
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, NAPERVILLE COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 203, DUPAGE AND WILL COUNTIES, ILLINOIS, HELD At Washington Junior High School
August 2, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M., CLOSED SESSION 6:00 p.m.

Call to order

President Kristin Fitzgerald called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Board members present: Kristin Fitzgerald, Kristine Gericke, Joe Kozminski, Amanda McMillen, and Donna Wandke. Absent: Charles Cush and Tony Casey.

Administrators present were:

Dan Bridges, Superintendent,
Bob Ross, Chief Human Resources Officer
Michael Frances, Chief Financial Officer/CSBO
Gretchen Gallois, Director of Human Resources

Closed Session

Amanda McMillen moved, seconded by Kristine Gericke to go into Closed Session at 6:01 p.m. for consideration of:

1. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District.
2. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(2) Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives.
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.

President Fitzgerald noted that the CDC, IDPH and DCHD recommending that all individuals wear masks regardless of vaccination status. We respectfully request that you honor our decision that all individuals at the board meeting wear masks regardless of vaccination status.

Meeting Opening

Joe Kozminski made a motion, seconded by Kristine Gericke to return to Open Session at 7:05 p.m. A roll call vote was taken. Those voting yes: McMillen, Gericke, Fitzgerald, Wandke and Kozminski. 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, Kristine Gericke, Donna Wandke, Joe Kozminski, and Amanda McMillen. Absent: Tony Casey and Charles Cush.

Student Ambassadors present: None.

Administrators present: Dan Bridges, Superintendent, Roger Brunelle, Chief Information Officer, Michael Frances, Chief Financial Officer/CSBO, Chuck Freundt, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education, Lisa Xagas, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, Rakeda Leaks, Executive Director of Inclusion and Diversity, Patrick Nolten, Assistant Superintendent for Assessment and Accountability, Chala Holland, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services, John Bruesch, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services Bob Ross, Chief Human Resources Officer, and Jayne Willard, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction.

Pledge of Allegiance

Led by the Board of Education

Public Hearing: eLearning Plan

At 7:07 pm, President Fitzgerald called to order the Public Hearing regarding the District's intent to submit an eLearning plan to the Regional Office of Education and ISBE to allow the district to use eLearning in lieu of canceling school and using an emergency day.

She reviewed the process of the Public Hearing.

Administrators Comments

Superintendent Bridges reviewed what was presented at the August 2, 2021 Board of Education meeting. Effective July 1, 2019, Districts are required to provide a school day that consists of a minimum of five hours of instructional time of eLearning that can be used in lieu of an emergency day. See the attachment in Board Docs for more information. Mrs. Willard added that this will be an asynchronous day for students and teachers and staff will be available online to support student learning.

Public Comments

Gracia Livie- Offers great flexibility for some students but for other students this is a missed learning day. Please don't use this for a small amount of snow.

Board of Education Comments

None

Close Public Hearing: eLearning Plan

President Fitzgerald closed the Public hearing at 7:10pm.

Good News

Superintendent Bridges reported that as a member of Team USA, Judson Lam participated in the International Biology Olympiad (IBO) competition last week. This year's competition was hosted by Portugal and just like last year, it was moved to online due to COVID. After a couple rounds of exams, Judson was named one of the Gold medalists at last Friday's IBO Closing Ceremony. Over 300 outstanding High School students from 76 countries all over the world have participated in this year's competition and only 30 students were awarded the Gold medals. This is the second time Judson represented Team USA at the IBO competition and was awarded the Gold medal in both years.

Public Comment:

President Fitzgerald gave the parameters for public comment. She will designate the next speaker so that they have the appropriate time to prepare. 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.

Liz Brown-Has been seeing signs about following the science and unmasking our children. I am an Emergency Physician with 16 months of treating COVID patients- could be 1 death in our district. Children are at risk for long haul COVID. Some end up with these symptoms after 4 months. That is 50% of kids with COVID. Cannot wait until you are symptomatic. Kids deserve to be protected.

