

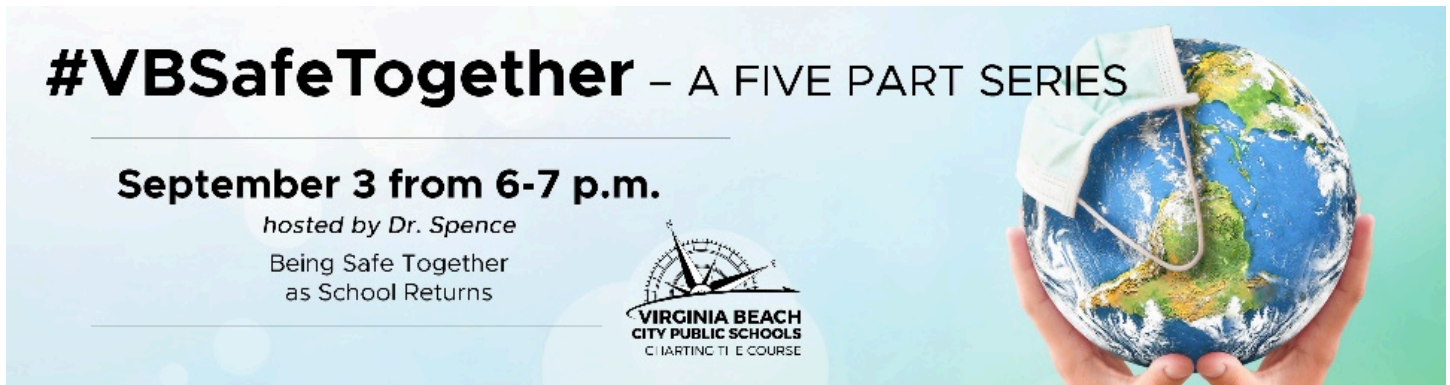
Dear VBCPS families-

[Mañana estará disponible una versión en español de esta carta.](#)

Happy Labor Day weekend! We hope you can spend some safe, quality time with your family before we kick off the 2020-21 school year Tuesday, Sept. 8. Before the long weekend begins, we have a couple of updates to share.

### #VBSafeTogether

This evening, we're hosting the final information session of our popular series about the [Fall 2020 Plan](#). Tonight's event is hosted by Superintendent Dr. Aaron Spence, who will be joined by leadership staff as they answer questions from families and staff. It starts at 6, we hope [you'll join us](#)! If you have missed any of these events, you can watch them via our [VBSchools YouTube channel](#) or on our [Fall 2020 Plan website](#).



**#VBSafeTogether – A FIVE PART SERIES**

**September 3 from 6-7 p.m.**  
*hosted by Dr. Spence*  
Being Safe Together  
as School Returns

**VIRGINIA BEACH  
CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
COURTESY OF THE COURSE

### School Starts Tuesday, Sept. 8

To make sure your family is ready for Tuesday, here are a couple of suggestions for weekend activities:

- Teachers will post a welcome message in their Schoology Welcome or Course Information folder by Friday. Please have your child(ren) log in to their Chromebook and open Schoology to verify they can see their courses for the new year. There may not be any assignments yet; however, there should be a welcome message with the first day of school information. Based on the schedule the student received, if there appears to be a course missing, please contact your home school.
- Check your child's schedule, as changes may have been made during the week based on your requests. Sample schedules [are posted here](#), and the elementary, middle and high school schedules are attached to this email.
- Locate the folder that will contain the meeting join codes from GoogleMeet or Zoom. It takes 24 hours for a change to be visible in the system.
- In the 'remote' learning space you created last weekend, post your child's schedule, and set timers on devices so as not to be late for classes.
- Acquire a paper planner to assist with recording and tracking assignments. If students prefer a digital calendar to track assignments, teachers will be posting work in the student's Schoology calendar.

Labor Day Monday is a perfect time to set out all first-day materials and test the microphone/headset one more time.

