



Health Update

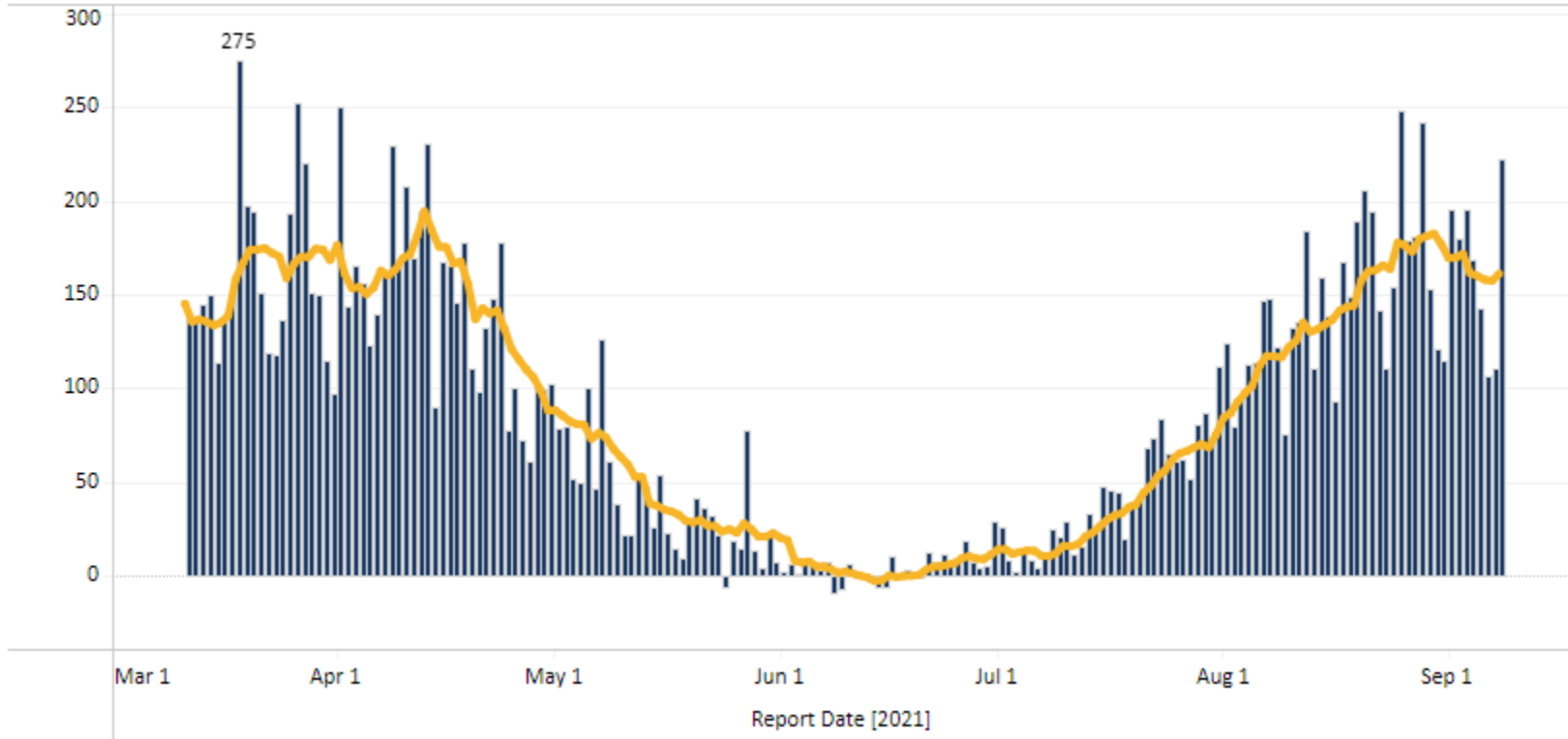
September 9, 2021

RETURNING STRONG

We Are Excited To Be Back 5 Days In-Person



Fairfax County Community Transmission

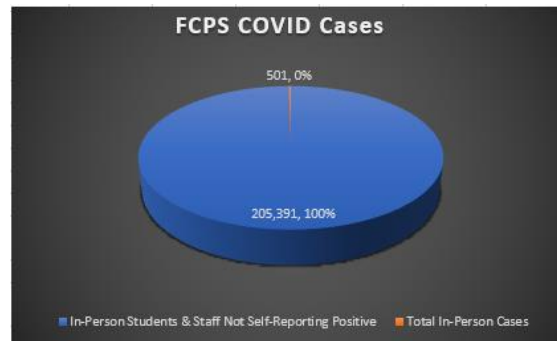


FCPS COVID Data August 13–September 8

TOTAL POSITIVE CASES: 501

% POSITIVE CASES: 0.24%

Case Type	Number of Positive Cases	% Positive In-Person
Students	403	0.23%
Staff	96	0.35%
Visitors	2	
Total	501	0.24%
Epi-linked (from 7 outbreaks)	21	0.01%
Student Athletes	39	0.53%
Athletics Staff	4	0.59%
Student-SACC Cases	13	
Staff- SACC Cases	1	



Total In-Person Students	178,110
Total In- Person Staff	27,782

Epi-linked: A case in which the patient has/had contact with one or more persons who have/had the disease, and transmission of the agent by the usual modes of transmission is plausible.

Outbreak: Two or more laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases among students or staff with onsets within a 14-day period, who are epidemiologically linked, do not share a household, and were not identified as close contacts of each other in another setting during standard case investigation or contact tracing.

FCPS COVID Definitions

Isolation

Keeps someone who is **sick or tested positive for COVID-19** without symptoms away from others, even in their own home (directed by local health officials)

Pause

FCPS is directed by the local health department to pause a student's in-person instruction while contact tracing is implemented as a matter of public health

Quarantine

Keeps someone who was in **close contact** with someone who has COVID-19 away from others (directed by local health officials)



Impact of COVID-19 on FCPS: August 13–September 8

