

**DOUGLAS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #27
DOUGLAS, ARIZONA**

Board Room
Central Administration Building

12:00 PM
June 30, 2020

**Special Board Meeting
Minutes of the Board**

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS:

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Ray Borane, President

PRESENT: Mr. Mario Ramos, Member (Telephonically)
Mr. Natalio Sabal, Member (Telephonically)
Dr. Edward Gomez, Member
Mr. Mitch Lindemann, Member

Others Present: Ana C. Samaniego, Superintendent
Cesar Soto, Chief Financial & Operations Officer
Alma Valenzuela, Superintendent's Secretary

II. ACTION ITEMS:

A. Discussion/action on the approval of Resolution Regarding COVID-19.

Mrs. Samaniego stated that the Resolution will allow the Governing Board to give the Superintendent authority in case there are any changes that need to be made regarding the function of the schools during this COVID-19 pandemic. Yesterday, the Governor's Executive Order 2020-44 was issued delaying the start of the school year to August 17, 2020.

Mr. Lindemann motioned to approve the Governing Board Resolution regarding COVID-19 with any language that is required to update it according to any Governor Executive Order. Mr. Sabal seconded the motion.

Dr. Gomez asked what happens since the District was already planning on starting school on August 17, 2020? Mrs. Samaniego replied that we were ahead of the game, our team has been working for the last month on starting on August 17th and we are ready to go.

There being no further discussion, motion carried 5/0 ¹.

B. Discussion/action on the approval of 2-1-2 Calendar for School Year 2020-2021.

Mrs. Samaniego commented that the option of a 2-1-2 calendar is being presented. The reason it is called a 2-1-2 calendar is because there are 2 days of instructions, 1 day of distance learning with no students in person, and 2 days of instruction. This calendar will also remove all the

¹A unanimous (5/0) vote will show the members voting in this manner throughout the minutes:


| Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain |
|---------------------|-----|-----|---------|
| Mr. Mario Ramos | √ | | |
| Mr. Mitch Lindemann | √ | | |
| Mr. Natalio Sabal | √ | | |
| Dr. Edward Gomez | √ | | |
| Mr. Ray Borane | √ | | |

Thursday Early Release Days. The purpose of the Wednesday is for schools to have a thorough cleaning/disinfecting day without students on site but staff will be expected to be on campus for office hours, meetings and professional development. The proposal will allow us to push back the student start date to August 17th but doing so we are required to make up the days and have a total of 180 instructional days. Start date for teachers will be August 4th. The DUSD Attorney did review the teacher contracts and advised that the contracts have a start and end date and as long as we stay within those two (2) dates, more days can be added to the teacher work days and we do not have to pay teachers for the additional days. The following breaks are being removed to make up the seven (7) instructional days for students:

- Friday, September 25
- Fall Break (October 13-16)
- Wednesday, November 25
- Spring Holiday (Monday, April 5)

For support staff that work directly with students, we are looking at bringing them back on August 11 which will give us 4 days for training before school starts and then we will give them 4 days off within the calendar. Mrs. Samaniego commented that there was teacher, parent, and student input on all the subcommittees. Every principal also had feedback. Things are rapidly changing and our start date of August 17th is what our recommendation is. Mr. Borane commented that this calendar could change before August 17th if the Governor makes any changes.

Mr. Lindemann motioned to approve the 2-1-2 Calendar for School Year 2020-2021 as presented. Mr. Sabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0.

| Douglas Unified School District #27 2020-2021 School Calendar - REVISION - Board Approved 06/30/2020 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--------------|--|--------------|--|--|--|---|
|  | | | | | | | | | | | | Legend STUDENT DISTANCE LEARNING DAY ♥ New Teacher Work Days: July 30-31 & August 3 [] Teacher Work Days: August 4-14, May 27 ⬢ Holidays (School Closed) Ⓚ First Day of School: August 17 Ⓛ First Day of Quarter Ⓜ Last Day of Quarter 😊 Last Day of School: May 26 🗳 State Testing (Start & End Dates) 🎓 DHS Graduation 🏠 Parent/Teacher Conferences (1:00-7:00 p.m.) 📄 Report Cards Will Be Sent Home This Week 📑 Progress Reports Sent Home 100 100th Day of School: January 25 💰 Pay Day |
| Intercession (Breaks - NO SCHOOL) Thanksgiving: Nov. 26-27 Easter: April 2 Winter: December 24-Jan. 6 Spring: March 8-12 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| State Testing Dates (REGULAR DAYS) Tentative AzMERIT: 3rd-11th Grade (March 29-April 23) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Inclement Weather Make-Up If necessary, the following dates may be used: April 2 & May 27 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | Student Days | | Teacher Days | | | | |
| 1st Semester | | | | | | 88 | | 97 | | | | |
| 2nd Semester | | | | | | 92 | | 93 | | | | |
| TOTAL | | | | | | 180 | | 190 | | | | |
| 12-Month Employee Holidays: July 3 December 24-January 1 September 7 January 18 October 12 February 15 November 11 April 2 November 26-27 May 31 | | | | | | | | | | | | |

C. Discussion/action on the approval of hybrid schedules for all DUSD #27 schools.

Mrs. Samaniego commented that there are three (3) reopening subcommittees and they have worked on hybrid schedules for all schools. The representative for each subcommittee will be presenting their proposal. There were four (4) scenarios that we could implement: brick and mortar, hybrid, online, and full closure by the Governor. DUSD is recommending a hybrid schedule for all schools.