### Day One, 2020-21

Have a great first day with your teachers and peers! Please tag your first-day photos with #VBDayOne. Please have patience with your colleagues, teachers, tools and resources. Remember that even when we're all together in the classrooms, glitches happen on the first day of school, so they will happen in the virtual environment too.

If you have any difficulty, please email your child's teacher about the issue you are having, and they will start the support process. For helpful tips to resolve the most frequent technology problems, please visit the [Department of Technology support website](#).

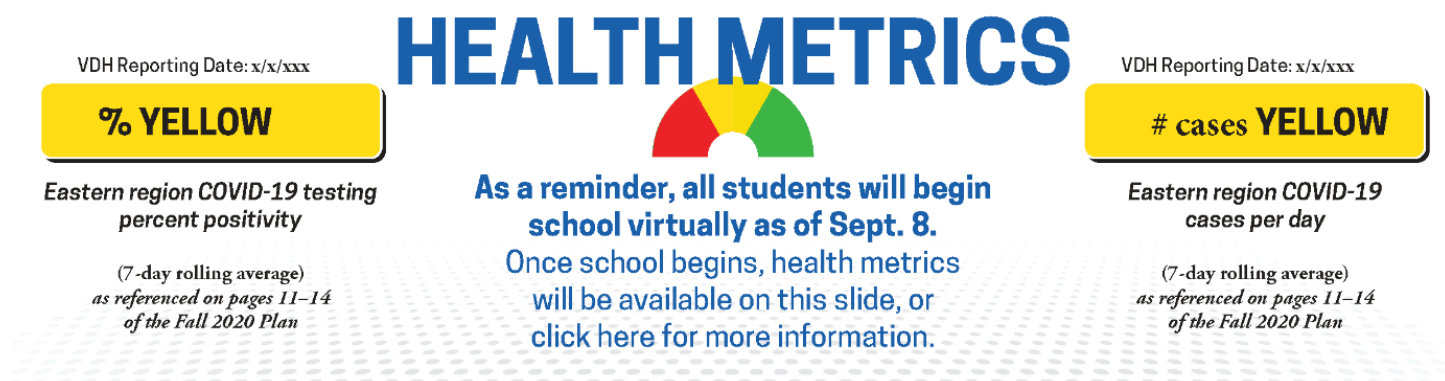
*We are all in this together, and we will work through this together.*

## Food Services Update

The USDA has just announced that they will extend our ability to provide meal service at no charge for all families at all VBCPS schools. This will work as it did during the summer, with bagged meals provided Monday through Friday, 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., with the Friday bag containing meals for Saturday and Sunday. If a different pickup time is needed, please contact the cafeteria manager at your child's school to make other arrangements. To maintain the safety guidelines recommended by the Centers for Disease Control, meals will be provided using a drive by/pickup model. They will be bagged and include both a breakfast and lunch. Children enrolled at the Safe Learning Centers and in the VB Parks and Rec program will eat for free. This service may change when students return to face-to-face instruction, and we will keep you updated.

## Following Health Metrics

You should see this on the vbschools.com homepage now. *It is an example* and will be updated regularly beginning Sept. 8.



As we established in [our Fall 2020 Plan](#), school begins virtually for all students on Sept. 8. We will monitor the data and, once all indicators are green or yellow for a minimum of 14 days, we will initiate a plan to phase from virtual to face-to-face instruction for students in identified grades whose parents chose Option 1.

	PK-5, 6, 9	7-8, 10-12	Designated Students
Red Positivity / Red Cases	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual
Red Positivity / Green Cases	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual
Red Positivity / Yellow Cases	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual
Yellow Positivity / Red Cases	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual
Green Positivity / Red Cases	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual
Yellow Positivity / Yellow Cases	In-person	Virtual to In-person	In-person
Green Positivity / Yellow Cases	In-person	Virtual to In-person	In-person
Yellow Positivity / Green Cases	In-person	Virtual to In-person	In-person
Green Positivity / Green Cases	In-person	In-person	In-person

There are several important considerations for using a 14-day wait period. Test-result reporting from the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) runs in seven-day cycles. Our medical advisory panel recommended using two of those seven-day cycles – or 14 days– to ensure there was not an oddity or outlying group of test results that might skew the Eastern Region data one way or the other. Our medical professionals agree that two cycles are a more accurate snapshot of community transmission.