Agnes Choi-7 year old daughter at Steeple Run- implore the BOE to require students to wear mask until a vaccine is approved. Appalled at those who do not want to have students wear masks. We had very little spread due to the mitigations that were in place.

Dr. Dana Bussing- read a letter signed by 54 physicians who live and practice in Naperville and have students in NCUSD 203. Talked about the prevalence of Delta Variant. Children under 12 are still

ineligible for vaccinations. Only 1/3 of those who are eligible have been vaccinated. We adamantly want students in school and appreciate the layered approach that schools have taken. Strongly recommend that D203 continue the universal masking for all students.

Dr. Shivani Desai-Prevention works. Wearing a mask in schools is what will be best for students. Kids can get used to masks. I am looking at this as a mom.

Dr. Reshma Desai-desperately want children to go back to school on August 19. Appreciate the work of the district to keep our students safe during the last school year. We went back to quarantine but did not have to go back to remote learning. Saw the psychological impact of COVID. Vaccination and universal masking. Delta variant is turning out to be the most contagious virus in kids.

Dr. Shimoni Dharia-cannot downplay the impact of COVID 19 in kids. The emergence of new variants like the Delta variant is primarily infecting younger patients. We support the use of masks. Schools fared impressively well last year due to the diligence of wearing masks.

Eric Sutton-I would like to add that 21 children have died in IL. We will continue to see cases rise. Just moved here last week and chose Naperville due to the downtown and schools. School districts around the area are thriving with afterschool activities. I would like to get involved and help with many options in after school activities.

Tim Thompson-states he unequivocally stands with Naperville teachers. Encourage the BOE and Superintendent to continue to meet with them to reach a resolution. Come to teach about reading comprehension. We all saw a sign that read "Mask required." Many seem to have not understood what that means. Showed how quickly COVID can spread by using a math example.

Colleen Myerscough-support teachers and hope the D203 BOE decides to require masking for the foreseeable future. I know that this is hard for all. We can only beat this if we come together as a community. Give students breaks this year. If this variant slows down then we can rethink the mask requirements.

Jolene Fiscella- family stayed safe and healthy with son staying remotely. Learned well and accomplished so much but it was difficult. We believe that in person is best. Son is vaccinated now and has been able to socialize. Implore you to listen to science and medical professionals so all can go to school in person.

Melinda Wong-Speaking as a Mom. Appreciate the BOE and Administration for all of your work. We value your work. Two sides to every coin. We will all be on different sides of masking. We cannot see this as taking sides. All people have equal value. The true conflict is not hearing the issue. Let love, not fear, not science, not government, not school administrations decide. We all desire to be understood. Communication cannot happen properly in masks. Can teachers wear a shield?

Julianna Russo-Speaking as a COVID survivor with little to no symptoms and no long haul symptoms. Using students as a pawn. Most of you don't have students in this district who go to school. Masks make us feel disconnected from each other. I have never felt lonelier than I did in the 2020-2021 school year. I will be able to vote in the next election and I will not vote for any of you.

Ann Marie Tracy- talked about William who is age 6. He has 40% hearing loss. He felt confused when other students stood or did things because he did not hear the teachers. Worry that he will be catching up for years to come. Please remember hearing impaired kids like my son.

Jim Parker-Maplebrook letter that all will mask. I am here for real compromise. Tons of districts in Illinois that are mask optional. Not one single study has been conducted to study the actual safety of masks. The death rate increases week over week. The only statistic that should matter is how many are being hurt by this.

Brenna Bachhaus-masks don't help and they deplete our oxygen. You have the right to do what you want and so do I. We all have the right to make our own decisions. We live in America where we are free to make our own decisions.

Anthony Lieggi- incoming 8th grader at MJHS. I do gymnastics in a mask. Masks protect others from you. Masks may be the best current measure we can take to keep students safe. COVID is not over and we should not assume that it is.

Jim Swanson-parent of two students at Scott School. Concerned that people say we put on a simple mask. To issue a mask in the professional world, masks have to be fit tested and people have to be

cleared to wear a mask. We don't know what these masks are made out of. Whatever these masks are made of is going into your breath.

