
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, NAPERVILLE COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 203, DUPAGE AND WILL COUNTIES, ILLINOIS, HELD Naperville Central High School, 440 Aurora Ave, Naperville, IL 60540
April 19, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M., CLOSED SESSION 5:30 p.m.

Call to order

President Kristin Fitzgerald called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Board members present: Charles Cush, Kristin Fitzgerald, Kristine Gericke, Tony Casey, Paul Leong, Donna Wandke, and Joe Kozminski (joined at 5:31pm).

Administrators present were:

Dan Bridges, Superintendent,

Bob Ross, Chief Human Resources Officer, (exited at 6:35 pm)

Michael Frances, Chief Financial Officer/CSBO (exited at 6:35 pm)

Stephanie Posey, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education (exited at 5:50 pm)

Closed Session

Kristine Gericke moved, seconded by Donna Wandke to go into Closed Session at 5:30 p.m. for consideration of:

1. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) Discussion of minutes lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. 03/15/2021, 04/06/2021
2. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) Appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District.
3. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(11) Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular District has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal.
4. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(2) Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives.

Meeting Opening

Charles Cush made a motion, seconded by Kristine Gericke to return to Open Session at 7:04pm. A roll call vote was taken. Those voting yes: Fitzgerald, Wandke, Casey, Kozminski, Leong, Gericke and Cush. No: None. The motion carried

Welcome and Mission

Kristin Fitzgerald welcomed all and read Naperville Community Unit School District 203's Mission Statement.

Roll Call

Board members present: Kristin Fitzgerald, Donna Wandke, Charles Cush, Tony Casey, Paul Leong, Joe Kozminski, and Kristine Gericke.

Student Ambassadors present: Shay Doshi and William Ma.

Administrators present: Dan Bridges, Superintendent, Roger Brunelle, Chief Information Officer Michael Frances, Chief Financial Officer/CSBO, Chuck Freundt, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education, Christine Igoe, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, Rakeda Leaks, Executive Director of Inclusion and Diversity, Sinikka Mondini, Executive Director for Communications, Patrick Nolten, Assistant Superintendent for Assessment and Accountability, Bob Ross, Chief Human Resources Officer, Stephanie Posey, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Led by Board of Education

Public Hearing: Driver's Education Waiver

Board President Fitzgerald outlined the process of the Public Hearing.

President Fitzgerald called the Public Hearing to order at 7:06pm.

Administrator's Comments

Superintendent Bridges and the administration recommend the Board of Education approve our application for the continuation of the State Board of Education waiver. This waiver allows districts to charge a fee different from the state fee of \$250.

Mr. Frances added that this is a continuation of a waiver. The District 203 Driver's Ed fee has been \$400 since 2018. These waivers are good for five years so every five years, we have to reapply. This waiver allows us to set the fee different from the state maximum of \$250.

Public Comments

None

Board of Education Comments

When we talk about fees in 203, they are typically for consumable items that should not be paid for by the district. It looks like this fee is paying the entire amount of the teachers' salaries and

Superintendent Bridges commented that this is an expensive class and it is mandated. It does sit outside but it is required to be offered.

Waiver allows us to charge more than the state limit of \$250. If we only charged the \$250 what would the revenue be if we charged \$250? The waiver allows us to charge something other than \$250. What % of other districts apply for this waiver and charge more than \$250?

Superintendent Bridges noted that we are required to offer this course. The FTE load is very high. The simulators are also expensive. It seems the majority of districts so charge more. The private providers charge more than \$500.

Mr. Frances added that the state changed the fee from \$50 to \$250 because more districts were charging more.

Superintendent Bridges commented that this year there were \$1.1 million in fees were returned this year. The BOE can refund fees whenever they want to.

Do we have to apply now or can we let this expire and then apply

Superintendent Bridges noted there is a legislative window when this can be applied for.

I understand that this course operates at a loss but given all that we see in the community and the resources we have in the district, I am not comfortable charging the extra \$150.

Can we get information from other districts? I would be interested in knowing what the fees are for districts around us. Might be helpful in this situation.

Superintendent Bridges responded that we can get that information. I would encourage the board to approve the waiver and then set the fee later.

When is the waiver form due?

Mr. Frances noted that is not a set date. Goes before the General Assembly two times per year. There are due dates, the next time is a few months away.

As we are hearing colleagues having a lot of questions. Can we put this aside for another meeting.

Can we postpone the approval of the waiver?

Since we have had the hearing, we can just look vote at a different meeting. Do they both have to take place at the same meeting?

Superintendent Bridges noted that we can. The Fall 21 waiver report is August 15 so there will be time to get the requested information prior to taking action. We can put it back on for the two meetings in June.

