

# COVID-19 Update

Talbot County Emergency Services  
Clay Stamp, Director, Asst. County Manager  
[www.talbotdes.org](http://www.talbotdes.org)



Talbot County Health Department  
Dr. Fredia Wadley, Health Officer  
<https://health.maryland.gov/talbotcounty/>

## Key Points for August 14

- ✓ Maryland now has 98,975 confirmed cases of COVID-19 with 3,495 deaths.
- ✓ Talbot County has 420 total confirmed cases and 6 deaths.
- ✓ The Maryland Emergency Management Agency, Maryland Department of Health, and Maryland State Police have established a toll-free COVID Prevention Line. To report situations where guidelines are being ignored or the potential for spread of COVID-19 is high, call 1-833-979-2266 or email [prevent.covid@maryland.gov](mailto:prevent.covid@maryland.gov).

**For Immediate Release**  
**August 14, 2020**

## County Council Passes Emergency Resolution to Help Enforce COVID-19 Restrictions

In their meeting on Tuesday, August 11, the Talbot County Council declined to place restrictions on the number of people who can attend large outdoor gatherings, choosing instead to have event organizers work with County Health Officer Dr. Fredia Wadley and her staff to create and host safe events.

This Emergency Resolution replaces the one that was passed on July 28 and includes a variety of measures designed to enforce Gov. Larry Hogan's executive orders. Those include:

- Anyone planning an outdoor event for more than 50 people in the unincorporated portions of Talbot County must apply for a temporary use certificate from the Talbot County Planning & Zoning Office and have their COVID-19 safety plan approved by Dr. Wadley.
- Customers are not allowed to congregate in bar areas, and bars are prohibited from serving alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption in bar areas. Alcoholic beverages may be served at the table in restaurants. Food and non-alcoholic beverages may be served in the bar area where physical distancing can be adhered.
- Talbot County residents and visitors are required to wear face coverings in public buildings and outdoors when not able to maintain physical distancing of at least six feet.
- Though the Governor's executive order allows face shields to be substituted for face coverings, Talbot County's emergency resolution prohibits the substitution.

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Those who violate these orders could face hefty civil penalties. Restaurant and bar operators may lose their food and/or liquor licenses if they allow overcrowding in their establishments. Violators also face civil penalties of up to \$1,000 for failing to comply with the County's emergency resolution.

The description of the resolution above is only a summary. Please refer to the resolution itself for the actual language and more specific requirements. A copy of the resolution is available here:

[http://www.talbotcountymd.gov/uploads/File/council/Admin.%20Reolution%20\(Second%20Emergency%20Resolution%20-%20COVID-19%20Enforcement\)%20-%20As%20Approved%20on%20August%2011,%202020.pdf](http://www.talbotcountymd.gov/uploads/File/council/Admin.%20Reolution%20(Second%20Emergency%20Resolution%20-%20COVID-19%20Enforcement)%20-%20As%20Approved%20on%20August%2011,%202020.pdf)

"The Talbot County Council has given us another tool to limit the spread of COVID-19," says Dr. Wadley. "No one likes to resort to regulations and penalties to control a pandemic, but sometimes it becomes necessary after you have tried everything else."

For more information about Talbot County's COVID-19 response, visit [TalbotCovid19.org](http://TalbotCovid19.org).

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## Food Distribution



**Talbot County in Partnership with CarePacks**

**DRIVE THRU  
FOOD DISTRIBUTION**

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 2020  
4PM UNTIL GONE**

TALBOT COUNTY BUSINESS CENTER  
(OLD BLACK AND DECKER BUILDING) PARKING LOT  
28712 GLEBE ROAD  
EASTON, MD 21601

- LOTS OF FRESH PRODUCE SUCH AS CORN AND CANTALOUPE
- MEAT
- SHELF STABLE ITEMS

TALBOT COUNTY RESIDENTS ONLY



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Talbot County Public Schools

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**August 13, 2020**

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVES FINAL PLAN FOR 2020 – 2021 SCHOOL YEAR**

(EASTON, MD) The Talbot County Board of Education approved a revised Recovery Plan for the 2020-21 school year as presented by Dr. Kelly L. Griffith, Superintendent with a vote of six to one at their meeting on August 12.

The regular meeting was scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m. with live streaming for public viewing. When the meeting was about to begin, the live streaming equipment shut down. After working for an hour to attempt to regain connection to live streaming capability, and acting upon legal advice from the attorney present, the meeting was abbreviated and videotaped for posting on the TCPS website.

Dr. Fredia Wadley, Talbot County Health Officer attended the meeting and responded to questions from members of the Board of Education regarding testing, contact tracing and notification. School District staff then presented revisions to the plan. Clarification to the operational part of the plan included:

- Hiring additional custodial staff
- Details about increased cleaning and sanitation of buildings
- Improved building filtration systems
- Personal Protective Equipment for students and staff
- Health screening for staff

The revised plan also includes the following additional details and clarifications to the instructional component:

- Sample Schedules
- Clarified Orange Model
- Assessment/Learning Plan
- Grading and Attendance
- List of Curriculum and Digital Tools
- Outline of Equity and Access
- Overview of Professional Learning
- Timeline for Evaluation of Plan

The plan includes five phases for recovery, with transitions of any of these phases pending a daily evaluation of health statistics with our local Talbot County Health Officer. The updated plan includes clarifications about

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choices families can make as TCPS transitions through the phases outlined based on what is best for their child(ren) as follows:

Phase 1 - Remote Synchronous Learning (Stage 2 Red) **All students will attend school virtually.** Families will elect an a.m. vs. p.m. option during parent-teacher conferences. Two full days are built in for conferences before the start of school on September 8, and each school has its own schedule to ensure that every family is contacted.

Phase 2 - Blended Synchronous Learning (Stage 2 Orange) Schools or individual teachers will extend invitations to students in special population groups to participate in face-to-face instruction in small groups. Availability of face-to-face instruction will depend upon staff commitment and family response.

Phase 3 and Phase 4 - Blended Synchronous Learning (Stage 3 Yellow) Families may elect to continue virtual instruction in lieu of face-to-face hybrid instruction if they choose.

Phase 5 - In-Person Synchronous Learning (Stage 3) Families may elect to continue virtual instruction in lieu of face-to-face instruction if they choose.

“This recovery plan is a broad overview, explained Dr. Kelly L. Griffith, Superintendent. “Each school is developing details to meet the needs of their individual environments and student populations.” She also added, “I think it is important for parents to have time to experience virtual learning in our recovery format before they must make decisions about any transition.”

The plan must be submitted to MSDE for evaluation on or before August 14.

TCPS will continue to refine the plan as more information is received from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE). A survey will be conducted of parents of special populations as well as staff in order to be able to transition small groups. Efforts to increase internet connectivity in homes will continue. TCPS will monitor state developments directed by the Governor and will be ready to respond quickly. Work will continue on development of the ESMEC Blended Virtual Program as an alternative when all students have the opportunity to return to face-to-face learning.

## Where to Find More Information

- **CDC COVID-2019 Website:** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- **Talbot County COVID-19 Information** [www.talbotcovid19.org](http://www.talbotcovid19.org)
- **Shore Regional Health COVID Information** <https://www.umms.org/shore/patients-visitors/coronavirus>
- **Maryland Department of Health Website:** <https://health.maryland.gov/pages/home.aspx>
- **Talbot County Health Department Website:** <https://health.maryland.gov/talbotcounty/Pages/home.aspx>
- **Maryland COVID-19 Website:** <https://governor.maryland.gov/coronavirus>