

Board of Education Meeting, Tuesday, August 11, 2020

Generated by Rhonda Schaefer, District Clerk

Members present

Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidui, Jeff Klein

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM

1. Meeting Called to Order

Action, Procedural: A. Call to Order
(not specified)

Motion by Gary Stottler, second by David Francis.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidui, Jeff Klein

Procedural: B. Account for Absences

2. Approval of Agenda

Action: A. Approve Tonight's Agenda
Motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion by Gary Stottler, second by Caralyn Ross.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidui, Jeff Klein

3. Approval of Consensus Agenda Items

Action (Consent): A. MOTION for Approval of Consensus Agenda Items

Motion to approve all items of the Consensus Agenda

Motion by Gary Stottler, second by David Francis.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidui, Jeff Klein

Action (Consent), Minutes: B. Board Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve all items of the Consensus Agenda

Motion by Gary Stottler, second by David Francis.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidui, Jeff Klein

Action (Consent): C. Personnel Appointments

Motion to approve all items of the Consensus Agenda

Motion by Gary Stottler, second by David Francis.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidui, Jeff Klein

Action (Consent): D. CSE & CPSE Recommendations

Motion to approve all items of the Consensus Agenda

Motion by Gary Stottler, second by David Francis.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidui, Jeff Klein

4. Board President's Remarks

Discussion, Information: A. Board President's Remarks

5. Superintendent's Report

Discussion, Information: A. Announcements - Capital Project Update

Superintendent Mancuso and Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations, Dr. Bruce Capron, expressed gratitude to the community for their support as things are beginning to move forward, and while the District still in the midst of the re-opening caused by the pandemic. A Re-Opening tab has been added to the website, along with a Q & A document that the district has worked hard to compile. Face coverings has been a topic of great discussion and the superintendent reminded everyone that masks are required at school. 99.9% mask-wearing will be the rule, with a small margin of exception. Mr. Mancuso presented a powerpoint presentation highlighting the continuity of learning priorities. The superintendent reminded all of the options available to parents/students upon the return to school. A registration survey has been extended electronically to families to establish re-opening preferences. Mr. Mancuso highlighted the big questions, one being that masks are required. A newer question has to do with testing in schools and rights of others to know when others test positive. This is not allowable by law to release the private information of individuals. However, the Department of Health will announce if/when there are issues

in any school district. The Monroe County of Health is our primary support office, however, the other two county offices provide a certain level of support as well. Contact tracing will also be conducted by the MC DOH, whereas the primary responsibility of the school will be who is coming into contact with whom. The actual practice of tracing and notifications will be the responsibility of the DOH. The school district will not be able to conduct COVID-19 tests in schools. We have not been asked to do this, and the requirement of having a plan includes the oversight by the DOH. Our limitation of visitors to school and the thoughtful process of planning travel and activity in the buildings, will assist with the process, should it be needed.

The at-home learning model will be better defined depending on the response from the survey and parental preferences. This model will look very different from what occurred in the spring, when this situation was brought about abruptly with little to no time to plan. Parents are encouraged to attend. Communication tools for students within the district are fortunate for HFL families.

Action items were reviewed and highlighted by the superintendent.

Questions -

C - Appreciate hearing all of the information as the pieces roll out and begin to take shape.

C - Appreciation was expressed for the structure of communication.

C - Commended the team, even in the Superintendent's absence.

Superintendent Mancuso reminded everyone that this is the board's meeting, who invites the public in.

Q - Are there health issues that are on the rise in response to the pandemic? A - There may be issues that arise but thus far, any accommodations being requested have been manageable. There have been minimal surprises.

C - Comment on the parking lot? A - Speed bumps will continue to be installed and were staggered in installation based mostly on the weather and need for timing for materials to head up.

Q - Substitute teacher resignations in the board packet tonight. Is this typical? A - A bit higher than normal. Therefore, building level subs are being looked at and planning to increase.

C - If there are issues for teachers who cannot report to work, how will this be dealt with? A - The District has been seeking to work with employees in response to their issues to find solutions. The same goes for parents who have challenges due to scheduling and family situations. Q - Can teachers teach from home? A - the expectation will be that teachers will report to the buildings to teach. Staff will need to be here to support students. And while there are limits to accommodations, some will be considered based on need.

Q - Outdoor Education Options? To what extent? A - Principals are seeking to make these areas easily accessible. Because standards based instruction is required however, this is not always possible. Looking at a variety of different things. Complex situation. Also, the tent set up at Manor has been realized that it must pass fire code and while the District will seek to find avenues, there are details that must be addressed before it can be used.

Discussion, Information: B. Update on Proposed Action Items

Discussion, Information: C. Presentations

6. Board of Education - Action Items

Action: A. Amended 2020-2021 Academic School Calendar

Changes other than the first couple of weeks? A - No, the changes were focused on the beginning of the school year. The other change is that on snow emergency days, remote instruction will get into place.

Q - Will mid-term week still take place? A - No. We kept the professional development day, but there will be no mid-terms. There may be times when emergency remote days will be needed.

Motion to approve the Amended 2020-2021 Academic School Calendar, as presented.

Motion by Amy West, second by Caralyn Ross.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidui, Jeff Klein

Action: B. Emergency Policy Recommendations - Conflicting Policies during COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

Motion to approve the Emergency Policy Recommendations, as presented.

Motion by Stephanie Templeton, second by David Francis.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidui, Jeff Klein

Action: C. Emergency Transportation Policy Recommendations

Transportation and Safety Director, Bill Harvey spoke about the day care services changes that will need to occur due to the situation. Reductions will need to occur among cohorts, therefore it was necessary to limit transportation. The policy will approve one bus in the morning and one bus in the afternoon, versus 3, 4, or 5 different schedules for individual children. This will also be the case for dual residencies. This will support load and departure times and verification of whereabouts of all students and keep busses moving, reducing sit-time and air flow. This may be revisited following the pandemic situation.