As a parent, I have experienced the K12 experiences. This is the largest fee for parents. I voted against the fee schedule for this fee.

Superintendent Bridges responded that we brought forward this application for this waiver as a continuation of our policy and our practice that has been in place since 2016-2017. The Board is welcome to set the fee in whatever direction they would like to.

I understand this has been the prior practice. Situations change and I believe there has been enough of a change that we don't need this fee to be so high.

I think the additional information about how other districts are handling this as well as the private fees will help to inform our decision as well.

I have approved this fee in the past as there are a lot more expenses for this course are more than other courses.

Mr. Frances responded that it is hard to pull out the individual costs for this course. There are years where we are buying cars.

Superintendent Bridges clarified that we actually lease the vehicles.

What percentage of students take this course?

Superintendent Bridges remarked that we can look at it and report back.

The number in BoardDocs is the cost for that year?

Mr. Frances responded yes.

As a review, we will have a motion to close this hearing. Later in the meeting, we will delay the waiver until we have additional information in June.

Donna Wandke made a motion to close the Public Hearing, Driver's Education Waiver at 7:27 pm seconded by Tony Casey. Those voting yes: Fitzgerald, Casey, Wandke, Gericke, Leong, Kozminski and Cush. No: None.

Good News

Mrs. Mondini shared the Good News.

She recognized:

NNHS Girls Badminton state champs

NNHS-ESports state champions

WJHS Language Arts Teacher, Lori Kimberley awarded the LG Happiness Award

KJHS student advances to National Competition of MathCounts

KJHS student participated in Illinois Kids Climate Summit

NCHS received national recognition for Music Education Program

Geometry in Construction Class used math skills to build sheds

Technology Center of DuPage named All Star Team for first semester

Public Comment

Additional Public Comments are included in BoardDocs.

President Fitzgerald gave the parameters for public comment. She will designate the next speaker so that they have the appropriate time to enter the meeting room. Issues raised in public comment will be taken under advisement by the Board of Education but will not be discussed in this meeting. Because the questions raised in public comment address district operational matters, the Superintendent is designated by the Board to coordinate responses and will apprise the Board accordingly. All public comments have been added to Board Docs. President Fitzgerald reminded the community that as outlined in Board Policy 2.30, individuals addressing the Board should conduct themselves with respect and civility toward others. Individuals are free to express their criticism regarding Board policy or decisions by the Board but should refrain from personal attacks.

Emmery Clements-Sophomore at NCHS- emailed earlier this year with an issue with Safesearch and the blocking of relevant websites. She offered a huge thank you to Joe J and his team. By working together, they developed a process for students to temporarily request access to websites that may be blocked. This required an update to the acceptable use guidelines and notification to building administrators. Some of the restrictions are in place so the district can participate in savings through erates. These restrictions were created before I was born and before people could carry the internet around in their pocket. The hope was to remove gender bias and take a step towards true equity. It causes one to question whether the savings provided thru erates is worth the censorship, which does not reflect the district's mission.

Rachel McKinney- Celebrate Autism awareness month. Mom of a student with autism. Breathtaking moments of miracles. Grateful for the team of professionals at D203. Thank you for your leadership.

Thank you to all for the email comments. We appreciate your advocacy. We thank you to each and everyone for emailing the board.

Monthly Reports

- Treasury Report- The Board received the February Treasurer’s Statement
- Investments- The Board received the February Investment Report
- Insurance-The Board received the February Insurance Report
- Budget-The Board Received the February Budget Report

Action by Consent:

1. **Bills and Claims** from Warrant #1031665 thru Warrant #30029566 totaling \$30,915,673.17 for the period of March 16, 2021 to April 19, 2021.
2. **Minutes 03/15/2021, 04/06/2021**
3. **Adoption of Personnel Report**

	Effective Date	Location	Position
RESIGNATION-CERTIFIED			
Haley Bork	8/15/2021	WJHS	Mathematics
RE-EMPLOYMENT-CERTIFIED FULL-TIME			
Emily Yung	SY 21-22	NCHS	Learning Behavior Specialist
Timothy Banas	SY 21-22	NCHS	Science
Kaelyn Pettit	SY 21-22	NCHS	Counselor
Claire Kennedy	SY 21-22	NNHS	Social Studies
Kevin E Nalefski	SY 21-22	NNHS	Social Studies
Jennifer Cabrera	SY 21-22	JJHS	6st Grade Math
Dawn Ingram	SY 21-22	LJHS	PLTW/PLTW Coordinator
Caila Klimczak	SY 21-22	NNHS/NCHS	Wellness/PE
Yazmin Nunez	SY 21-22	NCHS	Science
Jennifer Widd	SY 21-22	KJHS	PI+ Science & PI +Social Studies
Sarah Murray	SY 21-22	NCHS	Occupational Therapist
LEAVE OF ABSENCE-CERTIFIED			
Kathleen Blonn	6/8/21-end of SY21, and SY21-22	Highlands	1st Grade
RETIREMENT-CLASSIFIED			
Jean Childers	6/10/2021	NCHS	College & Career Coordinator
Sally J. Wirtz	6/17/2021	NNHS	Department Secretary

