

Board Meeting. BURLINGTON-EDISON SCHOOL DISTRICT February 8, 2021

The Board of Directors of the Burlington-Edison School District No. 100 met on Monday, February 8, 2021, at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom meeting due to the Coronavirus Pandemic and the extension of the OPMA.

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

Staff members present: Laurel Browning, Superintendent; and Deputy Board Secretary, Jennifer Dalton.

Staff members online: Dr. Bryan Jones, Assistant Superintendent; Director of Finance & Operations, Valori Vargas; Executive Director of Student Support Services, Jeff Brown; Executive Director of Learning & Communications, Todd Setterlund; and Director of Human Resources, Jen Whitney.

Call to Order

President, Roger Howard, called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Mayor, Steve Sexton, updated the Board on the Burlington Homeless Housing. He stated that the homeless housing situation in Burlington would continue to grow especially coming out of the pandemic. The city has been looking to create an emergency homeless shelter at a leased property on Pease Rd. He is reaching out to community partners to receive their feedback on this emergency homeless pallet shelter. The pallet shelter is an easy assembly, with electrical outlets, 4-bunk unit made out of Everett.

Mark Dalton, the Food Service Supervisor, updated the Board on the food distribution for the community during the COVID-19 Pandemic. He stated that he supervises 22 employees in the district and when the pandemic hit, everything changed in their program. The USDA, a federally funded program, opened an opportunity to continue feeding children in the community with free food for all students 18 years or younger and districts would be reimbursed for this. In October they switched from their daily brown bag to families, to a multi-day meal box program with a once a week distribution to make it easier on families.

The department averages 1,400 seven-day meal kits distributed weekly. Distribution sites are at all elementary schools and in the evenings at the high school. They also have two community delivery routes that stop at eight high-needs sites in the district. He thanked his team in the Food Service Department and the Transportation and Maintenance Departments for all their help to make this happen for the community. Now with the hybrid in-person learning they also offer breakfast and lunch to all students in the schools as well as keeping up with their meal-box program.

Executive Director of Learning & Communication, Todd Setterlund, updated the Board on the grades 6-8 Hybrid Learning Schedule. For grade 6, students schedules would look very similar to the K-5 cohort learning schedule. With cohorts A going to school on

Monday/Tuesday, Wednesdays are asynchronous, and Thursday/Friday would be with Cohort B back in class. The focus would be on the core classes.

The 7-8 grade models would be focused on the core areas as well. Students would go to school from 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. in Cohorts similar to the younger grades. Afternoon classes would be asynchronous and Wednesdays would be asynchronous. Cohort C is for students who opt to remain home. Edgenuity Core would be the online program used.

Feedback from the Board was that they would like to see students remain in school until 2:30 and worried about the lack of face-to-face instruction.

Some reasons for a shorter in-person day were transportation, lunch-to-go in classrooms with limited space for eating safely, contractual needs of the staff, while trying to meet the safety needs of the students and staff.

The health department also recommended that we stay with smaller class sizes, approximately 15 students each period. This would help with contact tracing with a relatively isolated population. Plus, it would allow more students to stay at school if there was a positive COVID case in one of the classes.

Assistant Superintendent, Bryan Jones, updated the Board on summer school particularly for addressing the incompletes at the high school. He stated that Gear UP funding would assist in this. They would prioritize upcoming seniors and they hoped to find ways to bring next year's freshman to campus. With grades K-8, they were going to target students who were trending at least two or more grades behind where they should be. They will focus on reading and math and try and stay away from virtual learning if possible.

Summer school was dependent of funding from grants and hoped they could continue with it for the following year.

Superintendent Browning asked the Board if regular meetings could be changed from the 7 o'clock p.m. time to 6 o'clock p.m. and all board member agreed to change this while on zoom.

At approximately 5:45 p.m. there being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

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Board President

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Board Secretary