

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: August 18, 2021

SUBJECT: Health Department – Request for School Health Nurse Project Positions

PRESENTER: Steve Smith, Health Director

ATTACHMENTS: Yes

1. Henderson County Public Schools August 9, 2021 Return to Learn PPT

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

On August 2, 2021 during a special called meeting, the Henderson County Board of Public Education made a decision to pursue additional full time school nurse positions based in the Department of Public Health to support COVID-19 response duties within the school system. The decision centered on every school achieving a full time nurse which would require 5 additional nurse positions (Public Health Nurse II positions).

Dr. John Bryant, School Superintendent had indicated to the board that their Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds could be utilized to pay for the positions. The arrangement would require a specific memorandum of agreement to delineate the expectations and method of reimbursement to Henderson County.

The positions would end when there is no longer a need or the funds are exhausted. No local appropriations are required.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

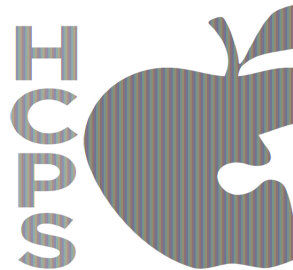
The Board is requested to approve the addition of 5 public health nurse positions for COVID-19 response in partnership with Henderson County Public Schools.

Suggested Motion:

I move the Board approve the addition of 5 public health nurses for COVID-19 response duties in Henderson County Public Schools.