Pamela Stevens	7/30/2021	Ellsworth	Executive Secretary
William C. Finch	10/15/2021	Transportation	Bus Driver
TERMINATION-CLASSIFIED			
Shannon P. Wendt	4/4/2021	Transportation	Bus Driver
EMPLOYMENT-CLASSIFIED FULL-TIME			
Ashlee Davis	4/8/2021	Kingsley	Special Education Assistant
Kelly Cunningham	4/19/2021	Beebe	Special Education Assistant
Tammy Maida	4/19/2021	NCHS	Department Secretary

4. Audit Services RFP
5. Bid: Paper Bid
6. Bid: HVAC work-Kingsley
7. Bid: Bus Garage and NCHS Roofing Restoration
8. Bid: Bus Fuel
9. Bid: Bus Purchase
10. DAOES Appointment
11. Donation of Scrap Network Switches
12. IHSA Membership Renewal 2021-2022

Kristin Fitzgerald made a motion to approve Warrant #1031665 thru Warrant #30029566 totaling \$30,915,673.17 for the period of March 16, 2021 to April 19, 2021 and the remaining items on the Consent Agenda with exception of the April 6, 2021 Minutes, Audit Services RFP, Bus Garage and NCHS Roofing Restoration, Bus Fuel Bid and Bus Purchase Bid, seconded by Donna Wandke. Those voting yes: Cush, Casey, Fitzgerald, Wandke, Kozminski, Leong and Gericke. No: None.

April 6, 2021 Minutes

Donna Wandke made a motion to approve the April 6, 2021 minutes as presented seconded by Joe Kozminski. Those voting yes: Fitzgerald, Kozminski, Gericke, Casey, Leong and Wandke. Abstain: Cush. No: None.

Audit Services RFP

Can you talk about why this is treated differently than other services that we have to submit for bids?

Mr. Frances remarked that there is a state statute that says what Boards have to send out for Bids. There are others that we can request proposals. The requirements are not the same as bids where you have to accept the lowest bids. We have provided the board with a summary of the costs.

What are some of the criteria that put this company ahead of the other proposals?

Mr. Frances responded this is the second lowest and will be a cost savings over the last year's audit. We do use this firm for another service. They are easy to work with. Scored high in reference with other districts and they are a local firm. They have a lot of expertise in school districts. The lowest bidder did not have the same qualifications and experience with school districts.

How will we have address the audit and actuarial work?

Mr. Frances noted that next year we will have to put out another request for proposal.

Joe Kozminski made a motion to approve the Audit Services RFP as presented seconded by Tony Casey. Those voting yes: Wandke, Leong, Fitzgerald, Kozminski, Gericke, Cush and Casey. No: None. Motion carried.

Bus Garage and NCHS Roofing Restoration

Why was this work combined?

Mr. Frances asked Pat Dolan to come and talk about this structure. Did want to allow him more flexibility to deny any bids that were not satisfactory.

Mr. Dolan added that he was bidding three projects that are related. Felt we would get the best package price by combining these smaller projects. Looked at them as one project with two sites. Asked for bids as separate sites. The total project cost we will gain some efficiencies with scheduling.

Can you talk about the efficiencies as this is still about \$10,000 more than the lowest bids.

Mr. Dolan stated the efficiencies are the starting and stopping on our schedule. We will start at the bus barn and then move to NCHS and use one crew and get ahead of the roofing season. If we pulled this apart, we can go with the lowest of each.

Superintendent Bridges asked how does this compare to our expected costs?

Mr. Dolan responded that we came in under budget by about \$15K than budgeted.

Superintendent Bridges noted the specifications written allow us to accept the bids broken out. There was an expectation that we would combine. This would allow us to complete all the work that needs to be done this summer by controlling the schedule. There is concern that some bids may get pulled if companies are not awarded both projects.

Still have a concern that it is \$10,000 more.

Mr. Dolan stated we can pull this and rebid. We still have complete control.

Did you say that you would combine these?

Superintendent Bridges stated that we can award the two lowest and if one decides not to take it, can we go with this combined? What is the recommendation from the Board for Mr. Frances?