Q - This is not an emergency change, this will be support. A -The District was in absence of a policy to support day care transportation. This does not automatically go away, also eliminating policy 5710 meant the details were moved to the new policy.

Q - Do you anticipate any push back from the community? A - There may be some. This is scaling back the operation now and likely into the future of courtesy transportation and moving to that which is required. Attempts are to resume a safe transportation program. The day care transportation communication will be announced tomorrow with the objective that each student will have the same bus in the morning and afternoon all week long. Timing for the roll out for Cougar Care will be attempted on a best-effort basis. C - This appears to support the crisis and remember to revisit this policy once the crisis wanes. It is certainly good timing and it can be revisited to relax some of the regulations which support the policy.

Q - Requests for transportation to and from non-public schools? A written request to the Board of Education? A - This is the law however the Transportation can act as the designee if the board is in agreement. The board was in agreement with changing this

language. These are typically due in the office by April, this year it has been extended to May and has even gone on further as appropriate.

Motion by Gary Stottler, second by Dave Franci to amend the policy 5730 for requests to go to the board, all those in favor. Unanimous.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidui, Jeff Klein

Motion to approve the Revised Emergency Policy Recommendations

Motion by Gary Stottler, second by David Francis.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidui, Jeff Klein

Action: D. Tax Rates for 2020-21 & Tax Rate Resolution

While the spreadsheet is complex, this is the

Tax rates are declining by about 1.2% because properties are increasing faster than the levy. Until reassessments, tax payers may see their rates go down.

Motion to approve the Tax Rates for 2020-21 & Tax Rate Resolution, as presented.

Motion by Gary Stottler, second by Amy West.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidui, Jeff Klein

Action: E. Free & Reduced Lunch Criteria 2020-21 School Year

USDA assigns these requirements. This is an offering that is open to families at all times, to apply for. Full participation is encouraged to those who qualify by meeting the criteria. The comparative data is on the USDA website.

Motion to approve the Free & Reduced Lunch Criteria 2020-21 School Year, as presented.

Motion by Amy West, second by Caralyn Ross.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidui, Jeff Klein

Action: F. Health Services Contract, Delphi Rise

Drug and alcohol contract for secondary services with connections with the state and county level. Year 2 of this contract proider.

Motion to approve the Health Services Contract with Delphi Rise, as presented.

Motion by Amy West, second by David Francis.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidui, Jeff Klein

Action: I. Natural Gas Bid Recommendation

Q - How much does this fluctuate from year to year? A - Commodities market is looked at and the rate is locked in month by month for 1000 cubic feet of gas used per month. .278 basis did increase from last year for decatherm which is relatively small.

Motion to approve Natural Gas Bid Recommendation, as presented.

Motion by Gary Stottler, second by David Francis.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidui, Jeff Klein

Action: J. Gift to the School - Athletics Department

Motion to approve the Gift to the School, to the Athletics Department, as presented.

Motion by David Francis, second by Stephanie Templeton.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidui, Jeff Klein

7. Board President's Update

Discussion, Information: A. Board President's Update

Meeting in person for the August 25 board meeting - A poll was taken of members.

There were 8 of 9 in support of this.

The Robotics Lab will be the meeting location and the meeting will be live-streamed for everyone else. The board will need to limit capacity for attendees going forward. Or they may attend via hybrid. The superintendent will work with the president and vice-president to determine guidelines going forward.

8. Board of Education - Review Only Items

Discussion, Information: A. DRAFT Face Mask Regulation

The superintendent spoke about the mask regulation.

Allison Cimmerer spoke about the mask process at the Lima Primary school and believes that designated breaks should be established. Mrs. Weaver was in agreement but added that this would depend on activity level in the classroom, so flexibility is

also important.

The Medical Director is still a little indecisive about duration of wearing it and lessens the effectiveness of the masks. Etiquette and storage of masks will need to be established. Baseline will be to wear masks the majority of the time. Music instruction can still occur remotely if students are removed from each other in separate locations, the rule is 12-feet.

A board member shared some information about models that he has been learning, with a dominant train of thought being aerosolized partical transmission, placing the mask at the forefront. 5 of 5 physicians are recommending both the mask and social distancing. Omission of some areas were suggested with some discussion about PE time. The superintendent supported this recommendation. He suggested that the best,most cautious advice is to mask at all times, however, schools are well equipped, better than most homes in air circulation and will be important to education. Masks are even being worn on beaches. There may be further adjustments once school gets re-opened and things get under way.

Discussion, Information: B. Health Services Contract, School of the Holy Childhood
No comments.

Discussion, Information: C. Dotstorming Activity - Board Workshop Topics 2020-21 School Year

9. Questions from the Audience

Discussion, Information: A. Questions from the Audience - Click for contact information

C - Parent would like to commend the board with gratitude and thanks. Questions emailed in advance? - A the Superintendent outlined the process for upcoming webinars for Q & A.

C - Parent commended the schools reopening plan; would like comments on, no Wednesday days, in other districts.

C - Thanks were expressed to questions asked.

Q -How did the 5 days on and 5 days off plan come about? A - 5 days and 4 weekend days equates to 9 day pauses on regular intervals which is conducive to exposure and testing windows. Much feedback from the reopening task force meetings. There are 350-other districts with similar models. Future data may lend to further changes and being able to pivot fairly easily will be beneficial for all.

10. Adjournment

Action: A. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting at 9:02pm

Motion by Stephanie Templeton, second by Amy West.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidiu, Jeff Klein