Return to Learn Update

Board of Education
August 9, 2021



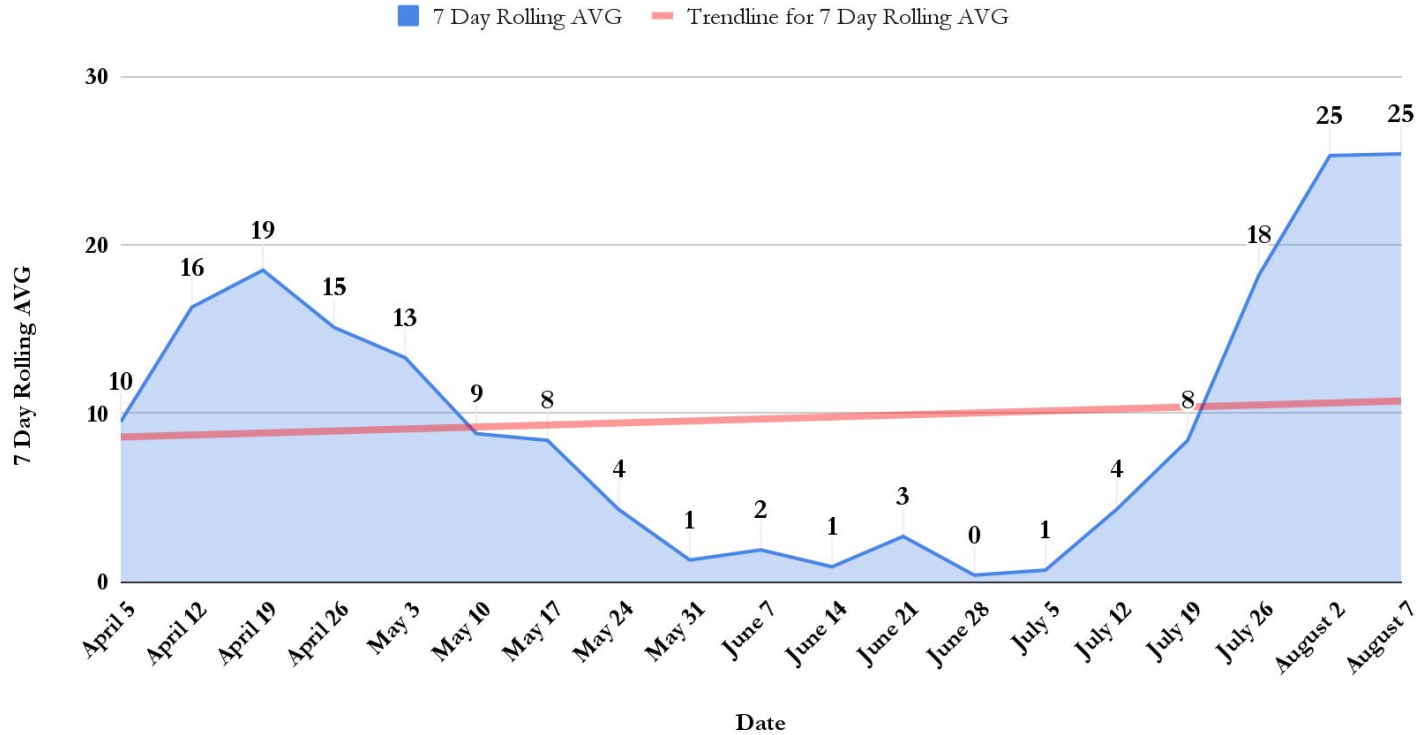


Local Health Information

Research from the Harvard Global Health Institute (HGHI) Data indicates risk levels that are calculated based on daily cases per 100,000 populations with a seven day rolling average.

Henderson County, North Carolina

7 Day Rolling AVG per 100,000



NC DHHS County Alert System Report



Metrics by County (CONTINUED)

County	Current Tier (Updated 6/5/21)	14-day Case Rate Per 100,000	14-day Percent Positive^	Hospital Impact	Previous Tier (5/22/21)
Currituck County	Low/Green	7.20	1.1%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Dare County	Significant/Yellow	59.40	3.7%	Moderate Impact	Significant/Yellow
Davidson County	Significant/Yellow	103.80	6.1%	Slight Impact	Significant/Yellow
Davie County	Low/Green	74.70	2.6%	Low Impact	Significant/Yellow
Duplin County	Significant/Yellow	47.70	2.8%	Medium Impact	Significant/Yellow
Durham County	Moderate/Light Yellow	42.90	1.3%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Edgecombe County	Moderate/Light Yellow	91.30	3.9%	Slight Impact	Significant/Yellow
Forsyth County	Moderate/Light Yellow	61.70	3.0%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Franklin County	Significant/Yellow	84.70	4.0%	Medium Impact	Significant/Yellow
Gaston County	Substantial/Orange	111.80	3.6%	Moderate Impact	Substantial/Orange
Gates County	Moderate/Light Yellow	43.20	3.8%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Graham County	Moderate/Light Yellow	379.10	1.6%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Granville County	Moderate/Light Yellow	14.90	0.2%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Greene County	Moderate/Light Yellow	189.90	3.3%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Guilford County	Significant/Yellow	81.50	2.9%	Medium Impact	Significant/Yellow
Halifax County	Moderate/Light Yellow	108.00	3.9%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Harnett County	Significant/Yellow	108.80	5.2%	Medium Impact	Significant/Yellow
Haywood County	Moderate/Light Yellow	88.30	4.8%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Henderson County	Low/Green	38.30	2.3%	Low Impact	Low/Green
Hertford County	Moderate/Light Yellow	16.90	0.9%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Hoke County	Significant/Yellow	115.90	7.2%	Medium Impact	Substantial/Orange



As of June 10, 2021

NC DHHS County Alert System Report



Metrics by County (CONTINUED)

County	Current Tier (Updated 6/19/21)	14-day Case Rate Per 100,000	14-day Percent Positive ^A	Hospital Impact	Previous Tier (6/5/21)
Currituck County	Moderate/Light Yellow	14.40	1.9%	Slight Impact	Low/Green
Dare County	Significant/Yellow	78.40	2.3%	Moderate Impact	Significant/Yellow
Davidson County	Moderate/Light Yellow	60.30	3.5%	Slight Impact	Significant/Yellow
Davie County	Low/Green	37.30	2.5%	Low Impact	Low/Green
Duplin County	Significant/Yellow	44.30	2.6%	Medium Impact	Significant/Yellow
Durham County	Moderate/Light Yellow	25.50	0.9%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Edgecombe County	Significant/Yellow	52.50	2.4%	Medium Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Forsyth County	Moderate/Light Yellow	42.60	2.0%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Franklin County	Significant/Yellow	33.00	1.5%	Medium Impact	Significant/Yellow
Gaston County	Significant/Yellow	81.10	3.5%	Moderate Impact	Substantial/Orange
Gates County	Moderate/Light Yellow	34.60	2.0%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Graham County	Significant/Yellow	213.20	6.7%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Granville County	Moderate/Light Yellow	13.20	0.3%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Greene County	Moderate/Light Yellow	123.40	2.6%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Guilford County	Significant/Yellow	36.30	1.3%	Medium Impact	Significant/Yellow
Halifax County	Moderate/Light Yellow	48.00	2.5%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Harnett County	Significant/Yellow	64.00	3.4%	Medium Impact	Significant/Yellow
Haywood County	Low/Green	35.30	1.8%	Low Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Henderson County	Low/Green	37.50	1.3%	Low Impact	Low/Green
Hertford County	Low/Green	8.40	1.2%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Hoke County	Moderate/Light Yellow	63.40	3.5%	Slight Impact	Significant/Yellow



