

Future COVID-19 Mitigation Strategies

BOV Executive Committee
May 11, 2021



WILLIAM & MARY

CHARTERED 1693

W&M Phased Decision-Making

Focus on Summer and Fall

- June 1: Selected reopening to the public
- July 1: Remote workers begin to return to campus
- Aug 1: Students begin return for Fall semester

Mitigation Strategies: New Data and Science

- Physical distancing
- Masks
- Vaccines



Physical Distancing Guidance Differs



- World Health Organization (1m)
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- Virginia Department of Education



- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (to the extent possible)
- Virginia Department of Health

To date, we lack studies directly comparing the impact of ≥ 3 ft. versus ≥ 6 ft. physical distancing policies in school settings

Research: Masks are Most Effective

- Lower physical distancing requirements can be adopted in school settings with masking mandates without negatively affecting student or staff safety



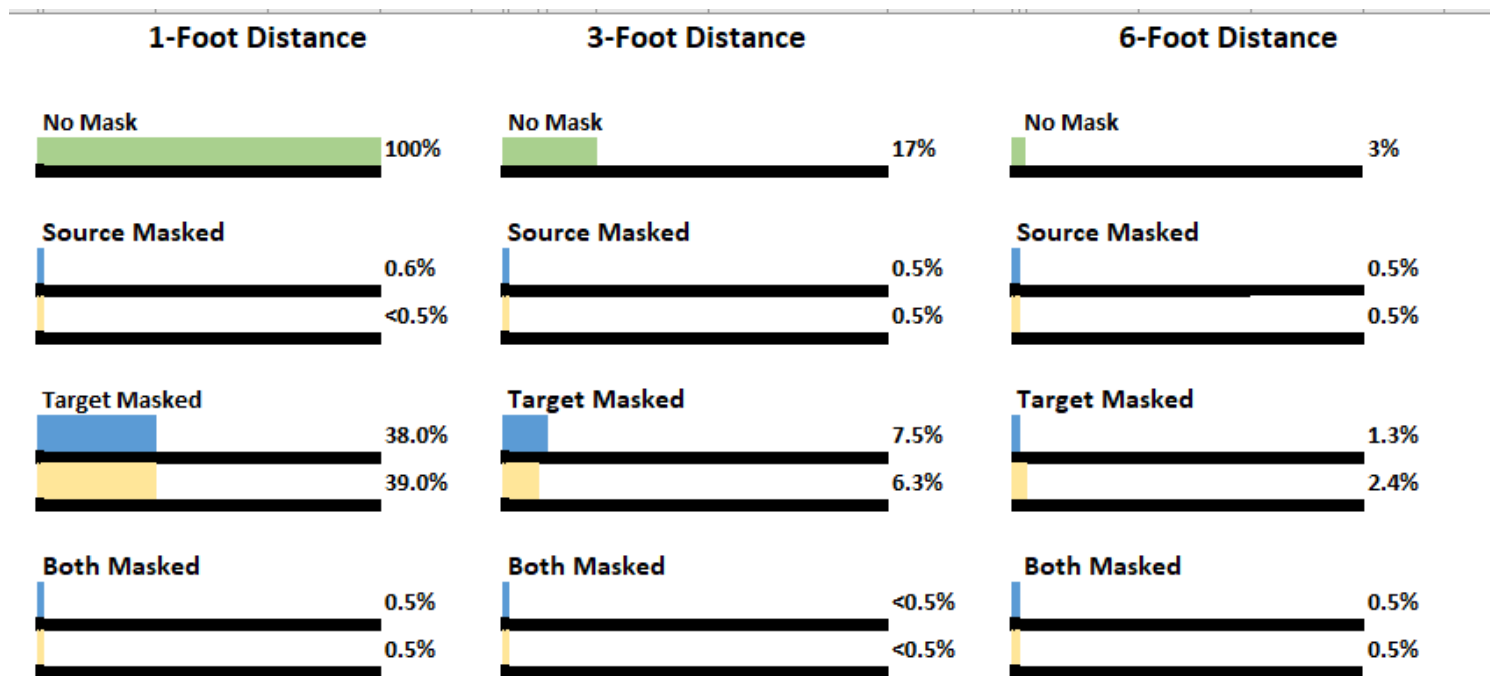
Polly van den Berg, Elissa M Schechter-Perkins, Rebecca S Jack, Isabella Epshtein, Richard Nelson, Emily Oster, Westyn Branch-Elliman, Effectiveness of 3 Versus 6 ft of Physical Distancing for Controlling Spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 Among Primary and Secondary Students and Staff: A Retrospective, Statewide Cohort Study, *Clinical Infectious Diseases*, 2021; ciab230, <https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/ciab230>

