School Reopening Task Force Meeting

June 30, 2020
6pm - 8pm
Virtual Meeting - Streamed live and still available on District Youtube Channel

6:00 - The meeting started on time and all Task Force Members except for Andy Farley. Additional guests included; Task Force Facilitators Mark Hansen and Chris Thompson.

Chris Thompson, task force facilitator, led the group through a review of where to locate the agenda and support materials. Chris Thompson then reviewed the meeting objectives, Task Force purpose and reporting requirements, timeline, and group norms. Chris reminded the group of the selection process that chose them based on their diverse backgrounds and to speak freely and honestly. Chris summarized the objectives and format of the meeting.

6:05 - Mark Hansen reviewed the data set that is reviewed regularly on the Waukesha County Dashboard for COVID-19. He shared the guidance from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association. Both of the entities' recommendations will be considered in the district's decision-making, along with Waukesha County officials and other Waukesha County school districts. It was noted that the American Academy of Pediatrics' recommendations came out after the meeting was posted and those recommendations will be considered, as well.

6:10 - Chris Thompson summarized the Wisconsin DPI Education Forward and WIAA Guidance for Summer Activities documents.

6:15 - Tanya Fredrich presented progress on the response to the Task Force's recommendations regarding Workforce Screening Protocols. Various Task Force members shared their work experiences with staff monitoring during the pandemic.

6:25 - Chris Thompson shared information on the Elmbrook Work Teams that are currently working on operational plans in their respective project area. Chris presented data from the district Family Survey that was conducted in early June and the Staff Survey conducted in late June. Committee members asked clarifying questions.

6:40 - The Task Force was broken into small groups and asked to discuss various re-entry recommendations using the following guiding questions:

1. What is your initial reaction to the recommendation as presented?
2. Would you make any changes or modifications to the recommendation?
3. What concerns or questions do you have about the recommendation?
4. Are you supportive of this recommendation? If not, what could be done to gain your support?

(Based on current research, data, and information) the School District of Elmbrook should create a school reopening plan that offers all students the option to attend school in-person each day, while providing a virtual learning option for students who, for health or other reasons, are unable to return to school buildings.	Any concerns with goals/assumptions presented? ● With current data trends, is this safe/realistic? ● Families want to come back for 5 days but options should be available to families for any reason to choose virtual broadly ● How will virtual be delivered? The format is of concern. Will it be different then the past 3 months? Moving forward differences would need to be clarified ● Will people be allowed to toggle between models? People should have to declare it as full time virtual learning and it should be open to students who need to sporadically. Parameters for moving from one to format to another would need to be established Any additions? ● Adjustments to grading procedures, assignment completion given closures/absences; pass/fail? ● School rules/expectations ● Family engagement ● Child development and reasonable expectations ● Is social distancing realistic? ● Face mask requirements in lieu of social distancing ● Level of disruption if there is a positive case ● How would cleaning take place if in session everyday? ● Are additional facilities available to allow for social distancing? ● Difficulty of teaching in person & virtually; overtasking teachers
From the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's (DPI) Education Forward Document: 1. The adoption of DPI's *Goals for Reopening* (pg 4) 2. The adoption of DPI's *Assumptions for Public Health* (pages 4-5)	Any concerns with goals/assumptions presented? ● Realistic? ● Provide a mental framework for decision making ● Contact tracing ● Impact of vaccine ● Children will struggle with face coverings and social distancing ● Definition of "active partnership" with families; many parents are not able to oversee virtual learning at home; economic impact Any additions? ● How frequently will the school district review and make changes?
The School Reopening Plan could include the following	All three recommendations designed to limit spread, improve contact tracing, increase chances of staying open in a face-to-face setting: ● No one disagrees with the recommendations, benefit of the

| recommendations:

1. Students in Grades K-8 are divided into cohorts to limit spread and support contact tracing
2. Physical distancing strategies that consider the age of the students are deployed in all schools
3. In order to mitigate the spread of the pandemic, no visitors or volunteers will be allowed at school during the school day. | safety aspects outweigh anythings lost
● cohort helps with mitigation and logistics of contact tracing
● high school could distance and wear a mask
● seems to be most realistic model
● How many students in a class. Classroom sizes differ.
● All the jobs the volunteers do in different areas of the school. Can volunteers who participate regularly be cohorted with kids?
● Electives drive mixing of kids - any way to adjust for this
● Differences between virtual & in-class - especially the electives - there can be significant differences between virtual & in-class

