

COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session 2020, Legislative Day No. 27

Resolution No. 39-20

Introduced by Ms. Haire

By the County Council, September 21, 2020

1 RESOLUTION requesting the Anne Arundel County Department of Health to
2 formulate guidance to safely reopen elementary schools and special education for in-person
3 learning in accordance with guidance set forth by the State Board of Education
4

5 WHEREAS, the State Board of Education, as the head of the State Department of
6 Education, through delegated authority from the Maryland General Assembly,
7 regulates public and nonpublic schools within the State in accordance with
8 Maryland law, and this includes elementary schools and special education; and
9

10 WHEREAS, on August 27, 2020, the State Department of Education, with the State
11 Department of Health, issued “COVID-19 Guidance for Maryland Schools” to
12 assist schools in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, and which all Maryland
13 public and nonpublic schools must comply with; and
14

15 WHEREAS, in accordance with COMAR 10.06.01.06(F)(2), the principal or other
16 person in charge of any school at the local and building level must follow the
17 instructions from the Secretary of Health and from local health officers who have
18 authority to take any action or measure necessary to prevent the spread of
19 communicable disease or to control a reportable disease and condition, and issue,
20 when necessary, special instructions for control of a disease or condition; and
21

22 WHEREAS, in addition to complying with the requirements for safe reopening set
23 forth in “COVID-19 Guidance for Maryland Schools”, schools are instructed to
24 work with local health departments for additional guidance regarding safe
25 reopening; and
26

27 WHEREAS, pursuant to “COVID-19 Guidance for Maryland Schools”, school
28 systems and nonpublic schools are permitted and encouraged to open for in-person
29 learning where it is safe to do so, and these schools are expected to follow
30 applicable guidelines from the Maryland Department of Health, the local health
31 department, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) for the
32 safe reopening of in-person instruction; and
33

34 WHEREAS, each school and school system must develop a plan for reopening that
35 addresses COVID-19 mitigation policies and processes as recommended by the
36 Maryland Department of Health, the local health department, and the CDC; and
37

38 WHEREAS, the Maryland Department of Health encourages all local school
39 systems and nonpublic schools to collaborate with their appropriate local health

1 department to develop their reopening plans, and local health departments are
2 encouraged to establish points of contact and processes for communications with
3 schools and school systems to facilitate this collaboration; and
4

5 WHEREAS, local school systems and nonpublic schools are required to follow the
6 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act,
7 Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and COVID-19 planning
8 considerations for students with special health needs formulated by the Kennedy
9 Krieger Institute; now, therefore, be it

10
11 *Resolved by the County Council of Anne Arundel County, Maryland,* That it hereby
12 requests that the Anne Arundel County Department of Health determine whether guidance
13 in addition to that contained in the “COVID-19 Guidance for Maryland Schools” regarding
14 the safe reopening of elementary schools and special education for in-person learning is
15 necessary; and, if it is necessary, further requests that the Department of Health develop
16 the additional guidance, not later than October 1, 2020, and not to conflict with State
17 guidance, to address the safe reopening of elementary schools and special education for in-
18 person learning; and be it further

19
20 *Resolved,* That a copy of this Resolution be sent to County Executive Steuart Pittman;
21 Nilesh Kalyanaraman, M.D., Health Officer; and Michelle Corkadel, Board of Education
22 President.

READ AND PASSED this 21st day of September, 2020.

By Order:



JoAnne Gray
Administrative Officer

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT RESOLUTION NO. 39-20 IS TRUE AND CORRECT AND DULY
ADOPTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY.



Allison M. Pickard
Chair