W&M Created a Culture of Masking

- Mask compliance on campus is high
- 97% of our sample wore a mask
 - 93% worn correctly
- MASCUP partnership with the CDC monitored adherence on campus
- 10 weeks of data collection at 21 campus locations resulting in an avg. of 500 observations / week



Exposure Risk <0.5% with Masking



Added Intervention: Vaccines

- The mRNA is best described as sending a message to our cells on how to make a specific protein
 - The message instructs our cells to detect COVID-19 as foreign
 - Prompts an immune response to reduce severity of illness
- Limited potential risk given similarities to autoimmune responses
 - No autoimmune effect has been detected so far
 - Anecdotal information that these vaccines may ameliorate symptoms of autoimmune disease



COVID-19 Vaccines Really Work

Efficacy for preventing disease and infection

	Disease Prevention	Infection Prevention	Disease Prevention	Infection Prevention
	(D614G & B.1.1.7)		(B.1.351 & P.1)	
Pfizer/BioNTech	91%	86%	69%	45%
Moderna	94%	85%	72%	47%
J&J	72%	72%	64%	42%

B.1.1.7 commonly referred to as UK variant

B.1.351 commonly referred to as South African variant

P.1. commonly referred to as Brazilian variant

Source: [COVID-19 vaccine efficacy summary | Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation \(healthdata.org\)](#)

*Gold boxes indicate modeled estimates

W&M Student Survey

- 67% response rate among 8,628 students
- 85% of respondents w/ at least 1 dose
- ***Of 5,781 responding:***
 - 47% or 2,728 fully vaccinated
 - 38% or 2,190 with one dose
 - 12% or 710 plan to be vaccinated
 - <3% or 153 indicate no plans of being vaccinated
- 2,847 students have not responded

W&M Employee Survey

- 76% response rate from 2,558 employees
- >90% of respondents w/ at least 1 dose
- ***Of 1,949 responding:***
 - 70.3% or 1,371 fully vaccinated
 - 22.0% or 430 have received 1 dose
 - 4.2% is planning to get vaccinated
 - 3.4% do not plan to be vaccinated
- 608 employees have not responded

Fall Planning

- Masking continues to be an important mitigation strategy, based on data and science
- W&M community self-reports high vaccine uptake and growing
- Plan to return to normal classroom occupancy

Public Health Advisory Team

- David Dafashy, MD
- Carrie Dolan, PhD
- Iyabo Obasanjo, PhD
- Corinne Picataggi, MS
- Virginia Wells, MD
- Cortney Will
- Amy Sebring, MPP

Phased Decision-Making Continues

Students & Employees

- Mandated testing anticipated through fall for unvaccinated or symptomatic persons
- Mandated masks until widespread vaccination in the population
- Policies and practices evolve to reflect local conditions, science, state and national guidance
- Standard pre-pandemic health and safety requirements



Richard Bland College
of WILLIAM & MARY

STATESMAN SAFE & SECURE PLAN
2020-2021 OPERATIONS UPDATE



**The RBC Statesman Safe and Secure COVID-19 Plan was
certified by the State Council of Higher Education
(SCHEV) on July 27, 2020.**