As of June 24, 2021

NC DHHS County Alert System Report



Metrics by County (CONTINUED)

County	Current Tier (Updated 7/17/21)	14-day Case Rate Per 100,000	14-day Percent Positive [^]	Hospital Impact	Previous Tier (7/3/21)
Currituck County	Moderate/Light Yellow	54.00	2.7%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Dare County	Significant/Yellow	181.00	5.6%	Medium Impact	Significant/Yellow
Davidson County	Moderate/Light Yellow	52.50	3.6%	Low Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Davie County	Significant/Yellow	107.40	7.1%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Duplin County	Significant/Yellow	166.80	7.6%	Medium Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Durham County	Moderate/Light Yellow	72.20	2.7%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Edgecombe County	Moderate/Light Yellow	103.00	4.6%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Forsyth County	Moderate/Light Yellow	56.80	2.6%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Franklin County	Significant/Yellow	41.60	2.8%	Medium Impact	Significant/Yellow
Gaston County	Significant/Yellow	77.10	4.0%	Moderate Impact	Significant/Yellow
Gates County	Moderate/Light Yellow	60.50	3.6%	Slight Impact	Low/Green
Graham County	Substantial/Orange	284.30	12.5%	Slight Impact	Significant/Yellow
Granville County	Moderate/Light Yellow	51.30	1.1%	Slight Impact	Significant/Yellow
Greene County	Moderate/Light Yellow	75.90	1.9%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Guilford County	Significant/Yellow	62.90	2.4%	Medium Impact	Significant/Yellow
Halifax County	Moderate/Light Yellow	84.00	3.0%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Harnett County	Significant/Yellow	148.60	7.7%	Medium Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Haywood County	Moderate/Light Yellow	94.70	4.6%	Slight Impact	Low/Green
Henderson County	Low/Green	86.90	2.6%	Low Impact	Low/Green
Hertford County	Significant/Yellow	38.00	5.2%	Slight Impact	Moderate/Light Yellow
Hoke County	Substantial/Orange	144.80	8.0%	Medium Impact	Significant/Yellow