Modified recommendation is to accept the two lowest and if that doesn't work, can we give the authority if one pulls out to award to the next lowest bidder.

Would we use the bus garage and then all the NCHS work?

Mr. Dolan stated that we would go with the lowest base bid.

Donna Wandke made a motion to table the Bus Garage and NCHS Roofing Restoration until the next meeting seconded by Kristine Gericke. Those voting yes: Cush, Leong, Casey, Fitzgerald, Kozminski, Gericke, and Wandke. No: None. Motion carried.

Bus Fuel

What is the fuel that we are using? Is there something we can use that is more environmentally conscious?

Mr. Frances responded that we use diesel. This is the typical bid we bring before the board.

Are we looking at alternatives?

Mr. Frances noted there are alternative fuels. We are at the very early stages in D203. We do need to look at that but it will impact a lot of areas. It needs a thorough study.

In the future we may look at purchasing a bus that uses a different fuel source.

Have we considered biodiesel? Will that still work in the buses we have because it is diesel?

Mrs. LaBorn stated she is not ready to answer that tonight.

This is a bid is for regular fuel. What is we do to winterize the fuel? I have never understood the cost in winterizing the buses.

Mr. Frances remarked that he believes it is an additive. This bid is for the index price so that fuel is a little more expensive but the index would hold it to the price of the particular winner of the bid.

So this bid includes both.

Mr. Frances and Mrs. LaBorn responded yes.

So the additive is an additional cost?

Mrs. LaBorn repeated, no the providers take care of this and send us the fuel that is appropriate for the current weather conditions. It is already included in the index price.
Superintendent Bridges noted that the additional requested information can be ready for June or August.

Donna Wandke made a motion to approve the Bus Fuel Bid as presented seconded by Charles Cush. Those voting yes: Kozminski, Cush, Wandke, Leong, Fitzgerald, Casey and Gericke. No: None. Motion carried.

Bus Purchase

I pulled due to one vendor not bidding due to timing and current bus market. Can you help me understand that?

Mr. Frances reported that he asked Mrs. LaBorn to reach out as to hesitancy. When the boards award the contracts, manufacturing begins. The Pandemic has affected the timing. One vendor could not meet the timeline and the amount of buses were not enough to bid for them. Somewhat understandable in this environment.

Superintendent Bridges asked if we are limited on the number of companies that we can receive bids from due to them covering within a region.

Can you elaborate as to why we can only receive three bids?

Mr. Frances responded that there are several types of buses and to keep it competitive, there are limits to the number of companies that can be solicited within a region.

You are saying that we can only reach out to companies in our region?

Mr. Frances remarked that is correct.

Did you say you are looking into other types of buses, hybrid, etc.?

Mr. Frances commented that yes, we are in the early phases of that and will look at that.

Is there information from the previous years so we can understand how competitive this bid is?

Mr. Frances stated that each year we have bid for about 17 vehicles but the make up of types is different. Last year it was \$94,500 per bus for 10 busses.

Where are we as we know this has been difficult in previous years. How do you recommend we proceed so that we get the most competitive bid?

Mr. Frances noted that we would not have enough time to rebid this and get these new buses before the start of the school year. An alternative is we could look into buying year old buses. I don't know if there are any available. That is the only way we could get newer busses for the start of the school year. Superintendent Bridges acknowledged that this is frustrating. It is such a narrow market. We have been thoughtful about reviewing the process. The team has done their due diligence in this process. At this point, are you confident that this is a competitive bid and we can recommend the board approves?

Mr. Frances stated that we are recommending that this be approved as presented.

Can we table and look to see if year old buses are available?

Superintendent Bridges remarked that if we delay, we run the risk of not getting these buses at the start of the school year.

Options are to accept as recommended or to reject.

Mr. Frances added that if we reject, this will affect the budget. We are trying to get into a place where we are replacing 1/8 of our fleet annually. We can delay but will have to double up. We are disappointed as well and feel this is a reasonable bid.

Did we purchase last year?

Superintendent Bridges stated yes in April of 2019 and 2020.

Hearing about the concerns. I appreciate the discussion, I feel we need to approve as there is a low likelihood of there being a bidder who will have a much lower bid.

Would like to approve but would like to have additional information as to buying used buses or alternative fueled busses.

Feel this is a good bid.

We need to look at the bidding timeline.

We have had this discussion about timing before. Why are we not pushing this timing to earlier in the year?

Mr. Frances stated that he does not recall any discussions of moving this earlier with the Board. Transportation has had discussions about moving this to earlier in the year.

I can support approving this bid but would like to evaluate greener options in the future.

