

<b>I would like to provide: *</b>	Written Public Comments
<b>Select the meeting date:* *</b>	August 19, 2021
<b>My public comments are related to: *</b>	COVID-19
<b>Topic *</b>	COVID vaccination requirement
<b>Full Name *</b>	Jonathan Prather
<b>What is your relationship to ACPS? *</b>	Parent/Guardian of an ACPS Student

**Enter your comments here OR upload below:**

I am writing to express my strong support for a vaccination requirement or negative weekly COVID tests for all ACPS personnel. Various Federal Agencies, State and local governments across the country, a host of businesses, and school systems in many states have instituted similar requirements and Alexandria should do no less. Our children cannot yet receive vaccinations, so it is imperative that those who interact with our children do everything they can to keep them safe.

Other simple mitigation strategies, such as purchasing tents for students to utilize for outdoor meals, classes, and other activities, have not been pursued in the last 17 months. The City Government has repeatedly stated that funds are available for ACPS from the \$59.4 million received through the American Rescue Plan, but that ACPS must request these funds. The lack of creative solutions to get more kids back in school last year was discouraging. The lackadaisical attitude with which ACPS is approaching our children's safety this year is unacceptable. Mandating vaccinations for those who can receive them is the least we can do.