School Level	Pause (Potential Close Contact)		Quarantine (Close Contact)		Isolation (COVID-19 Positive Individual)		
	Students	Staff	Students	Staff	Students	Staff	Visitor
Elementary	TBD	TBD	299	47	273	52	1
Middle	TBD	TBD	18	1	31	9	0
Secondary/High/ Non-Traditional	TBD	TBD	23	5	99	20	1
Other (Offices)	TBD	TBD	0	0	0	15	0
Total	TBD	TBD	340	53	403	96	2
Percent of In-Person Individuals	TBD	TBD	(0.19%)	(0.19%)	(0.23%)	(0.35%)	N/A

Note: The data for pause, quarantine, and isolation is not mutually exclusive

FCPS Plan to Reduce Time Out of Classrooms

- Implementation of the *Vaccination Verification Survey* for fully vaccinated, asymptomatic students to support the return of eligible students to school more quickly when paused in connection to a COVID-19 positive case
 - Parent/guardian completes the Fairfax County Health Department (FCHD) survey to confirm child is asymptomatic and provide proof of vaccination status
 - FCHD verifies and provides a clearance letter to the parent/guardian within hours during the business day (next day for after hours submissions)
 - Student/parent/guardian submits the FCHD clearance letter to the school and can return to in-person learning and activities **immediately**
- If FCHD is unable to contact FCPS staff during the school day, FCHD will contact the school's main office to facilitate case investigation and contact tracing

Quarantine Length

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) indicate the **local public health authorities determine and establish the quarantine options for their jurisdictions**. CDC currently recommends a quarantine period of 14 days. However, based on local circumstances and resources, the following options to shorten quarantine are acceptable alternatives.

