



SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY SCHOOLS

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Dr. Gwendolyn P. Shannon, Division Superintendent

Dr. Deborah Goodwyn, Chair
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

As concerns regarding COVID-19, more commonly known as Coronavirus, are rising, Southampton County Public School Division is carefully monitoring and addressing preventative measures for the school division. According to the Virginia Department of Health (VDH), “Virginia has two presumptive positive cases of COVID-19.” While these cases are not in our area, we are extremely aware and cautious of the ability of this virus to quickly spread.

Currently, Southampton County Public School Division is in constant communication with our local health department and is checking with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Virginia Department of Health (VDH), and Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) for regular updates.

VDOE has encouraged all school divisions to follow preventative measures recommended by the CDC which are as follows: 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; clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces; wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; and use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Southampton County Public School Division will maintain our vigilance in our preventative measures to protect our students and staff. To prevent the spread of germs and viruses, the school division is taking the following precautionary measures: regularly wiping down frequently touched surfaces with disinfectant to include desks, door handles, communal areas of the schools, buses and vehicles; encouraging hand washing for 20 seconds; using tissues, or sleeves when tissues are not available, when coughing or sneezing.

Additionally, Southampton County Public School Division has purchased two Victory Electrostatic Backpack Sprayers. 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 a host of other viruses and germs. Spraying of all Southampton County Public School Division buildings, buses, and vehicles will begin with the arrival of the backpacks this week.

Southampton County Public School Division has sent letters to students, families and staff asking that everyone be vigilant in following the recommended preventative measures. It is our hope that through an awareness and implementation of preventative measures, our community will stay healthy.

Gwendolyn Shannon, Ph.D.
Division Superintendent

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