

AUGUST 11TH, 2021 Special Minutes  
UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, USD 289

I. CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Board of Education held Wednesday, at 7:30 PM. President Beth Watson called the meeting to order.

II. ROLL CALL

*Board Members present* Beth Watson, Dawn Whalen, Jeremi Thompson, Shane Pruitt, Gavin Fouts, Amanda Donovan, Todd Wilmarth

*USD #289 Staff Present* Ryan Bradbury, Gwendolyn Jacobs, Deputy Clerk

III. COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

Mr. Bradbury presented the Franklin County Health Department Quarantine Guidelines. The board reviewed the recent Covid Metrics in Wellsville, Franklin County, and the surrounding area. They discussed the Protocol Continuum. The board and Mr. Bradbury discussed the K-12 COVID-19 Testing & Vaccine Options available.

Dawn Whalen moved for USD 289 to proceed with Test to stay, play (if approved by KSDE and funded via KDHE) and that masks are strongly recommended with the trigger effect of 3% cumulative positivity rate at one time (approx. 25 positive cases of students and staff) which would mandate masks for two weeks or until below 3%. Beth Watson seconds. The board discussed terminology "strongly recommended" vs "optional" vs "recommended". Dawn Whalen amended her motion to remove the word strongly (Dawn Whalen moved for USD 289 to proceed with Test to stay, play (if approved by KSDE and funded via KDHE) and that masks are strongly recommended with the trigger effect of 3% cumulative positivity rate at one time (approx. 25 positive cases of students and staff) which would mandate masks for two weeks and until below 3%). Beth Watson seconds. The board further discusses. The motion fails 3-4. (Yay; Watson, Whalen, Donovan. Nay; Fouts, Pruitt, Wilmarth, Thompson)

At 9:15 pm the board recesses into a 5 minute break.

The board discussed testing to stay and play and recommended masking options. Shane Pruitt moved USD 289 to recommended masks with the trigger effect of 4% cumulative positivity rate at one time (approx. 36 positive cases of students and staff) which would mandate masks for two weeks and until below 4%. Gavin Fouts seconded. The board discusses further. The motion fails 3-4 (Yay; Fouts, Pruitt, Donovan. Nay; Wilmarth, Watson, Whalen, Thompson)

Dawn Whalen moved USD 289 to recommended masks with the trigger effect of 3% cumulative positivity rate at one time (approx. 25 positive cases of students and staff) which would mandate masks for two weeks and until below 3%. Todd Wilmarth seconds. The board discusses further. The motion carries 5-2 (Yay; Watson, Whalen, Donovan, Pruitt, Wilmarth. Nay; Fouts, Thompson)

The board discusses Test to stay and play. Dawn Whalen motions for Test to stay and play. Amanda Donovan seconds. The board further discusses. The motion carries 5-2. (Yay; Watson, Whalen, Donovan, Pruitt, Fouts, Nay; Wilmarth, Thompson)

The board and Mr. Bradbury discussed out of district students and possibly capping transfers due to COVID. No action was taken regarding this discussion.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned at 9:28 pm.

Gwendolyn Jacobs, Deputy Board Clerk