Melissa Lee- speaking for a group. Not an anti mask person. Children are the least likely to have serious complications Please accept all exemptions for medical reasons. Read a number of statements from several parents regarding masks. All are stating that masks are difficult for students to wear all day. Communication issues abound for a number of students. They are missing lots of social cues. No concerns about learning styles of students.

Allison George-junior at NCHS- received the vaccine so I could be free from the restrictions of last year and to help those who are more vulnerable. I have done all things that adults have told me. Wearing a mask all day is giving me headaches and anxiety. Why should I protect those who have chosen not to be vaccinated?

Jenny George- Talked about studies that masks do not work. Pulled from the CDC website today. There is a lack of correlation between mask mandates and COVID spread. 1% of fully vaccinated people in DuPage county have had COVID.

Gina Hutton- four students. Urge the BOE to allow parents to make the decision on wearing masks. There are already exemptions from vaccines for students. Unvaccinated children are not required to wear masks. It is discrimination to require students to wear masks who are not vaccinated. Kids don't complain about masks but my daughter came home many days

Ulysses Soto-thank you for your hard work and dedication. We don't talk about the follow the money. Looking from the BOE to make courageous decisions for children. This is not about health. This is about the money. Follow the money not the science.

Ken Jay-All numbers are conflated as the PCR tests could not differentiate between COVID, flu or common cold. Let parents decide if they want their students to wear masks and let teachers decide if they want to wear masks.

David Wade- masks are useless. Masks have risks associated with them. COVID is not dangerous. Difficult position for the BOE to be in. Let's not succumb to panic. Mandating masks can undermine the core mission of District 203.

John Blakey-Waiting for comments to my comments to the Equity plan. Assumed my kids would learn the academic courses. Our students are learning diversity, equity and inclusion. These ideologies are now being taught

It is time for us to wake up and see what is happening to our country.

Lorelei Elyea-8th grade year was cut short due to COVID. Had to go to private school because I could not learn. Online learning and the block schedule is worse. I only had my classes once a week. I should be able to do my classes in person. I almost failed classes due to my homework not transmitting to teachers.

Josh McBroom- moved by the speaker about the lack of being listened too. Have chosen to not listen to people who want to muzzle my children. Thank you for the medical professionals who clearly collaborated tonight and gave their opinion. I am here to tell you that my children will not be wearing masks when school starts.

Amanda Mullarkey-Masks hurt when we are teaching reading. Cannot correctly see teachers model the correct sounds. Dyslexia, took until the end of third grade to be diagnosed. We need to use evidence based instruction but that will not happen if we are still in masks. Literacy is an equity issue. Kids don't have more time to lose. Please use the local control to provide our kids with the FAPE. Need to learn to live with COVID.

Eric Mallory- why are we here? We are here for the kids. Let there be choices for people. Masks for kids are more harmful. We cannot vaccinate ourselves out of this virus. Herd Immunity is the only way out of COVID. Make masks optional. Guidelines are just guidelines and do not have to be focused. Reading is not the problem; it is what the sign says.

Chris Wong- Equity plan and have some comments. Broad concept but have concerns about how we will go about them. How will you implement and how will you calculate the success? Not discounting the race issues but it isn't in a singular direction. We need to remember character development is very important.

Gracia Livie-CNN- said that some of the face coverings are not healthy. That is why they are making recommendations and not requirements. My family is investigating if we can bring a civil rights suit against the district.

Thank you to all who issued public comments both in person and via email.
Reminder that the BOE has designated the Superintendent to respond to all public comments.

