

Superintendent's Corner

September 2020

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! Despite the pandemic, VSDB has had a smooth start to the new school year! Students arrived to campus for Registration Day on August 16th in preparation for the first day of school, Monday, August 17th. VSDB opened providing five days a week in-person instruction in order to meet the needs of its diverse and complex population. After months of the campus being quiet and empty, VSDB was alive again with students and employees! Everyone was happy to be back and to have the opportunity to see friends and get back to the business of learning!

Many hours went into the planning and reopening of VSDB. VSDB's COVID-19 team worked diligently to address student, parent, employee, and community concerns, and to develop the VSDB Health and Instructional Mitigation Plans. The plans were developed with every aspect in mind to support a safe, healthy learning and working environment to the greatest extent possible. The team worked closely with the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) and the local Virginia Department of Health (VDH) to ensure compliance with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines as well as those set forward by the VDOE and VDH. The team examined all aspects of "a day in the life of a student" as well as "a day in the life of an employee" and established processes and procedures to support a safe return for everyone. The VSDB Health and Instructional Mitigation Plans are a work in progress and are updated as needed given new information and guidance. The Plans can be found on the homepage of the VSDB website.

VSDB looks forward to a great school year and is confident that with teamwork with parents, employees, and the community, that VSDB students will be served effectively during these challenging times. Please review the VSDB website for more information regarding VSDB programs and services as well as the COVID-19 resources that are posted and please feel free to contact us if you have any questions. Here is to a great 2020-2021 school year!

Sincerely,

Pat Fahed Trice
Superintendent