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School Board votes to continue COVID-19 health and safety protocols in all NPS facilities

NORFOLK, VA – During its meeting on Wednesday, January 19, the City of Norfolk School Board unanimously approved a motion to continue to adhere to the safety and health protocols outlined in Norfolk Public Schools’ [Health Mitigation Plan](#).

“As we have stated on a number of occasions, it is a top priority for NPS to provide a safe learning and work environment,” said Board Chair Dr. Adale Martin.

The board’s vote requires all who ride NPS school buses and enter its schools and other facilities to remain masked. Martin said the division will continue to adhere to other COVID safety protocols as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Virginia and Norfolk Departments of Public Health.

The NPS administration will continue to work closely with the School Board to make decisions that prioritize the health, safety, and well-being of students and staff.

Superintendent Dr. Sharon I. Byrdsong lauded the work of all NPS staff to include but not limited to building principals, teachers, school nurses, custodians, bus drivers, and school nutrition staff for keeping our scholars safe and healthy so that our schools can remain open.

“There is not one employee who should not be recognized for the tremendous job he/she is doing in keeping Norfolk Public Schools open for in-person instruction,” Dr. Byrdsong said.

Additionally, NPS will continue to work closely with its partners of the Norfolk Department of Public Health to schedule additional vaccination clinics.

“We are keeping our schools open for in-person instruction as long as we are able to do so safely,” Dr. Byrdsong said.

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Norfolk Public Schools (NPS) is on a mission to ensure that all students maximize their academic potential, develop skills for lifelong learning, and become successful contributors to a global society. We believe Norfolk Public Schools is the cornerstone of a proudly diverse community with highly qualified teachers and staff dedicated to providing diverse teaching and learning opportunities for all students.