Action by Consent:

1. Adoption of Personnel Report

	Effective Date	Location	Position
RESIGNATION-CERTIFIED			
Lisa Waterman	8/15/2021	JJHS	Math Intervention Specialist
Jennifer Davis	8/15/2021	NNHS	Learning Behavior Specialist
Kayla Rutkowski	8/15/2021	WJHS	Art Teacher
Todd Ramsbottom	8/15/2021	LJHS	Science Teacher
Kari Buttera	8/6/2021	NNHS	Social Worker
Stephanie Korntheuer	8/15/2021	Steeple Run	EL Teacher
Michele Delgado	7/15/2021	Steeple Run	3rd Grade
Kathleen Casey	7/20/2021	Maplebrook/Ranch View	Certified School Nurse
Jennifer Rembrecht	8/15/2021	Ann Reid	EC Teacher
Marie Weston	8/15/2021	NNHD	Art Teacher
Elizabeth Glazik	8/15/2021	Ann Reid	Speech-Language Pathologist
Nicole E Jones	8/15/2021	NNHS	FACS
Amanda Bosserman	8/2/2021	MJHS/KJHS	Art Teacher (part time)
APPOINTMENT-CERTIFIED FULL-TIME			
Matthew Carder	SY 21-22	Beebe/Ellsworth	Band
Samatha Benjamin	SY 21-22	Beebe	Learning Behavioral Specialist
Katherine Ruffo Petriz	SY 21-22	Elmwood	1st Grade DL Teacher
Renee Propp	SY 21-22	Kingsley	Kindergarten
Tyra Belanger	SY 21-22	KJHS	PTLW Teacher
Alexa Gallione	SY 21-22	Highlands	Learning Behavior Specialist
Sara Gulino	SY 21-22	Ellsworth	3rd Grade
Meghan Razzini	SY 21-22	KJHS/Meadow Glens/Ranch View	Orchestra Teacher
Emily Bauer	SY 21-22	NCHS	Communication Arts (ELA)
Demetria White	SY 21-22	JJHS	6th Grade ELA
Marisa Soria	SY 21-22	Ranch View	2nd Grade

Emily Laurila	SY 21-22	Mill Street	Learning Behavior Specialist
Allan J Zwettler	SY 21-22	WJHS	7th Grade Math/Social Studies
Elizabeth Westlund	SY 21-22	LJHS	Learning Behavior Specialist
Kattie Patzelt	SY 21-22	NNHS	School Psychologist
Michelle Dhuse	SY 21-22	Ann Reid	EC Teacher
Kelly McCann	SY 21-22	Ranch View	LSC
Clarisa Leung	SY 21-22	PSAC	Speech Language Pathologist
Barbra Miller	SY 21-22	Steeple/Beebe	Learning Commons Teacher
Lorna Bozych	SY 21-22	Steeple Run	4th Grade
Rebecca Mardula	SY 21-22	Ellsworth	1st Grade
Lauren Ma	SY 21-22	Steeple Run	Elementary EL
Lynn Wingard	SY 21-22	JJHS	Math Intervention Specialist
Shellie Schaffer	FY 21-22	3rd Grade	Steeple Run
Katie Flessner	FY 21-22	Steeple Run	2nd Grade
APPOINTMENT-CERTIFIED PART-TIME			
Linda Davies	SY21-22	WJHS/JJHS	FACS Teacher
Zachary Taylor	SY 21-22	NNHS	Band Director
Elizabeth Haggerty	SY 21-22	NCHS	Science Teacher
Erin Risler	SY 21-22	NNHS	School Counselor
Hannah Paterakis	SY 21-22	NNHS	Communication Arts
Heather L. Bezanis	FY 21-22	Kingsley	Learning Behavior Specialist
REVISED CONTRACT-CERTIFIED FULL-TIME			
Amber Camp	SY 21-22	LJHS/KJHS/WJHS	FACS Teacher
RE-EMPLOYMENT-CERTIFIED FULL-TIME			
John Frantzen	SY 21-22	Maplebrook	Music Teacher
Laura Nebor	SY 21-22	Beebe	Primary Teacher
RETIREMENT-CLASSIFIED			
Murray J. Haas	7/31/2021	Transportation	Bus Driver
RESIGNATION-CLASSIFIED			
Jean E. Long	6/10/2021	Jefferson	Computer Support Associate
Jazmine A. Brown	7/16/2021	Scott	Special Education Assistant
Ashleigh Wright	8/1/2021	Kennedy	LRC Library Assistant
Riley J. Larson	7/26/2021	Scott	Custodian