As of July 22, 2021

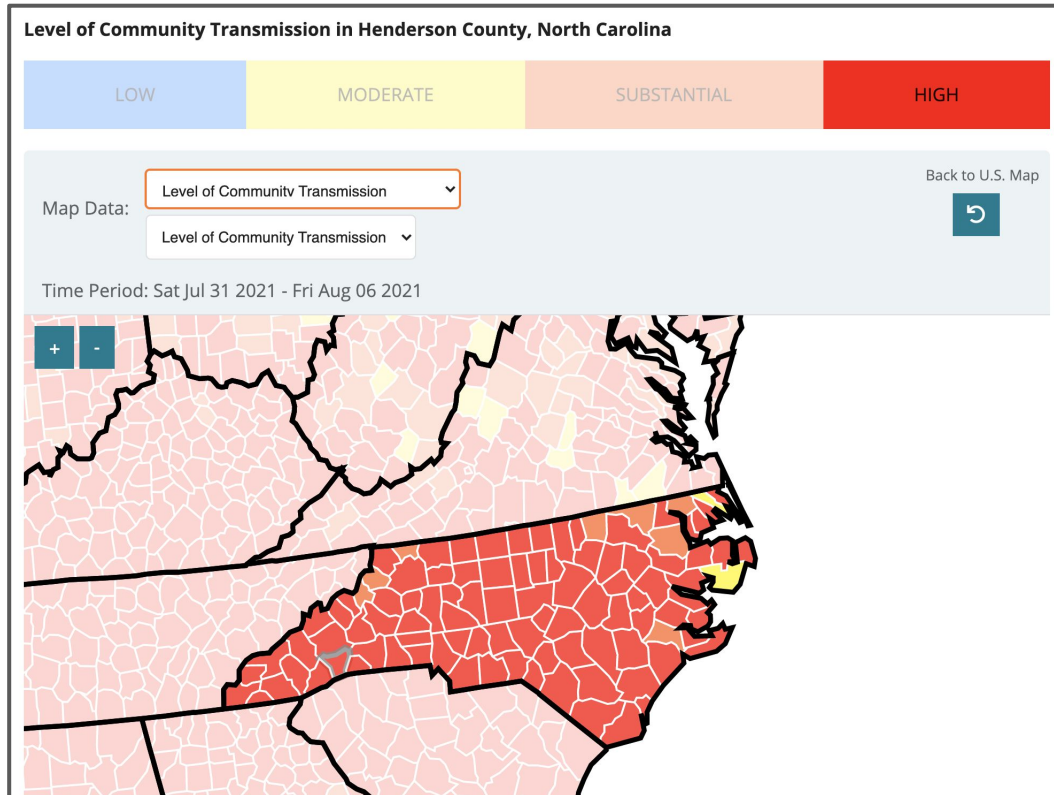


NC DHHS County Alert System Report

Beginning Aug. 6, 2021, NCDHHS transitioned to using the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's COVID-19 Community Transmission Map](#) to monitor COVID-19 activity in North Carolina counties.

This map is updated daily and uses a combination of total cases per 100,000 population and percent positivity in the last 7 days to measure the level of community transmission in counties.

CDC COVID Data Tracker



HCPS District Dashboard



[PARENTS](#) [STUDENTS](#) [STAFF](#) [CAREERS](#) [NEWSROOM](#) [DISTRICT](#) [EDUCATION FOUNDATION](#)

[Online Enrollment 2021-2022 \(Kindergarten through 12th Grade\)](#)

[Register for Virtual Learning Option \(VLO\)](#)

[Submit Public Comment For 08/09/21 Board of Education Meeting](#)



Calendars



COVID Dashboard



Menus



Parent Portal



Jobs



Transcripts



Tip Lines

What To Expect When There is a COVID-19 Case in a School

HCPS **WILL**

- ✓ Send a SwiftK12 call to all families in the school when there is a positive case (staff or student)
- ✓ Partner with the Henderson County Department of Public Health for contact tracing
- ✓ Provide as transparent reporting as possible while still protecting confidentiality
- ✓ Temporarily close areas where the infected person spent time for extra cleaning
- ✓ Monitor symptoms of students and staff, as well as case counts
- ✓ Send students and staff home when they are ill
- ✓ Continue to teach and learn from home when under quarantine
- ✓ Continue to provide important health and safety information to families

Health Department **WILL**

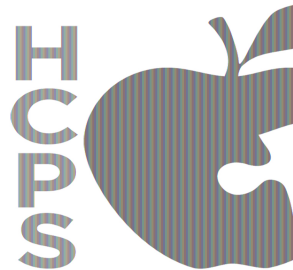
- ✓ Conduct contact tracing to identify potential exposure on campus based on proximity, time together, and lack of face covering
- ✓ Notify any person identified as a close contact, instruct them to self-quarantine, and provide further guidance on quarantine and testing

We **WILL NOT**

- ✗ Provide personally identifiable information of an infected person
- ✗ Immediately close schools for a positive case

StrongSchoolsNC Toolkit

Last Updated July 29, 2021



StrongSchools NC Public Health Toolkit (K-12)



The StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit was updated on July 21 to align to the CDC Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools updated on July 9, 2021.

The provisions of this Toolkit became effective July 30th at 5pm.

