/Comments:

Appendix D: Student and Staff Symptoms Checker (Nurse Checklist)

Student Name: _____ DOB: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____ Teacher: _____

Student Complaint:

Student Health Problems:

Has the student had close contact with someone with COVID-19 within the past 10 days? _____

Student Vitals: Temperature: _____ O2: _____ HR: _____

Respiration: _____ BP: _____

Symptoms (Circle all that apply)

- Altered or Loss of Taste or Smell
- Sore Throat
- Cough
- Difficulty Getting Enough Air
 - Gasping Slow
 - Grunting Shallow Breathing
 - Wheezing Nasal Flaring
 - Rapid Breathing Retractions
- Fever (Above 100.4°F)
 - Chills Shivering
- Headache
- Muscle Aches / Body Aches
- Gastrointestinal Symptoms (Nausea, Vomiting, Diarrhea)

Glossary of Terms

1. **Close Contact-** Students determined to be in immediate proximity (3 feet to 6 feet) to the positive case will be considered a close contact and may be quarantined if they are not fully vaccinated or wearing masks. Exposure to another person's respiratory secretions (for example, coughed or sneezed on; shared a drinking glass or utensils; kissing) while they were contagious with or without a face mask will also be considered close contact (VDH, 2020).
2. **Contact Tracing-** contact tracing is the process of identification of persons who may have come into contact with an infected person and subsequent collection of further information about these contacts.
3. **Coronavirus-** A novel coronavirus is a new coronavirus that had not been previously identified. The virus causing coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), is not the same as the coronaviruses that commonly circulate among humans and cause mild illness, like the common cold.
4. **COVID-19 -** is an illness caused by a virus. This virus is a new coronavirus that has spread throughout the world. It is thought to spread mainly through close contact from person-to-person. You can become infected by coming into close contact (about 6 feet or two arm lengths) with a person who has COVID-19. You can become infected from respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. You may also contract it by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it, and then by touching your mouth, nose, or eyes.
5. **Isolation-** Isolation is the process of separating people who have tested positive for COVID-19 from people who are not sick, even in their own home.
6. **Negative Test-** A test result that indicates you probably were not infected at the time your sample was collected. However, that does not mean you will not get sick. The test result only means that you did not have COVID-19 at the time of testing.
7. **Physical Distancing-** Physical distancing means keeping a safe space between yourself and other people who are not from your household.
8. **Positive Test-** A test result correctly indicating that the infection is present in your body.
9. **Quarantine-** Quarantine separates and restricts the movement of people who were in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 away from others to see if they become sick.
10. **Symptoms -** COVID-19 symptoms include fever (100.4 degrees or higher), chills, fatigue, headache, muscle aches, cough, nasal congestion, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, shortness of breath, abdominal pain, diarrhea, nausea or vomiting etc.