Rozina Bhimani	7/27/2021	Ann Reid	Special Education Assistant
Allan J. Zwettler	8/15/2021	Washington	Special Education Assistant
Amanda R. Perry	8/16/2021	Kennedy	Special Education Assistant
Vinita Naik	7/29/2021	Maplebrook	Special Education Assistant
Joan E. Demers Bittner	7/29/2021	Mill Street	Special Education Assistant
Manasi S. Kendale	7/29/2021	Madison	Special Education Assistant
Nancy Renteria	8/1/2021	River Woods	Dual Language Assistant
Heather L. Bezanis	8/15/2021	Ranch View	Special Education Assistant
Rose A. Herbert	8/17/2021	Elmwood	Health Technician
EMPLOYMENT-NON-UNION CLASSIFIED			
Isabella Corso	8/2/2021	PSAC	Human Resources Coordinator
Caryn Sturz	8/16/2021	PSAC	Human Resources Generalist
EMPLOYMENT-CLASSIFIED FULL-TIME			
Graciela Cardoza	7/20/2021	Maplebrook	Custodian
Duane E. Rosmus	8/2/2021	Building & Grounds	Maintenance
Amanda M. Lewandowski	8/11/2021	Steeple Run	Health Technician
Kimberly S. Jennings	8/18/2021	Connections	Special Education Assistant
Katherine E. Jaffe	8/18/2021	Kennedy	Special Education Assistant
Dylan Baumann	8/18/2021	Kennedy	Special Education Assistant
Aruljothi Palanisamy	8/18/2021	Kennedy	Special Education Assistant
Lisa M. Giancarlo	8/18/2021	Mill Street	Special Education Assistant
David Kushner	8/18/2021	NCHS	Special Education Assistant
Diane H. Smith	8/18/2021	Lincoln	Special Education Assistant
Caitlin E. Karsa	8/18/2021	NNHS	Special Education Assistant
Sheryce D. Jetter	8/18/2021	Kennedy	Special Education Assistant
Tiara D. Morris	8/19/2021	NCHS	College & Career Coordinator
Paul J. Kramolisch	8/19/2021	NCHS	Campus Supervisor
Karen Curran	8/2/2021	PSAC	Senior Support Analyst

LEAVE OF ABSENCE-CLASSIFIED			
Stephanie L. Cowan	8/23/21 - 12/17/21	Elmwood	Special Education Assistant

2. LEND Dues 2021-2022

Donna Wandke made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Kristine Gericke. Those voting yes: Fitzgerald, Wandke, Kozminski, McMillen, and Gericke. No: None.

Student Ambassador Reports

None.

Superintendent/Staff/School Report Reserve comments for item 10.02

President's Report

- As you know, our Board of Education has been in regular meetings since January to negotiate a fair and fiscally responsible multi-year contract with the union that represents our approximately 1,500 educators.
- Throughout our negotiations with the Naperville Unit Education Association or NUEA, our Board has been guided by these three principles:
 - To continue delivering the high-quality education our students and community expect and deserve;
 - To competitively compensate our teachers and staff at every stage of their career for their excellent work in educating our children;
 - And, to ensure that the contract agreement we reach is fiscally responsible and allows the Board to preserve the long-term financial health of our District.
- An independent federal mediator was brought in in June to help bring the parties closer toward a negotiated agreement. Our next negotiating session with the mediator is scheduled for this Wednesday, August 4th.
- Late last month, the union initiated a public posting process as part of the state labor rules for K-12 schools under which proposals from both parties must be publicly posted for review and input from the community.
- Here are some highlights from the current Board proposal. We have committed to:
 - **Raises for Every Educator, Every Year:** Raises for the first three years of the contract are well-above the Consumer Price Index and put our teachers among, if not the, highest paid in comparable communities.
 - **More Sick Days, Higher Accumulation Limit:** The number of paid sick days allotted in year one will increase from 15 to 20. In addition, educators will now be able to accrue up to 365 unused sick days over their career—an increase of five unused sick days.
 - **Increased Paid Parental Leave:** Both the Board and the Union have proposed increasing the number of paid sick days that our educators can use for non-medical parental leave from 30 days (six weeks) to 35 days (seven weeks). Our educators can receive additional paid time-off by utilizing accrued paid sick time for incapacity from or recovery due to pregnancy or childbirth.
 - **Maintain Health Care Benefits and Retirement Incentives:** The Board will continue to cover 85% of the health insurance premiums for educators, even as these costs have increased. Additionally, we will maintain current retirement Incentives, which include post-retirement health insurance reimbursement.

