

RTS Interim Meeting

09/30/2021

4:00 pm

Attendance: Rachel Wilcox, Jessica Berry, Meghan Elwell, Cassie Kilbride, Autumn Belajonas, Jennifer Garrett, Ashley Geel, Sonja Schmanska, Liz Matthews, Beth Giggey, Randy Elwell, Janet Harjula, Kate Bourne, Amy Hufnagel, Adam Bullard

Resources:

[2021-2022 School Plan](#)

[Current SOP](#)

1. Update on Covid situation on County/State level. - Rachel, Amy a/o Kate *Very busy, but has seen pediatric cases level out. More kids 12 and over are getting vaccinated. Best to have plans in place for outbreak scenarios.*
2. Update on surrounding districts. - Jessica *we are seeing surrounding districts starting to participate in pooled testing.*
 - a. RSU 13 ([plan last updated 04/21](#))
 - b. Camden ([plan last updated 8/20/21](#))
 - c. RSU 40 ([plan](#))
 - d. Lincoln Academy ([plan](#))
3. Update on positive Covid cases and procedures from school admin. - Jessica a/o Adam, *We had an entire class that had to quarantine. Touching and 6 ft defined them all as close contacts.*
 - a. *Sonja spoke up that we need to iron out our remote schooling plans better. Is it via zoom, is it via google classroom? The middle-level team will work with Adam to make sure we have a solid remote learning plan especially in case of an outbreak.*
4. Areas identified from Administration that need to be addressed by RTS - Jessica
 - a. Reduce touching - Jessica /Autumn *Ashley and the K-2 team will continue to be more diligent about reducing touching, but for the time being, we will not change our pods or make any major changes.*
 - i. PE
 - ii. K-2 (Will whole classes quarantine?)
 - b. Bus seating - Randy *students are seated by pods.*
 - c. Lunch (inside) / Outside covering added? *Lunch outside. Still working on addressing the bee issue. More tables have been added. Still working on outdoor coverings. Janet contributed that our students are leaving a very large mess outside when eating. Other staff agreed that students this year are basically not caring for our school. All staff should be more diligent about holding students accountable and stopping them and making them clean up after themselves.*
 - d. Exception for students within 6 ft of student and in the same classroom
5. Review of close contact/positive case exception rules *From Kate. Currently, we are limited by the SOP, but that our nurse and other area school nurses should press hard with the DOE to*

remove the touching rules and increase the availability of rapid tests. We (the district) should continue to follow the SOP and have faith that the bad parts of the procedure will get corrected in the coming months.

- a. Quarantine & Vaccinated staff/students
 - b. Rapid Testing
 - c. Rapid tests for families- Kate and Autumn *It is wishful at this point, but it would be great to get to a point where rapid tests are available for students/staff and their families. Test shortages are still an issue. Autumn should continue to order and store as many tests as are available to the school.*
6. Revisit pooled testing & Rapid Testing for students and staff - Autumn a/o Jessica *All in attendance agreed that our small school did not need to proceed with pooled testing at this time and that the availability of rapid tests and the SOP would be good for the time being. We will continue to follow other districts that begin using the pool testing model and reconsider if we see a rise in cases at our school.*
 - a. [Previous family survey results](#)
 - b. Is a new survey needed?
7. Update on staff vaccination & staff rapid testing - Autumn *See above*
 - a. Test availability *A certain number of tests are available to schools each month and the DOE does not anticipate there being any supply issues.*
 - b. OSHA update on mandatory vaccine/testing - Cassie *The rules around this have not yet been established by OSHA and there is nothing to update at this time.*
8. Fall/Winter Sports (basketball) - Ashley Jessica *will request that the school board accept a new Blue Plan that allows for masked indoor sports. Working with other schools in the busline league, a plan will be formulated that will keep our students safe and allow them to play sports. Ashley will bring a more formal plan to the RTS before the school board's 10/21/21 meeting. Suggestions included live streaming games to families and having participants rapid test before games (both teams if possible and available)*
 - a. The school plan currently indicates no indoor sports
 - i. - Masks- At all times for everyone.
 - ii. - Locker rooms- I say no, come dressed and we have bathrooms but no locker rooms (we don't even use them ourselves)
 - iii. - Fans- Do we have a limit? or regulate 1-2 fans per player? (could probably change as more regulations come out)
 - iv. - OR no fans and do virtual games? this is how big cheerleading meets went last year- (also we didn't have a basketball season last year)
9. Arc program field trip proposal and approval by RTS *This has been changed to a day trip consisting of a boat ride with just the ARC students. No longer need approval from RTS. All normal guidelines will be followed.*
10. October Open House *The 10/6 open house will be rescheduled. Adam will make the notification to families. Jennifer will make sure that this isn't really a calendar change and doesn't need a board vote. Alane shared an idea of a scheduled single-classroom-only open house on a later date. Adam can reach out if he would like to explore further.*
11. Parent-Teacher Conferences *Tabled for next week's meeting*

12. Increase meeting schedule to develop an additional plan for an outbreak, etc.-Jessica *tabled for next week's meeting*
13. Buddy Classrooms - Adam. *Tabled for next week's meeting*
14. December Craft Fair *Table for next week's meeting.*