StrongSchools NC Public Health Toolkit (K-12)



Summary of the major updates to the Toolkit from the previous version:

- Each section of the Toolkit has been organized into categories that prioritize implementation of the strategies that have been shown to be most effective in lowering the risk of COVID-19 exposure and spread in school sessions and school activities.
- Strategies that **SHOULD** be implemented by all schools. These are strategies that, if not implemented, create conditions of high risk for COVID-19 exposure and spread. NCDHHS strongly advises that school leaders adopt all the strategies in the **SHOULD** sections.
- Strategies that school leaders **COULD CONSIDER** adopting. These are strategies to provide additional layers of prevention and that, if implemented, will further reduce the risk of COVID-19 exposure and spread.

StrongSchools NC Public Health Toolkit (K-12)



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- Strategies that school leaders **COULD** CONSIDER adopting. These are strategies to provide additional layers of prevention and that, if implemented, will further reduce the risk of COVID-19 exposure and spread.

StrongSchools NC Public Health Toolkit (K-12)



Operational Flexibility and Planning for Different Scenarios

The Toolkit has been updated to provide school leaders with greater flexibility in implementing the layered prevention strategies based on current COVID-19 trends and updated CDC guidance. School leaders should continue to consult with local public health officials for input on community transmission and vaccine uptake to make local decisions.

School leaders should continue to maintain plans for different potential scenarios depending on what restrictions are deemed necessary by state or local public health leaders at any time in the school year to control the spread of the disease.

StrongSchools NC Public Health Toolkit (K-12)



Strategies that SHOULD be implemented by all schools. These are strategies that, if not implemented, create conditions of high risk for COVID-19 exposure and spread.

NCDHHS strongly advises that school leaders adopt all the strategies in the SHOULD sections.

StrongSchools NC Public Health Toolkit (K-12)



If a school does not require all individuals to wear a mask, they should ensure a layered mitigation strategy, including physical distancing, ventilation, hand hygiene, adequate access to diagnostic and screening testing and closely monitor for increases in COVID-19 cases.



What are We NOT Doing?

- ❑ HCPS does not require all children and staff in schools K-12th grade to wear face coverings consistently when indoors. Face coverings for all HCPS students, staff, and visitors are optional, beginning August 23, 2021.
- ❑ HCPS does not require teachers and staff to report vaccination status.
- ❑ HCPS does not require teachers and staff who are unvaccinated, or do not disclose vaccine status, participate in screening/testing programs.
- ❑ HCPS has not incorporated a screening testing strategy consistent with CDC recommendations, including required screening testing for unvaccinated teachers and staff.

StrongSchools NC Public Health Toolkit (K-12)



Quarantine is required for an individual who has been a close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes cumulatively over a 24-hour period) of someone who is determined positive with COVID-19 either through testing or symptom consistent diagnosis, with the following three exceptions:

- Individuals who are fully vaccinated and do not have symptoms do NOT need to quarantine after a close contact. Individual should get tested 3-5 days after exposure and wear a mask around others until receiving a negative test result.

StrongSchools NC Public Health Toolkit (K-12)



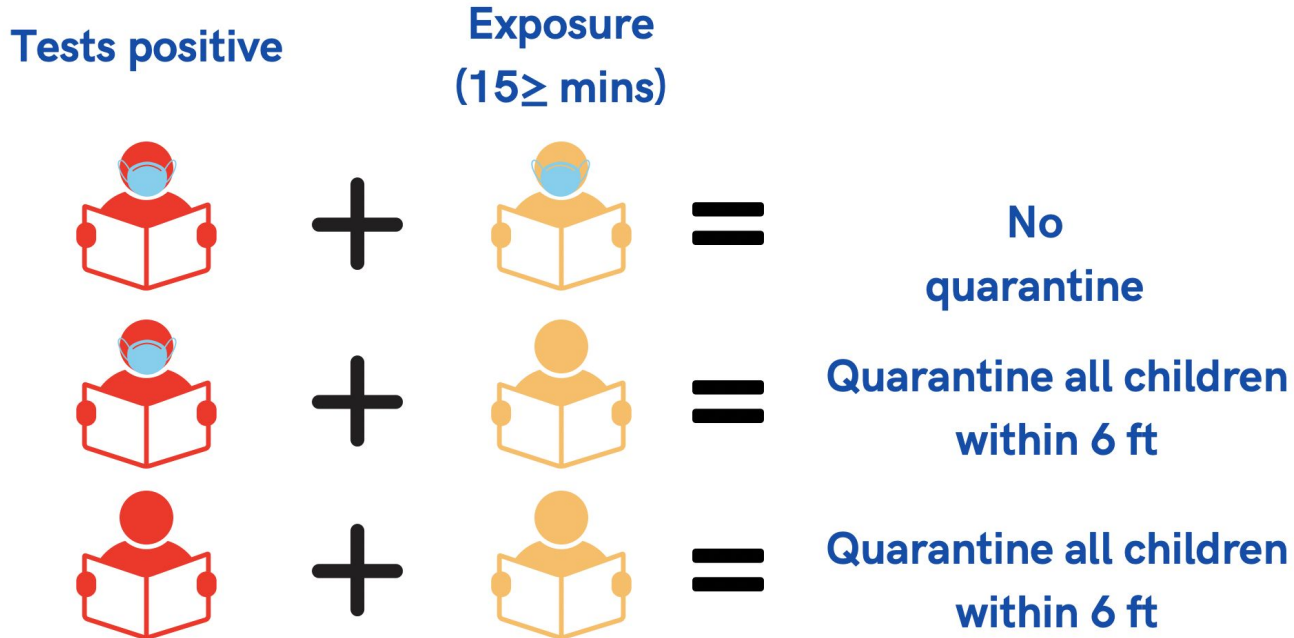
Quarantine is required for an individual who has been a close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes cumulatively over a 24-hour period) of someone who is determined positive with COVID-19 either through testing or symptom consistent diagnosis, with the following three exceptions:

