



Reimagining and Reopening of School Committee
Virtual Meeting
Wednesday, August 19, 2020
5-7 pm

Minutes

Present: Ron Drzewicki, Adrienne Barna, Rick Brooks, Matt Stuard, Liz Evans, Christopher Mumby, Jan Alleman, Michael Kelly, Ted Berryhill, Mike Prelesnik, Kevin Dufresne, Angie Vandecar, Shana Barnum, Corrinne Karpinski, Craig Kueffner, Nick Toodzio, Lance Delbridge, Chris Salmon, Kevin Jones, Kristin Higgins, Greg Lattig, Kevin Doty, Beth Bousfield, Laura Lange, Lily Brown, Lynn Goedert, Tonya Rigdon, Brian Martel, Lou Bartolacci, Mary Kay Gavitt, Christy Evans, Krista Sherman, Beth Bailey, Maria Juras, Kerrie Uphaus, Erin Eppers, Michelle Faist, Christie Surato, Michael Koot

Not Available: Krista Voss, Suzie West, Jen Sauser, AmySue Hopkins, Cindy Hyaduck, Rachel Brander, Nick Minnaar

Welcome

Ron welcomed and thanked the committee members for their time and energy as active participants in the process to reimagine the start of school. He shared the district's enthusiasm to kick off the school year with distance learning.

Subcommittee Reports – final report for subcommittees

Ron reported that most of the work on the reopening of school is now done at the building level.

Secondary Instruction - Lance and Ted

Ted reported that the subcommittee has not met. The middle school's School Based Leadership Team (SBLT) and school improvement teams have met and are taking up the work started in the subcommittee. Lance shared that the same efforts are happening at the high school.

Elementary Instruction - Kevin, Shana, Mike

Kevin Dufresne concurred with Ted and Lance. Elementary staff and Building Leadership Team (BLT) meetings are now handling the reopening of school work.

HEC, Childcare and Preschool Instruction - Angie

Angie shared that the HEC Building Leadership Team is developing Young 5 and Kindergarten content. Connect Care is ready for the August 26 school start in person. Early learning in person programming to follow after Labor Day.

Maintaining Healthy Environments and Operations - Rick, Kevin Doty

Rick shared the committee went into implementation mode with Nick in charge as the Healthy Environments Coordinator. He and Nick continue preparing for distance learning instructional broadcasts in buildings and also preparing for in-person instruction. The Return to Work guide is in development and will be distributed soon. Nick shared we are in good place with PPE supplies.

Mary Kay has submitted a waiver to the State to open the pool exclusively for swim team use.

Food Service - Chris Salmon and Adrienne

Chris has scheduled kitchen staff to start on Monday to clean kitchens. The first food delivery is scheduled for Wednesday. Free/reduced letters and a flyer for all other students is in development to communicate the details for food distribution. The format for distribution will be similar to emergency food and summer food programs. There will be two locations, MMS and MHS and two evening distributions, Tuesday and Thursday from 4:00-6:00. At this time, Food Service staff will run distribution in an effort to fill their scheduled number of hours. Christy Surato inquired about families in need of assistance for food pick-up. Chris will develop a plan to accommodate this need.

Administrative In-Person Reopening Plan

On July 27, 2020, the Board directed the district to provide an in-person plan at the September 14, 2020, meeting. Many hybrid plans were reviewed and considered with the goal to bring 100% of students back to the classroom at some point. A draft plan was reviewed by the committee to transition students to in person instruction.

Angie shared the process for the developing the hybrid red/blue plan. The plan presented calls for a red/blue cohort with students attending in person in a week on week off schedule. Students at home would receive content via a simulcast of classroom instruction. Scheduling would consider families and siblings in cohorts to insure that families could adequately plan for childcare.

Ted presented the HyFlex instructional model. Technology in the classroom would allow for classroom instruction to be broadcast to students at home. To reduce crowding on the buses, we would request that families provide transportation whenever possible. Potential start date of 9/28 or 10/5 – fluid. Ted shared that educators want to return – safely – with students.

Matt shared additional details of the HyFlex instructional model. The program began on the west coast at the university level. He shared a video from CMU. The district has partnered with CMU for the choice PD Day for Mason staff. Kevin Dufresne provided a visual tour of Rachel Lator's classroom in preparation for distance learning.

The committee discussed the plan in detail. Many questions were shared and discussed. Committee members spent a considerable amount of time vetting the plan.

Ron shared that the plan will go back to the administrative team for additional work. He plans to have a revised plan with additional details, for the committee to consider on September 2, 2020.

Back to School Roadmap Operational Plan

Rick reported on the work to date on the operational plan. He shared the draft document with the committee. Additional effort on the highly recommended and recommended components will take place in the coming weeks.

Krista Sherman asked about compliance of students to the regulations. Rick shared that student handbook addendums will include health and safety components. They are in review and will go to the Policy and Curriculum Committee on Monday.

Communications

Ron shared that information is posted on the website for our families. He urged that those with questions should direct inquiries there.

Committee Discussion/Communication folder

No new information posted or discussed.

Next Steps

Future meetings

- Wednesday, September 2nd from 5-7 pm
- Wednesday, September 23rd from 5-7 pm

Ron thanked the committee for vetting the plan. There are no easy answers. We are excited for the start of school. The creativity and hard work of our staff is inspiring.

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.