

Minutes for September 2, 2020 School Board
Work Session
Holdingford Public School

Chair Christensen called the Work Session of the school Board of Independent School District #738 to order at 6:00 PM in the Meeting Room.

Members present: Evelyn Martini, Elissa Ebnet, Ben Christensen, Rob Knettel, Pat Meier, Lori Opatz and Ed Feia. Member absent: None

Also attending was Superintendent Chris Swenson, Business Manager Beth Heinze, Elementary Principal Jim Stang, and Administrative Assistant Linda Zapzalka with Secondary Principal Ms. Safran joining off and on throughout the meeting while facilitating 7th Grade Orientation.

Mr. Swenson updated the Board on the construction projects. Last minute touch ups are being completed and all staff except the Elementary Offices are moved into the new spaces. Parking lot drainage concerns are being addressed. The Glycol issue is being addressed. Items that still need to be completed are display cases, digital trophy display monitor, lockers, soap dispensers and elementary office. Mr. Swenson informed the Board that an additional crosswalk will be put across Co Rd 17 from 171st Ave to the school entrance.

Back to School Learning Model was discussed. The Advisory Committee continues to meet weekly to analyze the County data. Mr. Swenson anticipates the number to go up this week but that doesn't mean a change has to be immediate if we can justify the decision. The Regional Advisory Team will step in if there is a COVID case in the District to determine the necessary action. Mr. Swenson presented the COVID-19 symptom chart and necessary action. He thanked Ms. Heinze for creating the flow chart for staff to direct them on what leaves to use for different scenarios and he has asked Mr. Ebnet to track bus ridership to determine actual ridership numbers after a couple weeks of school.

Ms. Safran stepped in to answer back pack and locker questions. Secondary students will be allowed to carry backpacks and go to their lockers at staggered times during first and fourth blocks. Mr. Stang also answered questions regarding the elementary day.

Information was presented to clarify how built in mask breaks for students will be handled. Ms. Safran has given secondary teachers several options for planned mask breaks during each block. The plan in elementary is to have at least two mask breaks in addition to the regular lunch and recess breaks. Mr. Swenson emphasized the only mask exceptions that will be accepted must come from a professional on a case-by-case basis. Mr. Knettel praised the staff for their efforts coming up with planned mask breaks. The Board agreed to have Policy 808 on the Agenda for the Sept. 16th Board meeting.

Mr. Meier presented fire panel concerns. Mainly that you have to go to two different panels on complete opposite ends of the building to determine the cause. His understanding was that there was supposed to be one panel that would give all the necessary information to determine the cause when an alarm goes off. Mr. Swenson will look into the operation of the Fire Panel.

Ms. Martini asked for clarification on the secondary 8:00 AM start time and if bus pick-up times have been changed. Ms. Safran assured the Board that any bus pick-up changes would be communicated through the Bus Drivers and that students will have time to get to their first block on time.

Ms. Opatz asked if any discussion on Homecoming has taken place. Ms. Safran informed the Board that she is forming a group of seniors along with some parents to discuss these topics and will assist when plans are being developed.

The agenda was completed at 7:22 PM with a motion to adjourn by Feia, second by Opatz. Motion carried. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted by
Evelyn Martini, Clerk