



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Media Contact: Lynn Briggs
Director of Community and Media Relations
lbriggs@iwcs.k.12.va.us**

Isle of Wight County Schools Given “OK” to Reinstall NightLock Safety Devices

Isle of Wight Co, VA – April 10, 2019: Isle of Wight County Schools (IWCS) received approval from the county’s Department of Inspections to reinstall the Nightlock safety devices on interior doors throughout the school division.

Officials from IWCS worked closely with Art Berkely, Director of Inspections for Isle of Wight County, to develop a plan that would allow for use of the Nightlock. In a letter dated March 1 to Mark Mabey, Executive Director for School Administration, Berkely stated: “I have reviewed your modification request and supporting documentation to allow the installation of the Nightlock security devices as provided by Chapter 10, Section 1010.1.4.4 of the 2018 Edition of the International Building Code. This new section was placed in the code to allow for the installation of incident specific security devices in limited occupancy groups to protect public safety. ...Therefore, in accordance with Chapter 1, Section 106.3 of the Virginia Construction Code the requested modification and associated permit applications are approved.”

The equipment is being reinstalled one school at a time, with teachers receiving training on how to properly implement and remove the device. IWCS is coordinating the process with representatives from the county’s Emergency Services department, along with members from local law enforcement agencies. At this time, reinstallation of the Nightlock system has occurred at Carrsville Elementary School, Hardy Elementary School, and Windsor Elementary School. The remaining schools will be completed by early June.

Dr. Jim Thornton, division Superintendent stated, “I appreciate the collaboration between Mr. Mabey and Mr. Berkely. The security enhancements provided by the Nightlock system should reassure families of our commitment to providing a safe environment for all students and staff.”

###