Elementary School

Mrs. Corinna Moen commented that they are proposing an A/B schedule (half the class at one time) as it will provide the most instructional time and help the younger students. There was a teacher representative from every school and a Douglas Education Association (DEA) representative in the group. A schedule means students will attend every Monday and Thursday and the B schedule means students will attend every Tuesday and Friday. We are also looking at staggering drop-off/pick-up times by grades and families to help with social distancing. The schedule is 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Recommending both scenarios, as elementary needs face-to-face first to teach them the basics to be online.

Middle School

Mrs. Melissa Rodriguez commented that they are proposing an A/B schedule. Students will have 5 days of instructional days, 3 online and 2 on-site. Students will be divided into two (2) groups and placed in Group A and Group B. Students will be divided into cohort groups of about 12-15 students and they will travel together to each class to minimize socializing and help keep track of groups. The RTI class will also be embedded into class periods. Breakfast and lunch will be served in the classrooms with the help of support staff. ELD students will be attending in-person for 4 days, they will be scheduled on A Day with their reading teacher to receive their integrated time and on B Day they will be scheduled for their focused time. Something similar will be done with special education students. Meetings were held with staff from both schools, parents, students, and local health officials. Recommending hybrid model.

High School

Mr. Randy Walker commented that they are proposing a hybrid, A/B, and AM/PM schedule. During the 4th quarter, Douglas High School (DHS) was giving grades and we learned many things during that time. We also saw that students and teachers were getting very overwhelmed. Meetings were held with staff, parents and students. Student population will be broken into four (4) groups, AM/PM sessions, and placed in Group A (Monday and Thursday) and Group B (Tuesday and Friday). There will be about 375 students on campus at one time to allow for social distancing. Will be doing 3 courses every 6 weeks to include Advisory and 7 courses will be completed in a semester. There will be no zero (0) period but band would be during the Advisory period. Here is a breakdown of periods:

- 1st and 4th 6-weeks: Periods 1, 2, Advisory
- 2nd and 5th 6-weeks: Periods 3, 4, 5
- 3rd and 6th 6-weeks: Periods 6, 7, Advisory

The groups will not be divided by grade level but possibly alphabetically to keep the classroom sizes to about 8 students. There is concern from staff about staff and students getting the virus while on campus, so they are hoping that school will begin online.

Mrs. Samaniego commented that we are proposing a hybrid model for all DUSD schools. We now that face-to-face instruction via the hybrid model will begin on August 17th. There is obviously concern from all school levels to even start on a hybrid model. In the staff survey, from the 284 survey responses, 106 prefer a hybrid model and 106 prefer an online model. Concerns are overwhelmingly around staff and student safety and instruction. There was great support for the 2-1-2 calendar from staff. The staff survey results were discussed at length. With the Governor's Executive Order, it is giving parents the flexibility to keep their children at DUSD but choose to keep them strictly online. Teachers will now have A/B groups in person and online, so they will manage three (3) groups. The previous Governor's Executive Order stated that we have to have our buildings physically open every day of the week for parents that don't have a place to leave their children, so technically we may have children in school five (5) days a week. They won't be in the regular classroom with their teacher but they will be in a learning space. The new Governor's Executive Order waives the previous requirement for learning spaces only if we were to begin online on August 6th. Children need to be in school but we also need to be responsible and think what is in the best interest of students and staff.

Mr. Borane commented that he hopes the community understands that this Board is charged with a very major responsibility and especially when looking at the health and safety of children. We also have to look at the safety and health of our staff. We are moving diligently and doing what we have to do. This District is blessed and fortunate with a good administration and the staff we have.

Mr. Lindemann motioned to approve the hybrid schedules for all DUSD #27 schools and begin school on August 17, 2021, as presented. Mr. Sabal seconded the motion.

Dr. Gomez commented that he doesn't think we can start online because nothing is going to be taught, it is a very poor way to teach. Teachers aren't ready to spend a lot of time online and prefers hybrid. We have to be very strong and following our sanitizing protocols.

Mrs. Samaniego commented that there is a wide concern about staff and student health. The trend is worsening. With what we have now, we are confident that we can move forward with planning around a hybrid model and also around an online model, if we need to.

Mr. Ramos commented that his biggest concern are elementary students. It would be very difficult for them to be online and without supervision. Hopefully we can start on hybrid.

Mr. Lindemann commented that by planning on a hybrid model at least we have something in place. We can't control the future but we can say what we are going to do now and plan for the best. If it changes, it changes but for now we can have something solid.

Mr. Borane commented that this is going to be a tremendous effort for teachers. We have to do the best we can with what we got. Mr. Borane asked Mr. Soto if he had any budget concerns or enrollment? Mr. Soto replied that they are working closely with the New Student Center on enrollment. Funding from the State is allocated and is good to go. Mrs. Samaniego will be working with Mene Gomez on open enrollment and boundaries.

Mrs. Samaniego commented that they are working on the District’s Distance Learning Plan as it will need to be submitted to the Arizona Department of Education. Our Distance Learning Plan will be accepted as an Arizona Online Instruction Program. We have to also come up with attendance protocols and ensure that Average Daily Membership (ADM) is counted especially during distance learning days.

There being no further discussion, motion carried 5/0.

III. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Mr. Lindemann motioned to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Gomez seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0. The meeting was adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Alma Valenzuela, Superintendent’s Secretary.

The Board at their meeting on April 6, 2021, approved these minutes.

Public Comments:

Effective immediately and until further notice, the DUSD Governing Board will be enforcing the Center for Disease Control’s health precautionary recommendation limiting all public gatherings to 10 people. There will be no call to the public. All Governing Board meetings will be live-streamed and available to view via DUSD’s YouTube channel.

Details regarding presentations and discussions are available on the audio and video recordings posted on the Governing Board page on the DUSD website at www.dusd.us (For exact statements made during the board meeting, you may request a copy of the audio).