Can support approving and support moving this timeline up and look at additional strategies to receive more bids.

Appreciate your responsiveness to our concerns. We need to also look at timelines for work that is time sensitive.

Kristine Gericke made a motion to approve the Bus Purchase Bid as presented seconded by Joe Kozminski. Those voting yes: Gericke, Fitzgerald, Leong, Kozminski, and Casey. No: Wandke and Cush. Motion carried.

Student Ambassador Reports

Shay Doshi-NNHS

- Congratulations to NNHS badminton and Esports on their state championships
- Concerns with CDC and school guidelines as it relates to sports
- Prom planning is happening

William Ma

- Cap & Gown pickup for seniors happened at the building last Tuesday in a drive-thru setting. Also on Tuesday, the juniors took the SAT in person at the building.
- There are also some notable upcoming events.
- Prom, which is going to occur on May 1st at the Abbingdon. There will not be dancing due to COVID guidelines and I believe seating will be limited to groups of 6. There will be dinner and other entertainment.
- Theater Central will be hosting a play on April 23rd and 24th in a live streamed format.
- There will also be a fully remote half-day on Friday, May 7th.
Update on sports:
- There are a lot of sports now competing. At Central, the list of sports is as follows:
- Boys and Girls Volleyball, Boys and Girls Water Polo, Girls Soccer, Boys Tennis, Boys and Girls Track and Field, Boys and Girls Lacrosse, Football, Wrestling, Softball, and Baseball.

Written Communications

Freedom of Information Requests:

Abderhalden-Board of Education and Superintendent Email information

Baskin-Equity Institute Information

Collins-Equity Institute Information

Federalist-Equity Institute Information

Higgins-Board of Education and Board of Education Candidate Information

IIIFFC-Buildings and Grounds Information

IIIFFC-Buildings and Grounds Information

Kaminski-Superintendent Email Information

ProPublica-Behavior Data Information

Sommerfeld-Business Office Information

Forster- NUEA Contract Information

Meadows-Human Resources Information

Superintendent/Staff/School Report

Return to Learn Update

Superintendent Bridges updated the Board and Community on our Return to Learn plan.

- Updated information was posted today by the DuPage County Health Department. Any updates to what we present this evening, will be shared with the community.
- We expect there to be further guidance from ISBE/IDPH as soon as tomorrow for 2021-2022 school year. As we have throughout the pandemic, we will update as we receive further guidance and clarification.
- As we expected, students returning to a more traditional schedule has been positive for our community. Our educators have focused on SEL by strengthening relationships with and between students and provided the necessary support to ensure a successful transition these past nine school days. Students have been visibly excited to reconnect with their classmates and have continued to exceed our expectations wearing masks, staying socially distanced, and frequently using hand sanitizer throughout the school day. Buddy Benches at elementary have been successfully used by new students who have only known classmates through Zoom.
- All schools have begun to safely hold extracurricular activities for students.
- While our EC-8 students have returned to a traditional school day schedule, things certainly are not back to the way they were prior to the pandemic. Learning spaces continue to provide 6ft of distance between students whenever possible but no less than 3ft per guidelines from IDPH. Students and staff are still required to wear face masks in school, as mandated by the ISBE and IDPH, as well as outdoors when social distancing is not possible. Additional transition time is necessary during arrival, at lunchtime, between classes, and at dismissal to ensure everyone remains safe when moving about our school campuses.
- As we have more students on campus, we are naturally experiencing an increase in the number of close contacts identified when we conduct contact tracing. A small number of close contacts are related to students being in close proximity to one another in the classroom. The majority of the students are being identified as a close contact while participating in extracurricular activities or riding the bus. IDPH and DCHD require all close contacts to quarantine for 14 days from their last exposure to the positive individual.
- Students who participate in moderate or high risk sports, may be assessed as a close contact when there contact is less than 15 minutes. DCHD determines who is a close contact in these situations.
- We are hopeful this is a surge related to spring break and that we will see a decline in the number of close contacts in the upcoming weeks. We will continue to update the COVID dashboard with information about positive cases and the number of students in quarantine. We have broken this information down by level, so that parents can review and make informed decisions for their students.
- When students are identified as a close contact IDPH and DCHD require students quarantine for 14 days from their last day of contact with the COVID-19 positive person. During quarantine, students are not able to participate in ANY in-person learning activities or extracurricular activities. Students must complete the full quarantine timeframe- there is no testing option to shorten the time frame. These requirements are not determined by the district and we do not have the ability to make any adjustments to these requirements.
- In order to complete the contact tracing in a timely manner, we will be adjusting our notification procedures. Our health office will provide a robo call and text notification will be sent to families notifying them of the close contact and asking them to check their email for further details.

