8/12/20 ACS Parent Zoom Q & A #2

Q1. Our daughter cannot attend school with the current schedule. We cannot find an adequate daycare for her along with our other children. The option we are now facing is pulling her out of the district and enrolling her elsewhere. The option along with paying for childcare for my son will cost approximately $800 per month. I’ve called the school and got no response. As a teacher and my spouse as a small business owner, this is not in our budget. What do you suggest we do? Will there be other school programs available for parents who can absolutely cannot work with this reopening plan? Are there other resources available to support parents during regular working hours?

**A**. **The school has reached out to ACCORD for possible daycare options for our families.**

Q2. What’s the plan for the $102,000 the district is receiving for the CARES Act?

1. The $102,000 were already accounted for in the 2020-2021 budget as they replace the Pandemic adjustment in our state aid. These are not additional funds.

Q3. I received an email from “*My School Bucks”* about a sister program called “*Teacher’s List”*, that suggests ordering school supplies from them. Supposedly, the teachers would provide a list and order off from that. Any new information about this?

1. **This is not a school sponsored program.**

Q4. Will the Juniors be able to go to BOCES every week and choose the online option only learning? I spoke to BOCES and they said that Juniors could go every day.

1. **Juniors will not go to BOCES every week. They will receive in person instruction during the weeks they are not at BOCES.**

Q5. Please explain how contact sports can be considered when children cannot be in school full-time? Is exposing them to kids from other schools a health threat? Especially when other schools are opening with different plans?

1. **NYSPHSAA will determine whether or not sports will be played. The tentative start date is September 21st.**

Q6. What’s the expectations for the teachers to do from the times 12:00pm – 3:00pm? Why can’t the kids be there? They were already there for 4 hours.

1. **Teachers who aren’t delivering instruction in the afternoon will be utilizing that time for lunch/planning, office hours, collaborative professional development, communication efforts and other needs that may arise.**

Q7. Will Kim Fanton or someone from that program be providing child support for our children during these off hours/days?

1. **No.**

Q8. If a child has an IEP and has needs for extended test times and other testing modifications, how will these be provided if they are to remain in the same room the entire time? I am speaking for middle school and high school ages.

1. **IEP accommodations and modifications will be delivered as usual.**

Q9. What will be the plan for Drivers Ed. classes for future students, as well as students who were in the spring class last year?

1. **We are waiting for additional guidance.**

Q10. If students leave the district or choose remote learning only, will there be a possibility of rearranging the schedule due to the smaller class sizes?

1. **We do not have enough information at this time to determine whether or not the schedule will be rearranged.**

Q11. Are the answers to the surveys going to be published for everyone to see?

1. **Survey answers were published on Friday, August 14th on the district website.**

Q12. Just curious, why is school starting September 3rd, instead of after Labor Day?

1. **To comply with the 180 day requirements.**

Q13. For days that our child is absent, can we call and then email? I saw a previous answer that said a written note.

1. **Follow the normal procedure as if we were in school. Call and/or email Lynne Roeske and then send in a written note.**

Q14. It seems a lot of the community didn’t really have a say in this. Although three parents were on your board, they were either faculty members or BOE members. I don’t feel the other “stakeholders” were included in the decision-making process. Would a petition for reconsideration have any impact on your already-made plan?

1. **Based on feedback from our parent meetings and guidance from the NYSED, NYSDOH, the school physician, Allegany Department of Health, our plan will be reevaluated daily.**

Q15. With Group A starting 9/3 and Group B starting 9/4 – Since not all students will have their equipment at the same time, will the other day be considered a non-school day for lack of a better word?

1. **September 3rd and 4th will be spent reviewing routines, schedules, and learning new platforms.**

Q16. When will we know what group our children will be in? I’ve heard it’s alphabetical and by family.

1. **By August 28th.**

Q17. How about training parents and grandparents so that we can help our children with their school work?

1. **Teachers will be available daily furing office hours to assist students with their questions.**

Q18. Is transportation being provided by the school or do children need to be transported by parents?

1. **School will continue to provide transportation.**

Q19. While I love this community and school district, I feel the parents on the board aren’t in childcare need like many other community members. Many of us don’t qualify for ACCORD either. I feel like I understand the need for social distancing, but our kids will still be in school for half days. If it is going to spread, it will. Why not have full-days? It makes no sense and puts massive stressors mental pain on parents, grandparents, and if any are available caregivers.

**A. The committee reviewed the capacity, staffing, safety guidelines & cleaning protocols. For elementary students learning remotely it was not ideal to have them on Zoom for longer than 4 hours.**

Q20. I am presently working remotely at home, so transportation is not an issue. However, if I end up going back to the office, my granddaughter will have to take the bus to daycare. Are there any problems switching to that if needed?

1. **While we cannot make switches in the middle of the day for transportation, we will absolutely accommodate requests during the school year.**

Q21. What will the classroom aides be doing in the afternoon?

1. **They will be supporting teacher on zoom classes and special education services.**

Q22. Will kids be able to enter or exit school in groups or only one at a time?

1. **They will be entering one at a time and dismissal will be staggered.**

Q23. I heard mentioning of a baby-sitter’s course. Are there a way family could sign up somewhere who need help with daycare? That way, kids who are taking the course could find families easier who need help.

1. **This is a great idea! We will work to facilitate baby-sitter arrangements.**

Q24. Have the teachers had any new guidance or training in virtual learning? I know in the spring, everyone did different things. Are there set plans that they are following?

1. **Yes, during the Superintendent days the teachers will be trained in Google Classroom, the elementary platform SeeSaw, and how to deliver instruction on Zoom.**

Q25. Will there be a way for parents to know when assignments are due without having to get on their child’s Google Classroom or See Saw account?

1. **Parents will still have access to Parent Portal.**