- People who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 3 months and recovered and do not have symptoms do NOT have to quarantine.
- Students who are not fully vaccinated after a close contact in a classroom or other school setting if masks were being worn appropriately and consistently by both the person with COVID-19 and the potentially exposed person do NOT need to quarantine.

Quarantine Protocols (HCDPH)







Quarantine for Exposures



Quarantine Protocols (HCDPH)



Shortened Quarantine for Exposures

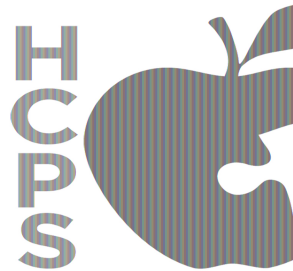
	+	Negative test, no symptoms	=	7 day quarantine, return day 8
	+	No test, no symptoms	=	10 day quarantine, return day 11
	+	Negative test, no symptoms	=	14 day quarantine
	+	No test, no symptoms	=	14 day quarantine

School Nurse Support



- ❑ Commit to the allocation of ESSER funds to provide HCDPH the resources to hire one full-time school nurse for each school campus
- ❑ Commitment would be for 5 additional school nurse positions
- ❑ Provide this funding through September 2024
- ❑ Immediately communicate this commitment to the Board of Commissioners and Henderson County leadership

Virtual Learning Option





Virtual Learning Option (K-8)

- Launched online registration for students in grades K through 8
- In process of hiring staff to provide virtual learning, exclusively
- Requiring families to commit to at least one semester
- Students will be served across the school district
- School day will mirror RLO under Plan C
- May include blended grade levels based on staffing
- Not a hybrid option
- Not available to students under quarantine



Virtual Learning Option (9-12)

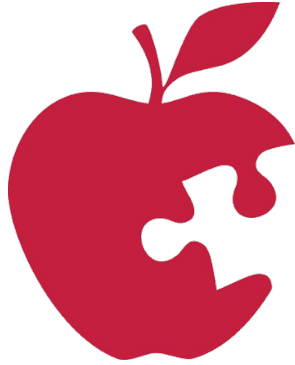
- Registering online and then with school counselor*
- Continue to provide online asynchronous courses via
 - HCVPS
 - NCVPS
 - Edmentum
- Require families to commit to a full semester
- Students will be served across the school district
- Not a hybrid option
- Not available to students under quarantine

**Must have previously demonstrated success in virtual learning*



Summary Thoughts

- Plans will continue to be fluid models and contingent on local health data.
- We will continue to work in close coordination with the Henderson County Department of Public Health and local partner agencies.
- We will respond to questions, concerns, and updated direction from NCDPI, NCDHHS, and other state governing bodies.
- We will continue meeting the instructional obligation to all students everyday.



**HENDERSON COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**