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September 9, 2021

The TABCO Representative Assembly, the governing body of TABCO, passed the following motion at its meeting on August 25, 2021:

TABCO, through the advocacy of the President, urges the State Superintendent, MSDE, and BCPS to publish school safety guidance that outlines the safety conditions that would necessitate reducing in-person attendance to maintain the wellness of students and staff.

The educators in Baltimore County are thrilled to be back in classrooms with our students. Since March 2020, we have done all we possibly could to meet the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of our students. Every challenge and change that came to us was handled so that we could do what is best for our students. The position of TABCO since the start of the pandemic has been a safe and sustainable reopening based on the science. Our educators are wearing their masks and doing all they can to be sure all mitigation strategies are in place and followed.

State Superintendent Choudhury stated that schools are open and will be open five days a week. BCPS Superintendent Williams has also declared our schools are open for instruction five days a week. Governor Hogan has expressed the same. And educators want to be in person with their students.

COVID continues to spread in our communities. Already there have been students and educators who are quarantining. The Delta variant has raised the red flag of concern. Information changes frequently as more is learned about the virus and its variants. As educators receive questions from concerned parents and students, it would be helpful to be able to point them to any published school safety guidance that outlines the public health conditions that would necessitate reducing in-person attendance to maintain the wellness of students, staff, and communities.

As is clear, such an outcome is no one's preferred scenario – we want to see public health conditions improve and for schools to be a safe and healthy place for daily, in-person instruction. However, clear guidance and transparency will help ensure that students, educators, and communities feel safe, supported, and informed during these challenging times.

Thank you for all you do for our students, educators, and their communities.

*~Cindy*

Cindy L. Sexton  
TABCO President