



SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY SCHOOLS

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Dr. Gwendolyn P. Shannon, Division Superintendent

**Dr. Deborah Goodwyn, Chair
James D. Pope, III, Vice-Chair**

July 28, 2020

For Immediate Release

Southampton County School Board convened July 27, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. for a Special Called School Board Meeting to discuss the reopening of school for the 2020-2021 academic school year. Dr. Gwendolyn Shannon, Division Superintendent, presented "Re-Engaging & Re-Imagining Teaching and Learning Plan for Reopening Schools." Dr. Shannon recommended to the school board that schools open this fall 100% virtually for the first nine weeks. Dr. Shannon's decision was based partially on the following: the health, safety, and well-being of the students and staff; careful consideration of the pros and cons of reopening school for in-person instruction; and, working closely with Dr. Todd Wagner, Director of the Western Tidewater Health District, a review of the most recent publicly available COVID-19 trend data, the number of cases, and community spread. She believed it to be in the best interest of students, staff, and the community to err on the side of health, safety, and caution. The school board approved her recommendation. This matter will be reevaluated prior to the end of the first nine weeks.

Board of Education

Berlin/Ivor District Florence W. Reynolds	Boykins District Dr. Carolyn Modlin	Capron District James D. Pope, III	Drewryville District Donna Rountree	Franklin District Lynn J. Bradley	Jerusalem District Christopher Smith, Sr.	Newsoms District Denise B. Bunn	At Large Dr. Deborah Goodwyn William Worsham
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