- The [DuPage County Health Department](#) (DCHD), [Illinois Department of Health \(IDPH\)](#), and the [CDC](#) continue to endorse a full 14-day quarantine as the safest option for minimizing the spread of the COVID-19 virus.
- The DCHD and IDPH do allow for a 10 day quarantine period, but only if 6ft of physical distance can be maintained at school. Under the new guidance, we cannot guarantee 6ft of distance for students in the classroom and therefore cannot implement the reduced quarantine procedures. ([IDPH FAQ Document](#)- Question 2)
- We have about 94% of our staff who have been vaccinated.
- At all levels, there are plans for end of the year activities to enhance transition between grade levels and schools. The transition between 5th and 6th grade are being collaboratively planned between elementary and middle school staff. Our junior highs are also planning to hold the traditional moving on ceremonies in person at each building. Our 8th graders are excited to start attending high school and the high schools can't for them to join the Huskies and Redhawk families. Both high schools are planning in person opportunities for current and incoming freshman to get acclimated to the schools, extracurricular offerings and understand the traditions and events that make high school an amazing experience. Central and North are also planning for in person graduation ceremonies on June 6th.
- Through all of our Return to Learn communication for over a year now, we have reiterated our belief that in-person learning is most effective for the vast amount of our students. As we prepare for a full return to in-person learning at all levels next school year, we also recognize that students who are at risk of severe illness due to COVID-19 will need an alternate learning option. Understanding which of our students require an alternate option will drive our planning for next school year as it could look different depending on the total number of students at the grade level, program level, and course level. We are prepared to communicate with all Naperville 203 families this Wednesday to gather an initial intent for 2021-2022. Specifically, parents and guardians will be provided the criteria for medical eligibility and a short questionnaire so we can anticipate the learning programming that will be needed. This information is only for district-level planning purposes at this time. Families will receive additional information at a later date guiding them through the process to register for an alternate learning option should that be needed.

Board questions/comments:

Thank you for the updates.

Do you have a breakdown of percentage by grade level of attendance?

Dr. Nolten stated that we are as low as 60% at the high school level, we are as high as 95% as some elementary schools. Overall, we are still at the 72.75% range. We will continue to watch trends to use in planning for next school year.

With Quarantine numbers going up, how is contract tracing done?

Noting that Dr. Igoe had a conflict this evening, Superintendent Bridges noted that it is a laborious process. We will be looking at the new guidance to see if we can review who is actually a close contact. We are allowed to go within 3 feet but the contract tracing is still within 6 feet.

Mr. Ross added that the close contacts are the highest priority to be contacted so they are not returning to the building

Within the classroom, how quickly are they notified?

Mr. Freundt responded that seating charts are helpful at the elementary level. As soon as the nurse/school is notified, the contract tracing begins. We can typically turn that around in a couple of hours. It is more urgent if we are hearing about it during the school day. Can take longer if student rides a bus and with extracurricular activities.

Mrs. Posey added that the Junior Highs work similarly, just on a larger scale. At the High School, level it is a much larger scale and involves coaches and teachers noting close contacts.

William Ma- Forced to follow guidelines from county. Will there be adjustments as more students are vaccinated?

Superintendent Bridges noted that vaccines do change some of the quarantines.

Mr. Ross added the guidelines for fully vaccinated staff for quarantine have changed. Now, they do not need to quarantine. We have saved a lot of quarantine days as we have more staff quarantined.

Superintendent Bridges added the guidelines for fully vaccinated people mean two weeks following the second shot. We will seek clarification as to how this relates to students.

William Ma-94% of staff, do we have the numbers of students, when do we anticipate herd immunity?

Superintendent Bridges noted the county is working with school districts to get students vaccinated.

Dr. Nolten added that we are collaborating with Indian Prairie to provide 6000 vaccinations for students and other community members.

Thank you for the work on the dashboard. Quarantining will be a continuing issue.

Superintendent Bridges remarked that on the calls with the county, there is frustration with the 3 feet vs 6 feet guideline for quarantines. They are not willing to budge on that right now. We continue to advocate for more mobile decision making to determine what a close contact is.

We all want to control the spread. It is also confusing when the guidance between the public health departments is not the same.

Superintendent Bridges noted the big differentiator is the 10 day quarantine is allowed when you can guarantee 6 feet at all times. We cannot guarantee 6 feet.

Appreciate your communication with our families as to the guidance. Some students are making the decision to stay home and in those students remaining in person, we are maintaining at 6 feet.

Superintendent Bridges added that building administrators knows that it is to be a distance of 6 feet when possible with a gradual reduction. We do our best work when students are in front of teachers.

