

Dayton School Board
609 South Second Streets
Regular Monthly Work Session – 6:00 p.m.
October 7, 2020

- I. **Call to Order -**
Board Chair Katie Leid called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom. Board members present were Katie Leid, Dave Bailey, Justin Jaech, Fred White, and Grant Griffen.
- II. **Flag Salute-** Ginger Bryan led the flag salute.
- III. **Representatives-** Michelle Smith- Waitsburg Times; Melissa Gemmell- Dayton Chronicle, - all via Zoom.
- IV. **Additions or Changes to the Agenda-** ASB Report by Mackenna Culley; Update on School Operations by Superintendent Strot
- V. **ASB Report** – Mackenna Culley reported that the ASB officers have been working on back to school assemblies. This month they will be doing a Halloween spirit week. Monday, ASB officers will be passing out cider and doughnuts. Tuesday, they will decorate facemasks; Wednesday will be a mystery day; Thursday will be decorating trick or treat bags, and Friday will be trick or treating. In November, they will have a mental health awareness month. Officers plan to make mental health first aid kits for each student.
- VI. **Work Sessions Topic #1 - Ginger Bryan – ELA Curriculum Adoption for Grades 2 & 3:**
Ginger Bryan reported that in 2017 our ELA Curriculum Committee met to begin the process of reviewing and choosing a reading curriculum for grades K-5. They determined that *Journeys* was the best fit and were able to purchase K/1 Materials in 2019. Since that time, the publisher has decided to phase out *Journeys* and replace it with *Into Reading*. *Into Reading* meets the requirements that were set forth on the rubrics that were created to evaluate each curriculum and has excellent scores on *Ed Reports* for all grade levels. Copies of the curriculum will be placed in the District Office where parents and Board members can review them. At this time, the committee requests the Board's approval to purchase these materials to complete our ELA adoption process. Board member White asked about the K/1 curriculum that was purchased last year. Elementary teacher, Dawn McGhan, responded that teachers began using the curriculum in January, and then school was closed in March. Teachers are using the curriculum this year and are pleased by the progress their students are already making. Board member Griffen asked how long before the new curriculum expired. Mrs. McGhan explained that the curriculum we are using now is twenty years old. The curriculum is researched based and meets all of the criteria that our teachers are looking for plus some. The *Journeys* curriculum we have now is being shelved by

the publisher, and while support materials are available for four more years, our teachers would like to invest in a curriculum that will be around longer to maximize our investment. The Board thanked Ginger and the curriculum committee for their hard work on this process.

VII. Work Session Topic #2: Plan for Athletics – Superintendent Strot reported that we are starting a summer season type of athletic practices next week. Athletes can have 20 preseason practices. WIAA has decided that practices can begin on September 27 and run through November 27. Basketball would start on December 1, and the season would begin on the 28th. Superintendent Strot met with Superintendent Pickel and some coaches to design a practice/conditioning schedule to start on Monday, October 19.

- Volleyball, Football, Girls Basketball, and Boys Basketball will have practices and conditioning from October 19 through November 27. They will use the gym, weight room, and outside. A schedule will be available in the main office and emailed out this week.
- We will not have games.
- Athletes in Waitsburg will practice in Waitsburg. – No going to Dayton to practice.
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- Only ten people will be allowed at any practice – that does include the coaches. – Total of 10 only at any practice. No spectators at any practice.
- Keys will not be checked out to the gym. Doors will be opened by a custodian or administrator.
- Masks will be required.
- Each parent and athlete will be provided a list of protocols that must be followed to help with safety.
- Social distancing will be maintained at all times.
- No middle school sports at this time. We hope to have these in the future.

Superintendent Strot continues to work closely with Public Health coordinator Martha Lanman. At this time, it will only be high school basketball, volleyball & football, and only conditioning/drills. Students running outside and conditioning outside will not need to wear a mask as long as social distancing is maintained. Indoor practices, no mask, but limited to 10 individuals, which includes coaches. Board member Bailey asked about the WIAA guidelines that have come out in the last few days. Superintendent Strot stated that we would be following the state guidelines. Although the guidelines could allow Dayton and Waitsburg students to practice together at this time, Mr. Strot, Mr. Pickel and Ms. Lanman are not comfortable with this model.

Superintendent Strot stated that we still need to work on transportation and deciding on a mascot. At this time, we do not have any sub bus drivers, just enough drivers to cover our school and Club routes. There is a possibility that practices could start later to allow drivers to return from their routes. In regards to the mascot, Superintendent Strot asked ASB officers if they thought that the process we used to name the mascot last year was fair. They indicated that they did not believe it was. Mr. Strot would like the two ASB groups to get together and plan how the process should be run, to be fair to both schools, and move forward with deciding upon a DW mascot.

VIII. Work Session Topic #3- Board Self-Evaluation – Board Chair Leid reviewed the Board's self-evaluation process. Board members would like to wait until after the Board workshop in November since they will be working on the District's vision and mission statement during the workshop.

- IX. Work Session Topic #4- Policies** – Superintendent Strot updated the Board on the policies that have been revised and updated by WSSDA that we need to review. There are several policies slated for review at the October 21 Board meeting that have been recommended by WSSDA as essential. Superintendent Strot referenced a resolution to suspend or change policies without a Board meeting if required due to COVID. The other is the Title IX policy. New Title IX regulations recommend that the superintendent be eliminated as the compliance officer since the superintendent is often the hearing officer. Superintendent Strot stated that it was his recommendation that Jana Eaton is appointed as the Title IX compliance officer since she is the compliance officer for Civil Rights.
- X. Update on School Operations** - Superintendent Strot spoke to Martha Lanman today about how everything is going in terms of procedures. He stated the need to eliminate the gray area. There needs to be a procedure in place for each scenario. He hopes to come out with a document this week, along with a flow chart. Questions have been raised that if a student goes home sick, and they have siblings, should the siblings go home as well. The rules need to apply to everyone to be fair. Ms. Lanman will attend the first Tuesday staff meeting each month to address any questions that come up. Mr. Strot stated that the staff is welcome to contact her directly. Public Health has grant monies that can help us with things like tables to place around campus that students can use to maintain social distancing, for example, during lunch.

Mr. Strot also reported on the status of the elementary awning, which is nearly complete. Some unforeseen costs came up due to underlying issues that were unknown at the time of the bid. There has also been some damage to our playground asphalt, and when they (the construction company) were asked to repair the divets, the repairs have either not been done, or they have not been done correctly. Superintendent Strot will have an update at the next Board meeting on the awning project and the timeline for other capital projects in the future.

Board Chair Leid asked if Board members wanted to meet in person for the next meeting since the county is in Phase III, and the governor has lifted the restrictions on public meetings in those counties. The auditorium can seat 51 people. Bulldog stickers have been placed on chairs to help identify allowed seating. There will not be a Zoom option for the in-person meeting. Board members agreed to this recommendation and will meet in the high school auditorium at 6:00 p.m. on October 21 for their next regular Board meeting.

- XI. Adjournment-** The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m. The next regular meeting will be on October 21, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. in the Dayton High School Auditorium.

Respectfully submitted,

Guy Strot
Secretary to the Board of Directors

BOARD MEMBERS:

*The mission of the Dayton School District is to promote academic excellence, active citizenship,
and provide all students with the opportunity to become
productive members of society.*