- It is important to state directly that this Board and Administration recognize that last year was challenging for all our students, parents, faculty and staff. As we continue to implement our Multi-Tiered Support System, or MTSS, instructional approach, we have hired 28 new staff members in the areas of Social Work, Special Education, English language acquisition and Math Specialists to meet the unique post-pandemic needs of students and support our teaching staff.
- Finally, I want to emphasize that, while the current NUEA contract expired on June 30, it is very common for teachers to return to the classroom without disruption after a contract has expired. Our first day of school for students is Thursday August 19. The Board is confident students can return to the classroom this fall while we continue to meet with the NUEA to reach a fair contract for all.
- You can find more details on our website, and we will continue to keep you posted with timely updates.
- Please encourage both the Board and the union to keep talking and working toward agreement. Thank you.

Board of Education Reports

None

Discussion without Action

None

Discussion with Action

eLearning Plan

Superintendent Bridges reminded the community that earlier this evening we had discussion. Recommend you approve as presented.

Joe Kozminski made a motion to approve the eLearning Plan as presented, seconded by Kristine Gericke. Those voting yes: Gericke, Fitzgerald, Kozminski, Wandke and McMillen. No: None. The motion carried.

2021-2022 Guidance for Schools

Superintendent Bridges thanked all the community for coming to share your thoughts on our plan. He noted that decisions made tonight are not going to make all people happy.

- These plans are based on the current recommendations by national, state and local public health officials. As their recommendations are updated, we will review our plans to ensure we are following the most current guidelines.
- Our goals have remained consistent throughout the pandemic. We have to ensure a safe learning environment and work environment for our students and staff.
- It is our goal to ensure all students have an opportunity to remain in person and to reduce the amount of time a student may need to miss in person instruction. Our current plans align to the most recent guidance that emphasizes safe, in-person instruction. Our plan also allows for future decision making based on our local metrics and based on any updated guidance from public health officials.
- Achieving high levels of COVID-19 vaccination among eligible students, as well as teachers, staff, and household members, is critical to help schools safely resume full operations. Vaccination is currently the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic. People who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are at low risk of symptomatic or severe infection. A growing body of evidence suggests that people who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are less likely to have an asymptomatic infection or transmit COVID-19 to others than people who are not fully vaccinated.
- CDC recommends schools maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms, combined with universal indoor mask wearing, to reduce transmission risk. Because of the importance of in-person learning, schools where not everyone is fully vaccinated should implement physical distancing to the extent possible, in addition to masking and other

prevention strategies, but should not exclude students from in-person learning to keep a minimum distance requirement.