In terms of quarantining for next year, how will we accommodate those students who need to quarantine?

Superintendent Bridges noted that IDPH priority is in person instruction. We opted to allow those quarantining to be remote. We will follow the guidelines of the IDPH in the fall. The reality is that the blended teaching is not the best model for us. It is not a sustainable model. We have learned some things and we will have to apply those in the fall.

President's Report

President Fitzgerald reported on the National School Board Conference. Very helpful conference with education for board members. It is nice that it was virtual as more of us were able to attend.

Mrs. Gericke added that the conference was helpful. For those unable to attend, we have access to the content for 90 days.

Board of Education Report

None

Discussion without Action

2021-2022 Board Meeting Calendar

Superintendent Bridges remarked that formal action will take place after the new board is seated. We have this, as meetings will continue at PSAC. Would like to evaluate a space. This puts an imposition on NCHS now that students and more activities are occurring.

Historically this board meets on the first and third Mondays. The July meeting should be scheduled on July 19.

Board check schedule to see about the July 12 meeting date moving to July 19.

Discussion with Action

Driver's Education Waiver

We are looking for a motion to table the Driver's Education Waiver until we receive some additional information.

Board questions/comments:

Charles Cush made a motion to table the Driver's Education Waiver, Joe Kozminski seconded. Those voting yes: Fitzgerald, Wandke, Casey, Kozminski, Leong, Gericke and Cush. Those voting no: Leong. Motion carried.

Superintendent Bridges noted there will be no action on Policy 7.190 and Policy 2.265 due to changes from legal counsel

Policy Review: Second Reading Policy 7.180

Mrs. Posey noted there have been no changes from first reading.

Board questions/comments:

There are some names that have been amended in 7.190 but not here.

Superintendent Bridges responded that we will make those amendments.

Tony Casey made a motion to approve Policy 7.180 as amended, Charles Cush seconded. Those voting yes: Leong, Gericke, Fitzgerald, Casey, Wandke, Cush and Kozminski. Those voting no: None. Motion carried

Policy Review: Second Reading Policy 7.190

Donna Wandke made a motion to table Policy 7.190, Kristine Gericke seconded. Those voting yes: Kozminski, Casey, Leong, Wandke, Gericke, Fitzgerald and Cush. Those voting no: None. Motion carried.

Policy Review: Second Reading Policy 7.240

Mrs. Posey noted that minor changes had been made since the first reading.

Board questions/comments:

None.

Charles Cush made a motion to approve Policy 7.240 as presented, Kristine Gericke seconded. Those voting yes: Leong, Kozminski, Fitzgerald, Cush, Gericke, Casey and Wandke. Those voting no: None. Motion carried.

Policy Review: Second Reading Policy 2.260

Superintendent Bridges noted that legal counsel did provide options.

Mrs. Posey remarked that the language that was removed to insulate the board. The suggestion to remove the language was so that parents did not reach out to Board members seeking information that could complicate the process. If the Board wants to keep the language, our recommendation would be that the Superintendent share the receipt of a complaint, the date of the complaint and whether the complaint has been filed on behalf of a student, employee or member of the community.

Board questions/comments:

I would be in favor of alternative language

This language could be problematic for appeals if we have information prior.

Deadlines can be extended as appropriate. Is there anywhere where there is a timeline?

Superintendent Bridges remarked, let us get some answers to these questions and bring back to the next meeting. We can bring two versions.

I respect Mr. Casey's comments in regard to his legal perspective. Is there a feeling that including the language to be shared with the Board that will not insulate the Board to avoid bias if there is an appeal?

The cleanest way to be the appellate is to not have any prior information. That is what this language is saying.

I am comfortable with striking the language.

I like the notice so that we would be aware that there are multiple notices on the same matter. Superintendent Bridges there is a process for this notice. Should stay as is with the language struck.

With the Board being the final arbiter, the board would be notified.

The board could add language to give the board notice once the appeals process is complete.

Maybe we can add that there be some notice requirement just so the Board is aware.

Superintendent Bridges repeated that we will get legal counsel

Charles Cush made a motion to table Policy 2.260, Joe Kozminski seconded. Those voting yes: Cush, Casey, Fitzgerald, Wandke, Kozminski, Leong and Gericke. Those voting no: None. Motion carried.

Policy Review: Second Reading Policy 2.265

Board questions/comments:

Joe Kozminski made a motion to table Policy 2.265, Kristine Gericke seconded. Those voting yes: Gericke, Fitzgerald, Kozminski, Cush, Wandke, Leong and Casey. Those voting no: None. Motion carried.

