

Board Mtg. BURLINGTON-EDISON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 100 August 3, 2020

The Board of Directors of Burlington-Edison School District No. 100 met on August 3, 2020 in the Board Room of the Administration Office at 7:00 p.m. and through zoom meeting due to the Coronavirus Pandemic and the extension of the OPMA.

Board Members attended on Zoom Meeting: President, Troy Wright; Vice-President, Roger Howard, Members, Holly Nielsen, David Lowell and Rich Wesen.

Staff members present: Laurel Browning, Superintendent; Executive Director of Student Support Services, Jeff Brown; and Deputy Board Secretary, Jennifer Dalton.

Staff members online: Dr. Bryan Jones, Assistant Superintendent; Director of Finance & Operations, Valori Vargas; and Director of Human Resources, Jen Whitney.

President Wright called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

This month the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Superintendent Browning.

CALL TO
ORDER

President Wright asked if there was any public comment through written form.

PLEDGE

Chuck Wagoner – in favor of reopening of school this fall.

Kohlton Wagoner – in favor of reopening of school this fall.

Shannon Corcoran – in favor of reopening of school this fall.

PUBLIC
COMMENTS

Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Bryan Jones, updated the board on the District's draft version of the re-opening home-based learning plan scheduled for September 2, 2020 to December 18, 2020 (subject to state & local health guidelines) due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The District reviewed the challenges they faced in the spring especially for those families with multiple children. He outlined the K-5 structure and state-required 5.75 instructional hours with content of ELA, Math, Social Studies, Science, P.E., Music, Health, Social-emotional Learning, Keyboarding, & Art. The 6-8 structure and state-required 5.75 instructional hours with content of ELA, Math, Social Studies, Science, P.E., Music, Health, Social-emotional Learning, Digitools (7&8), & Art. The 9-12 structure and state-required 6.0 Instructional Hours. Students would take 4 classes per quarter (2.0 credits).

APPROVAL
RESOLUTION
0560R-
DISTRICT
RE-OPENING
PLAN

The District will work on specifically identified students to have individualized learning opportunities for students with unique needs, such as students receiving special education services & historically marginalized learners, which may include on-site or in-person support. There will be unique supports for kindergartners, Dual Language, Highly Capable, English Learners, Migrant, & additional students benefiting from special programs. Plus some type of Learning Management System Hub to support access for all.

Dr. Jones spoke about progress and feedback with regular monitoring of daily participation & engagement, and classroom-based assessments. Grades K-6 will be grading with 4, 3, 2, 1 system and 7-12 will be A-D and no failing grades. He outlined teaching and the health and

safety plans with an emphasis on social-emotional & mental health needs for students & staff while adhering to state and local health and safety guidelines. Special considerations will be given for high-risk individuals, equity and access for all, and family engagement. The District hoped that there would be a possibility of engaging kindergarteners in class.

Mr. Howard moved to approve Resolution 0560R – District Reopening Plan. Mr. Wesen seconded. The motion carried with two opposed, David Lowell and Holly Nielsen. Motion carried.

Board member comments:

David Lowell stated that he cared about the safety and health of the community and families. He believed there had been 21 deaths out of 9,000 people in Skagit. He thought that the District should go back under a hybrid model. His concerns were the social and mental wellbeing of students.

Holly Nielsen stated that her vote had weighed heavily on her. She believed that it would be just and right for the District to serve the community based on the response of the survey, to come back to school in some sort of hybrid model. She was also gravely concerned for students with mental health issues if the District did not come back in person.

Roger Howard stated that he took into consideration the health and safety of the children, families, teachers, and staff. With the recent national news of the YMCA camp in Georgia that had over 200 children with COVID and that those kids would be going home to their families and friends. He commented that this news was hitting the nation today and that the issue of reopening schools is being debated across the country and there was a lot of unknowns regarding COVID and children. Unfortunately the statistics are people, children and families, and the medical profession is worn out pleading people to stay home.

Mr. Howard believed it was irresponsible to come back in person and that the District needed to start slowly and as new information comes out and as data improves, the online model can adjust to a hybrid model, but he pleaded with the Board to err on the side of caution. He commented that he understood the mental health issues for students but that this was too serious of situation to take lightly. He would not feel good putting students and teachers at risk. He asked the District to start out slow with this and if information changes, or the pandemic status changes, this wouldn't prevent the District to change to a hybrid model. He thanked the administration for working hard to make changes. His concern was for the health and safety of everyone involved and this decision impacted the entire community.

Troy Wright stated that he had debated on both sides as to what to do, but he had concerns about going back to a hybrid model. He worried that as soon as the District opened it would get shut down by the state and forced to go fully remote regardless and worried neither plan would be executed well then. He believed the District should plan a home-based model with an easy plan to transition back to an in-class model.

At 6:05 p.m. approximately there being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

DocuSigned by:

Troy Wright
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Board President

DocuSigned by:

Laurel Browning
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Board Secretary