

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

November 18, 2020

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Jack R. Smith, Superintendent of Schools

Subject: Opening of Schools in Recovery of Education (09-22-20-02-B, -1, -2, -3)

During the *Opening of Schools in Recovery of Education* discussion, Board members requested the following information:

Question B

Mrs. O'Neill requested the following:

Question 1

Updated information regarding the system's state of readiness for staff and students to eventually return to buildings in terms of providing the necessary PPEs (Personal Protective Equipment) to everyone.

Response

The information regarding PPE follows.

- PPE Kits (masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, sanitizing wipes) have been delivered to all schools to support staff and others entering the building. Supplies will be replenished on a quarterly basis directly to schools and as additional needs arise.
- PPE needed for specific interactions (i.e., special education students, students and/or staff with disabilities) has been and will continue to be purchased and allocated according to specific program, staff, or student needs. These include but are not limited to goggles, face shields, transparent face coverings, and gowns.
- Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) has extensive inventory of personal safety materials and continues active procurement to ensure that supplies are sufficient to carry through the school year. For example, there are currently more than 500,000 masks in inventory, and more than 1,200 hand sanitizer dispensers have been delivered to schools.

Question 2

Information regarding the impact of the Board of Elections using school buildings as election locations—what is the impact of this on our buildings and their cleanliness in light of the current public health emergency due to COVID-19?

Response

A total of 26 Montgomery County Public Schools' (MCPS) schools were used for in-person polling in the 2020 General Election. These included all 25 comprehensive high schools and Kingsview Middle School. These schools were closed for MCPS' use on Monday, November 2 through Wednesday, November 4, 2020, to allow for election-related activities including set up and removal of equipment, as well as cleaning. MCPS staff was in close coordination with Board of Elections staff to ensure smooth operations during this time.

Question 3

Information from staff regarding any contacts had with local health department officials concerning the use of the system's schools in the future as COVID-19 vaccination sites.

Response

MCPS has not received any formal communication at this time related to possible distribution of vaccinations in schools. Informally, we understand from discussions with health officials that schools will be important in this effort as they are widely available large spaces in the community. Currently, there is no timeframe for activities related to this effort. We will stay in close communication with local and state public health officials to support this effort as needed in the future.

If you have questions, please contact Ms. Essie McGuire, associate superintendent of operations, via e-mail.

JRS:EM:bls

Copy to:

Dr. McKnight	Mrs. Ahn
Dr. Johnson	Mr. Marella
Ms. Stratman	Ms. McGuire
Mr. Turner	Ms. Webb
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