Policy Review: Second Reading Policy 7.20

Minor changes

Board questions/comments:

There is a reference to bullying policy and the structure.

Donna Wandke made a motion to approve Policy 7.20, Kristine Gericke seconded. Those voting yes: Cush, Leong, Kozminski, Casey, Fitzgerald, Wandke and Gericke. Those voting no: None. Motion carried.

Policy Review: Second Reading Policy 7.150

Superintendent Bridges noted that the formatting issues that will be cleaned up prior to posting.

Mrs. Posey added that this policy does include feedback from legal counsel, staff and families

Board questions/comments:

Kristine Gericke made a motion to approve Policy 7.150 as presented, Joe Kozminski seconded. Those voting yes: Leong, Fitzgerald, Gericke, Wandke, Casey, Cush and Kozminski. No: None. Motion carried.

Policy Review: Second Reading Policy 7.345

Superintendent Bridges noted that this policy aligns with state data privacy laws.

No additional information.

Board questions/comments:

Joe Kozminski made a motion to approve Policy 7.345 as presented, Tony Casey seconded. Those voting yes: Cush, Leong, Fitzgerald, Wandke, Casey, Kozminski and Gericke. Those voting no: None. Motion carried.

New Course Proposals

Superintendent Bridges noted that Learning Services is proposing to implement two new courses, Music Production Level 2 and American Sign Language Sequence: Levels 1-2. Administration recommends approval as presented.

Board questions/comments:

Can we talk about how students will receive additional support with the removal of the Algebra Core and Geometry Core?

Superintendent Bridges noted this has been a work in progress. The commitment is to give students the typical courses with additional supports.

Jackie Thornton, Assistant Principal at NCHS added that we set the groundwork for removal a couple of years ago. We added two Math courses. Students who struggle, struggle because they struggle with the number line. Geometry in Construction is a logical approach to help these students who have a gap in number sense.

In the process of vetting a course for Algebra in Manufacturing. Like the Geometry course, this gives students a hands on approach. We are in the process of building that Tier 1 pathway.

We are also working to strengthen MTSS in Math courses. Our PLC are high functioning and focused on assessing current needs of students. AT NCHS we piloted a Tier 2 support for math.

We are confident that these supports will support these students.

Superintendent Bridges added with added Math specialists, we are wanting to support these students in the regular classroom.

Dr. Nolten noted that we looked at trajectory of courses and future success on SAT

Thank you for the continuous looking at how to move students forward.

Joe Kozminski made a motion to approve New Courses as presented Kristine Gericke seconded. Those voting yes: Casey, Leong, Kozminski, Wandke, Cush, Gericke and Fitzgerald.. Those voting no: None. Motion carried.

Instructional Resources

Superintendent Bridged noted there is no new information. Administration recommends that these be approved as presented.

Board questions/comments:

Staff is to be completing a comprehensive curriculum review with the comprehensive equity plan. Were these chosen because of that or when is that coming?

Mrs. Donatelli remarked these are in alignment with the comprehensive equity plan. The Great Lakes resource center has given us tools to begin the process.

Kristine Gericke made a motion to approve the Instructional Resources as presented, Donna Wandke seconded. Those voting yes: Casey, Cush, Fitzgerald, Leong, Kozminski, Wandke and Gericke. Those voting no: None. Motion carried.

Recommendations for Additional Academic and SEL Support

Superintendent Bridged noted there have been a couple of modifications. Clarification that it is ESSER funds. Recommendation that the BOE use the ESSER funds of \$6.7 million for additional Academic and SEL Support.

Thank you for the work on this.

Board questions/comments:

Thank you to the administration for looking for available funds.

Appreciate the modifications.

Appreciate the administration making the modification that we will use the ESSER funds first.

Want to be sure that we are reaching out to the community to be sure that the community is aware of what we are offering.

Please share as soon as the programs are developed.

Donna Wandke made a motion to approve Additional Academic and SEL support as modified, Joe Kozminski seconded. Those voting yes: Leong, Fitzgerald, Wandke, Gericke, Cush, Kozminski and Casey. Those voting no: None. Motion carried.

Old Business:

None

New Business

None

Upcoming Events

Superintendent Bridges noted the next May 3. Graduation on June 6. Schedule for Board of Education members at graduation.

Adjournment

Kristine Gericke moved seconded by Charles Cush to adjourn the meeting at 10:08 p.m. A roll call vote was taken. Those voting yes: Gericke, Kozminski, Leong, Wandke, Casey, Fitzgerald and Cush.

Approved: May 18, 2021

Kristin Fitzgerald, President, Board of Education

Susan Patton, Secretary, Board of Education