



SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY SCHOOLS

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Dr. Gwendolyn P. Shannon, Division Superintendent

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

March 13, 2020

Dear Southampton County Public School Division Families:

Southampton County Public School Division has taken a proactive stance to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic to minimize the spread of illness. The school division is continuously monitoring and communicating with the Virginia Department of Health (VDH), Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to remain current on the status of Coronavirus.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

A comprehensive cleaning and disinfecting plan of all Southampton County Public School Division facilities and vehicles was developed on Monday, March 9, 2020. Schools and offices were provided with an ample supply of Clorox wipes and Lysol spray and the school division purchased two electrostatic sprayers to treat surfaces throughout the division. The division superintendent sent a letter to all staff requesting their assistance in the prevention of the spread of germs and viruses. The preventative cleaning and disinfecting plan includes:

Follow the CDC recommendations to avoid illness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Avoid close contact with people who are sick. - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. - Stay home when you are sick. - Cover your cough or sneeze with tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Cough or sneeze in your sleeve if no tissue is available. - Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces. - Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. - Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.
School staff have been provided with disinfecting supplies, Lysol spray and Clorox wipes, to maintain a sanitized learning environment.	<p>Wipe down and spray each day and between classes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Door handles - Desks - Light Switches - Water Fountains - Restroom Sinks - Cafeteria Surfaces, Tables, and Keypads
School division drivers, bus and vehicle, provided with disinfecting supplies.	<p>Wipe down and spray each day and between runs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seats and seat backs - Handles and railings - Consoles

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<p>Electrostatic Sprayer. (Electrostatic spray is a specialized solution that is combined with air and atomized by an electrode inside the sprayer. Subsequently, the spray contains positively charged particles that are able to adhere to and coat surfaces and objects. The solution within the sprayers is able to kill Coronavirus as well as other viruses and germs.)</p>	<p>To date, the following has been sprayed or scheduled to be sprayed:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">Southampton High School</td> <td>March 11 & 12, 2020</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nottoway Elementary School</td> <td>March 12, 2020</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Southampton Middle School</td> <td>March 13, 2020</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capron Elementary School</td> <td>March 13, 2020</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Meherrin Elementary School</td> <td>March 13, 2020</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Riverdale Elementary School</td> <td>Afternoon of March 13, 2020</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fresh Start Center</td> <td>Afternoon of March 13, 2020</td> </tr> </table> <p>Schools will continue to be sprayed on a routine basis throughout the pandemic.</p> <p>21 vehicles have received electrostatic spraying. Spraying of buses and vehicles will continue until all vehicles are sprayed. Vehicles will continue to be sprayed on a routine basis throughout the pandemic.</p>	Southampton High School	March 11 & 12, 2020	Nottoway Elementary School	March 12, 2020	Southampton Middle School	March 13, 2020	Capron Elementary School	March 13, 2020	Meherrin Elementary School	March 13, 2020	Riverdale Elementary School	Afternoon of March 13, 2020	Fresh Start Center	Afternoon of March 13, 2020
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ATTENDANCE

At this time, Southampton County Public School Division will operate on a regular schedule. Students are strongly encouraged to stay home if they are sick. Students should not return to school until they are symptom free without medication for 24 hours. For students who are sick and remain at home and students who are kept at home due to compromised immune systems or health issues, the following will be provided:

<p>Students who are Absent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students who are sick. - Students whose parents choose to keep them home. 	<p>Administration and teachers will provide a continuity of learning by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Providing assignments. - Utilizing distance learning. - Sending self-directed learning activities and staff prepared lesson materials. - Opportunity to make up work that must be completed at the school. - iPads and laptops will be provided, as available. - Breakfast and lunch provided each school day at no cost upon request. - Absences will be marked as school approved. - Absences during the pandemic will not be counted toward attendance awards.
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SOCIAL DISTANCING

In an effort to practice social distancing, Southampton County Public School Division has enacted the following procedures:

<p>Suspension of All After-School Activities</p>	<p>Effective Saturday, March 14, 2020, until further notice, all after-school activities and events have been suspended.</p>
<p>Suspension of Travel</p>	<p>Effective Saturday, March 14, 2020, until further notice, all school related travel is suspended until further notice.</p>



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INSTRUCTION

Southampton County Public School Division faculty and staff are currently making preparations in the event that a school division closure occurs. Teachers have developed packets for students to maintain and practice learned curriculum and skills. There are online activities available as well.

Paper and Pencil Lessons and Activities	Many of the plans and activities are paper and pencil and will be provided in packet form. These lessons and activities are the only assignments required.
Online Programs	Lessons through programs such as Schoology, Edmentum, Study Island, IXL, Google Classroom, and Accelerated Reader will be available for students as well. Students may use the following link to access programs as they do at school: https://www.southampton.k12.va.us/instructionalhome.htm

MEALS

In the event that a school division closure occurs, the Food Services Department will provide meals in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) format. Meals will be available to everyone under the age of 18 in a household provided one child in the household attends Southampton County Public Schools. Location(s) will be determined at a later date if there is a school division closure.

Southampton County Public School Division will maintain our vigilance in our preventative measures for the safety, health, and well-being of our students and staff. We encourage everyone whether at home or at school to be vigilant in practicing the CDC recommendations to avoiding illness.

We will continually monitor the pandemic in our area and work with our supporting agencies to make informed and responsible decisions. Information and updates will be shared through Instant Alert, letters, social media, and the Remind app. It is our hope that through an awareness and implementation of preventative measures, our Southampton County Public School Division family will stay healthy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G Shannon".

Gwendolyn Shannon, Ph.D.
Division Superintendent