STATESMAN SAFE & SECURE

**Plan Developed by Safe and
Secure Task Force**

**Managed by the COVID-19
Emergency Management Team**

**Recommendations to the
President for implementation**

- Plan published on RBC website
- Social Distancing and de-densification strategies implemented
- Strong Communications to RBC community
- Athletic Program Hiatus
- Statesman Strong Pledge





- **Social Distancing protocols established**
- **Temperature Check Station**
- **Sneeze Guards implemented**
- **Social Norming Campaign**
- **Daily Attestation**



- **COVID-19 Mandatory Training for students, faculty and staff**
- **Cancellation of all in-person activities and events**
- **Communication to the community**



**DO YOU HAVE
COVID-19 QUESTIONS?**



- **Face Mask Policy implementation**
- **Building Traffic Patterns for Entrances and Exits**
- **COVID-19 Educational Materials**
- **Elevators for Disabled Use Only**

FACE MASK REQUIRED



HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

Academic Strategies:

- Occupancy reduced 50%
- 6' of separation
- One student per desk
- Student disinfect after each session
- Upgrade classes for virtual
- Schedule enhancements






Back to School Decision Making Tool

Note: These questions address your views about how your school is preparing for school year 2020-2021. If you answer "unsure" to any items regarding your school's plan, consider reaching out to your school administrator for more information.

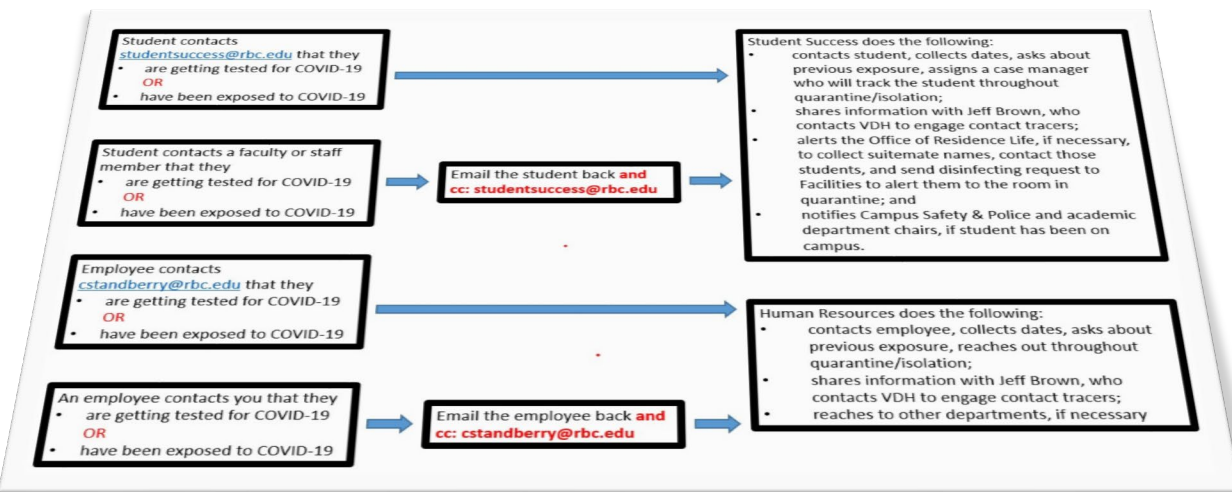
	Does Not Apply	Disagree	Unsure	Agree
I feel comfortable with my school's reopening plans for reducing risk of spreading COVID-19.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I believe my school has the resources needed to effectively implement their reopening plan (e.g., staffing, supplies, training).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I feel comfortable with my school's plan if a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I believe my school has a plan to provide an effective program of instruction every day of the regular school week (generally five days).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am satisfied with how my school communicates with families about the changes it is considering.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am satisfied with how my school is addressing parents' or caregivers' concerns and questions.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My child knows how to properly wear a cloth face covering and understands the importance of doing so.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My child can wear a cloth face covering for an extended period of time, if required by the school.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My child has a reliable mode of transportation to and from school (e.g., school bus, carpool, walk/bike, public transit).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am comfortable with how my child's mode of transportation to and from school is reducing the risk of spreading COVID-19 (e.g., decreased bus/transit capacity, wearing masks, increased cleaning and disinfecting practices).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

 cdc.gov/coronavirus

Employee Strategies:

- Return to Campus Guidelines Implemented
- RBC Telework Options for non-essential employees with supervisory approval
- Development of employee teams and alternating schedules

RBC Case Management Flow Chart



Development of a strong case management process for students and employees allowing for:

- **Reporting**
- **Contact tracing**
- **Tracking**
- **Return to community guidance**
- **Support**



Testing Encounters & Positivity Rate by Region

	VIRGINIA	CRATER ¹	RICHMOND ²	CHESTERFIELD ³
Testing encounters	7,076,549	166,366	244,671	310,013
Positivity Rate	4.6%	6.0%	4.0%	5.4%

Cases by Region

	VIRGINIA	DINWIDDIE COUNTY	PRINCE GEORGE COUNTY	CITY OF PETERSBURG
Total Cases	661,925	2,102	3,492	3,815
New Cases	611	3	3	3

Richard Bland College Reporting

RICHARD BLAND COLLEGE (REPORTED WITHIN WEEK)	COMMUTER	RESIDENTIAL	EMPLOYEE
Cases Reported:			
Positive Case (Isolation)	0	1	1
Awaiting test results (Quarantine)	0	0	0
Possible exposure case (Quarantine)	0	0	0

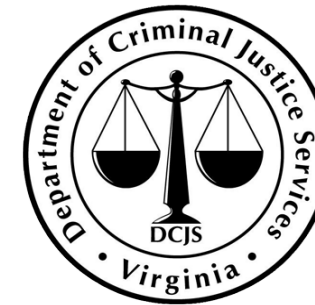
Student cases are managed by case managers in Student Success or Residence Life. For further information contact

- Updated weekly and published at **RBC.EDU**
- Contributed to **VDH Higher Education dashboard**



STATESMAN **SAFE & SECURE**

**Virginia Department of Criminal Justice
Services (DCJS) - Coronavirus Emergency
Supplemental Funding Grant**



**VCUHealth - virtual (telemed) urgent care
services and testing for students**



**VSU MOU - BinoxNOW Rapid testing for
students**





STATESMAN SAFE & SECURE

Virginia Department of Health - Higher Education Weekly Dashboard update

Crater Health District - flu and
vaccine clinics, training and
program oversight





Fall 2020			
	Quarantine	Isolation	TOTAL
Residential	16	5	21
Commuter	15	8	23
TOTAL	31	13	44

Student Population	
Residential	198
Commuter	749
Total	947

- A total of 11% of our residential population was isolated or quarantined, at any one time during the semester, while less than 3% reported positive test results.
- A total of 3% of our commuter population reported being exposed or infected at any one time during the semester, with less than 5% of the total student population affected.



Spring 2021			
	Quarantine	Isolation	TOTAL
Residential	11	4	15
Commuter	12	7	19
TOTAL	23	11	34

Student Population	
Residential	104
Commuter	635
Total	739

- A total of 14% of our residential population was isolated or quarantined, at any one time during the semester, while less than 4% reported positive test results.
- A total of 3% of our commuter population reported being exposed or infected with less than 5% of the total student population affected.

STATESMAN **SAFE & SECURE**

- **Vaccination Clinic at RBC – May 5 and June 2**
- **Vaccinations Administered at Open Houses and other Student Events**
- **Communication & Incentive Plan - under development**
- **The College will continue to work with the Commonwealth’s “Educate and Vaccinate” program to ensure that communities of color are engaged, included and educated about COVID-19.**