- Quarantine can end after Day 10 without testing and if no symptoms have been reported during daily monitoring.
- *When diagnostic testing resources are sufficient and available*, then quarantine can end after Day 7 if a diagnostic specimen tests negative and if no symptoms were reported during daily monitoring. The specimen may be collected and tested within 48 hours before the time of planned quarantine discontinuation (e.g., in anticipation of testing delays), but quarantine cannot be discontinued earlier than after Day 7.

At this time, the Fairfax County Health Department (FCHD), like the CDC and the Virginia Department of Health, continue to recommend a 14-day quarantine period after the last close contact to a person with COVID-19.

FCPS COVID-19 Communication Updates

- FCPS COVID Dashboard continues to provide daily updates on COVID-19 cases in FCPS schools and offices: <https://www.fcps.edu/return-school/fcps-confirmed-covid-19-case-reporting>
- Weekly community messages will be provided when there is an individual COVID positive case(s) at a school
 - Potential close contacts of the positive case that are paused from in-person instruction and activities will continue to receive **real time notifications**
- Staff will continue to receive notifications of any individual cases within 24 hours of notification of the positive case in accordance with the Department of Labor requirements
- Outbreak letters will continue to be sent to staff and the community as they occur

Staff Vaccination Updates

- Surveying all staff including full-time, part-time, and hourly employees
- 80% of contracted staff responded to the survey as of 8:30 a.m. this morning
 - Of those completing the survey, 97.3% are fully vaccinated
- Follow up will occur for all those who have not responded to the survey
- Data will be compiled and finalized in September/October
- Regular testing will begin late October for staff that are unvaccinated or did not respond to the survey

High School Athletics and Vaccinations

- Highest number of COVID related pauses in FCPS are from high school athletics due to the number of close contacts within a team environment
- Vaccinations will reduce the impact on in-person learning and missing team activities to include games
- Required for student athletes 16 and older—highly encouraged for ages 12–15
- There is a medical and religious exemption for students
- Unvaccinated student athletes will be required to submit weekly negative COVID tests (FCPS is currently working to secure a vendor to assist with this)
- Additional information on submitting proof of vaccination and medical/religious exemptions will be provided in the coming weeks
- Proof of vaccination requirement for student athletes must be completed by November 8th (winter and fall sports)

Revised Expectations for Schools on Eating

(LUNCH/SNACK)

- Social distancing to greatest extent possible including:
 - Use of outside areas as much as possible with supervision (tents, courtyards, greenspaces)
 - Use of alternative areas such as the gym, lecture hall, corridors, foyers
 - Alternating seats in areas where food is consumed
 - Use of alternative furniture such as portable tables, yoga mats, desks, etc
 - Staggered lunch/ snack schedules
- Use of plexiglass where available
- “All hands on deck” approach to include available school staff, monitors, and volunteers to supervise students in alternative areas



Expanding Outdoor Capacity

Tents Installed

- 103 elementary schools
- 16 middle schools
- 15 high schools
- 2 centers

Pending Installation

- 36 elementary schools
- 7 middle schools
- 12 high schools
- 2 centers

Tents will be available year-round.



Instructional Support During COVID Related Absences

Students who are unable to attend school in-person due to COVID infection or possible exposure to COVID will be provided with instructional support via **limited livestreaming**.

No later than Day 3 of a student's pause/quarantine/isolation period, schools will provide **limited livestreaming** support to students as follows:

- Elementary = livestreaming access to observe daily morning meeting and the focus lesson in Language Arts and mathematics.
- Secondary = livestreaming access to observe introductory lessons and any direct/whole group lessons in all courses except advisory and when instruction occurs in an unique setting where streaming is not practicable (e.g., outside PE courses).
- Families may choose not to participate in livestreaming. Students would continue to complete asynchronous assignments and other critical assignments upon return.
- Student/parent questions should be emailed to teacher for response within 24-48 hours.
- Additional class assignments will continue to be posted in Learning Management System (i.e Schoology course) for asynchronous completion.



Thank You to Our FCPS Community