- Given new evidence on the B.1.617.2 (Delta) variant, CDC has updated the [guidance for fully vaccinated people](#). CDC recommends universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status.
- In a call with DuPage County superintendents today, DCHD indicated that at this time universal mask wearing should continue in schools until all school-aged children are eligible for the vaccine and the majority are vaccinated against COVID-19, also as COVID-19 community transmission declines to lower levels for sustained periods, in alignment with CDC and IDPH guidelines.
- For teachers, staff and adults in the indoor K-12 classroom setting, CDC defines a close contact as an individual not fully vaccinated against COVID-19 who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period. In other words, only classroom contacts within 3 feet require quarantine as long as both the case and the contact were consistently masked. If they were not consistently masked, then close contacts are classroom students who were within 6 feet of the infected student for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.
- DuPage County Health Department has indicated today on a phone call that it will not support the Test-to-Stay as it currently is presented. However, DCHD will continue to work with IDPH and hope this is in place to start the school year. Test to stay is only applicable when both the COVID-19-confirmed student and close contact were engaged in consistent and correct use of well-fitting masks and the school requires masking for all individuals who are not fully vaccinated, as recommended by the CDC.
- As mentioned earlier, the CDC, IDPH, and ISBE have indicated that all students should return to full, in-person learning with few exceptions. If a student is unable to attend school due to a medical condition, families may submit an application to be considered for home/hospital tutoring. The application includes a form completed by the parent or guardian and a Physician. These applications can be found on the district website. Once a family submits an application, it will be reviewed by the school team who may request additional documentation. If approved, an individualized plan for each qualified student will be developed and communicated to the family.

Board Questions/Comments:

Thank you and team for the work amidst the changing guidance. Disheartening that we have moved back to substantial spread. Prudent approach to start the school year.

What about the use of outside spaces? Has there been discussion on providing clear masks to help with students with hearing impairments and special needs.

Superintendent Bridges noted that we will continue to look at the use of outside space and alternate spaces. Guidance is very specific who qualifies for alternative settings for learning.

Thank you. This is as of August 2, 2021. How often will we be shifting our plans and how will we communicate those changes.

Superintendent Bridges stated that we have to see drops that are sustained over time before we can make changes.

The lessons that will be provided to quarantine students, who will be providing those?

Mr. Freundt remarked that at the elementary level the lessons will be created by the classroom teacher. We will be providing continued connection to students.

Dr. Holland noted that at middle school and high school, students will use canvas. Students will be expected to log on and access the materials. Teachers will be available to answer questions.

Slide 14-recommendation for all to wear masks. Are we going to be allowing volunteers back in the buildings?

Superintendent Bridges responded that we will be limiting the numbers of people who can enter the buildings but they will also be required to wear masks.

Thank you for the hard work especially over these past two weeks. The overarching goal is to have all back in school.

What is our sense on testing and test to stay?

Dr. Nolten remarked that we are ready to move forward with PCR and antigen testing on a voluntary basis. We are waiting for more guidance from DPHD on how we use testing to keep kids in school and out of quarantine.

Donna Wandke made a motion to approve the 2021-2022 Guidance for Schools as presented, seconded by Joe Kozminski. Those voting yes: McMillen, Kozminski, Fitzgerald, Wandke and Gericke. No: None. The motion carried.

Connections Staffing

Superintendent Bridges summarized the two laws for transition students that were just signed by the Governor and are effective for the 2021-2022 school year.

We have to request 1.5 additional staff. We were aware of it in the spring but it was only passed on Thursday.

Board questions/Comments:

Thank you for your responsiveness to get this ready right away. I know we have been monitoring it but once it went into effect, I am glad that we could move quickly.

Kristine Gericke made a motion to approve the Connections Staffing as presented, seconded by Amanda McMillen. Those voting yes: McMillen, Fitzgerald, Gericke, Wandke, and Kozminski. No: None. The motion carried.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Upcoming Events

Superintendent Bridges noted the following:

Next BOE meeting

- **August 19, 2021 will be the first day of school.**

Public Comment:

Brendon Hurrle: Parent of a child with executive functioning issues and anxiety. Has some suicidal thoughts as did others. There is an objective reality. Feel that it is important to understand the science of masks and that they don't protect us from virus. They do give us a feeling that we are doing something. The impacts on students is immense. American Academy of Pediatrics funding on masks is from Pfizer.

Adjournment

Joe Kozminski moved seconded by Amanda McMillen to adjourn the meeting at 9:21 p.m. A roll call vote was taken. Those voting yes: Fitzgerald, McMillen, Wandke, Kozminski, Gericke. Those voting no: None. The motion carried.

Approved: August 16, 2021

Kristin Fitzgerald, President, Board of Education

Susan Patton, Secretary, Board of Education