To be clear, the 14-day window is not meant to serve as a timeframe for when school buildings are open or closed. It's a medically-endorsed method of tracking a trend in health metrics so we can make plans for being virtual, face-to-face or some combination of both. Also, logistically, we need a minimum of 14 days to notify staff and to prepare our bus fleet and school buildings for a transition from all virtual to in-person instruction for Option 1 students in select grades.

We will inform you through our website and the AlertNow system once a date has been determined for a transition from virtual instruction to in-person instruction for the Option 1 students in selected grades. Please make sure your contact information is up-to-date at your child's school so you will receive these updates.

### Self-screening information

Of course our goal is to bring everyone back to the classrooms once it's safer and we're in the Green/Green zone. Whether you are a student, parent, volunteer, teacher or other member of the VBCPS staff, this poster (also attached to this email) outlines what will become the first part of your daily routine as you get ready to come to school or work.

# COVID-19 SELF-SCREENING QUESTIONS

Please ask yourself the following questions **BEFORE** entering a VBCPS school or building:



## 1

**Are you experiencing any of the following symptoms that cannot be attributed to another health condition?**

- Fever, temperature of 100.4°F or higher (in the past 24 hours)
- A new cough
- Shortness of breath
- Chills and/or body shaking
- A new sore throat
- A change in senses of smell and/or taste
- Headache
- Muscle or body aches

If you answered **YES** to any of these questions, you ***should not*** enter the building.

## 2

**Have you taken medication to lower your temperature in the past 72 hours?**

### EMPLOYEES

If you answered **YES** before reporting to work, please stay home and contact your supervisor.

## 3

**Have you been in close contact with anyone in the last 14 days who has been sick with COVID-19?**

### PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS

Know how COVID-19 is spread	Practice social distancing	Prevent the spread of COVID-19	Know your risk for severe illness	Practice proper hygiene
<p>COVID-19 is primarily spread from person to person. You can become infected by coming into close contact with a person who has the virus.</p> <p>The virus can transmit through respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks.</p> <p>You may also be able to get it by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it, and then by touching your mouth, nose or eyes.</p>	<p>Complete activities online whenever possible.</p> <p>If you must go in person, stay at least six feet away from others and disinfect items you must touch.</p> <p>Get deliveries and takeout, and limit in-person contact as much as possible.</p>	<p>Stay home if you are sick, except to get medical care.</p> <p>Avoid public transportation, ride-sharing, school buses or taxis.</p> <p>Separate yourself from other people and pets in your home.</p> <p>If you need medical attention, call ahead.</p>	<p>Everyone is at risk of getting COVID-19.</p> <p>Older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions may be at higher risk for more severe illness.</p> <p>Those who have traveled, either domestically or internationally, are at risk of being exposed to the virus. Upon returning from travel, monitor your health, practice social distancing, and follow state and local recommendations.</p>	<p>The best way to protect yourself is to avoid being exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19.</p> <p>Stay home when possible and avoid close contact with others.</p> <p>Wear a face covering that covers your nose and mouth in public settings.</p> <p>Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.</p> <p>Wash your hands often or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.</p>

Anytime you visit our schools or buildings, you will also see this sign, a reminder of the requirement to wear a face covering.



Here's to a safe, happy weekend and to a great first day of school!

Thank you for your support of Virginia Beach City Public Schools.

[self screening poster.jpg](#)

[Elementary Daily Virtual Schedule.pdf](#)

[MS Schedule - Virtual and F2F.pdf](#)

[High School Schedules - Virtual and F2F.pdf](#)