

New Executive Order: Administrative Response & Recommendations

Thursday, Jan. 20, 2022

Timeline:

- <u>Saturday, Jan. 15:</u> Executive Order Number 2 announced; leadership staff begin reviewing impact on schools
- Sunday, Jan. 16: Families notified of new executive order, it's start date, and told VBCPS would announce any changes this week to health mitigations resulting from the order; leadership team meets to debrief initial thinking and begin planning
- Monday, Jan. 17 Thursday, Jan. 20: Leadership team meets daily and consults with VBDPH; legal counsel and DCCE talk with their counterparts in other school divisions; superintendent has multiple calls with his colleagues in Region 2 and across the state
- Thursday, Jan. 20: Administration presents to School Board and gives recommendations on how to move forward
- Monday, Jan. 24: Executive Order Number 2 goes into effect

Administrative Considerations

Option A	Option B	Option C
Make masks optional for students as a result of Executive Order 2 (EO#2)	Continue to follow SB 1303, VDH and CDC and enforce masking for all students (except those with approved exemptions) inside all school buildings. Join other school divisions in seeking injunctive action against EO#2 through the court system.	Discussion on how to accommodate EO#2 while also following SB1303 and VBDPH, AAP, and CDC guidance.

Administrative Recommendation

- Continue to adhere to SB 1303 and have universal masking in schools as part of our layered prevention strategy, while also acknowledging EO#2, which allows parents to opt out of this requirement (this means some students will be in school buildings without masks starting Jan. 24).
- All students who ride a school bus must comply with a federal order requiring the wearing of a face covering while on the bus. Those parents who choose not to comply with this will need to transport their child to/from school.
- All staff must continue to wear a face covering when inside school buildings (DOLI).
- All visitors and spectators (including students) to athletic events and after school programming must wear
 a face covering.
- Student quarantine will return to 10 days and high school students will now be required to quarantine
 when identified as a close contact.
- Survey families to ascertain interest in VBCPS pursuing an additional virtual option.*
- Work with the state to see how VBCPS can accommodate those families who request this option.
- Continue to monitor legal challenges to EO#2.
- *A virtual option will be thoroughly explored but may not be viable without significant support from the state

Questions?