What will be lost by trying to limit the spread using these strategies and, is it worth the effort?
● Personal relationships with students if they are not together
● Bullying or relationship conflict would be hard to manage
● Volunteers that support teachers will be challenging when they get help - adjustment to elementary sites
● Not everyone following the same rules outside of school
● Will need to educate student and families ahead of time around "why" - Elmbrook Expectation through a culture of care
● Diminished socialization for kids
   ○ Can there be designated additional groups for recess time? (outdoor?)
● Limited content/electives? Prioritizing/rotating electives (possibly weekly)
● If we're going to get back together, we need to do it in a way to limit contact as much as possible.
   ○ Default as much as possible to options that limit contact.
   ○ Distancing and masking should be the norm.
● What's gained in safety and ability to be present is greater than what's lost.
● We have precedent that this can work if we follow these guidelines.
● We know what works for adults; we need to find a way to scale it for pre-adults.
● Rather than premising with "What we're losing" , let's try "In order to regain our face-to-face contact, this is what we need to do."
● Hard to manage this, particularly at Tonawanda
● More clearly define elementary/middle/high school physical distancing
● What are the ramifications and consequences for those who choose not to physically distance? |

	● How to manage expectations for physical distancing with little help in classrooms? ● How do we effectively clean areas that are shared?

School Reopening Plan could include the following transportation recommendations:
 	
1. All students will have the opportunity to ride the bus each day
2. Strategies will be deployed to reduce ridership (e.g. car pools, family drop-off, walk to school)
3. When on the bus, strategies will be deployed to group family members and create space between students, when possible
4. In the absence of social distancing, we will mitigate health risks by requiring a face covering for all individuals using district-provided transportation.
	Are you comfortable with the potential of normal bus ridership or should ridership be reduced automatically to something less than 100% (e.g. eligible to ride every M-W-F)?
	● Older kids with cars will continue to drive and they are also the ones that are more able to be responsible
	● Need to offer the bus
	● Support the idea that we would lighten the load for district and drive kids to allow space for those families who can't (how?)
	● Limiting students to certain days is too difficult for families to manage, and not equitable/kind.
	● Not comfortable with full ridership (particularly if we move towards a cohort model in school)
	● Preference to reduce ridership in some manner
	● Connected to schedule of when kids are in school?
	● Challenge to manage this
	● Dependent on the schedule that is presented for school
	● Does reduced ridership depend on families who opt out of transportation?
	
	Are you comfortable controlling the riding experience, to include requiring face coverings, in order to keep all students and the driver safe?
	● Yes, it should be expectation
	    ○ however who will enforce it?
	    ○ Dave shared many districts are adding marshalls or another to monitor
	● Siblings should sit together
	● Cohort the neighborhood with routes and in class also
	● Consider students with special needs who can't wear masks
	● Not super comfortable
	● Parent drop off/ pick up - does that cause a risk? Large groups of students in an area
	● Open windows when they can
	● This may fall on the community to support and demand masking when needed.
	● What's the cleaning process? How long does it take? Is it possible between different levels?

7:55 - As the task force returned from small group conversations around transportation protocols, a member asked to review the County dashboard again, noting the relatively small number of confirmed, active cases (168). Another member responded that the number of active

cases is likely 10 times more than confirmed, given the latest research in the spread of the disease. Chris noted we will continue this data conversation at our next meeting.

Resources used for the meeting
All resources for the meeting can be found on the District's [public website](#) dedicated to the work of the Task Force (www.elmbrookschools.org - Community - School Reopening Task Force).

Next Step: Chris Thompson identified the need to connect the broader task force work with some of the detailed questions and feedback provided this evening. This will be reflected in the organization of the next task force meeting on Wednesday, July 15.

8:02 - The meeting adjourned.

Objectives for the Meeting
1. I am able to explain how the recently-issued DPI and WIAA Guidelines will inform the work of District Staff
2. I know how the feedback provided by the Task Force informed the District's approach to its Workforce Screening Protocol
3. I am able to express my opinion about task force recommendations and work collaboratively to build consensus around several recommendations

Agenda:
6:00 - 6:05 Review Agenda and Meeting Objectives
6:05 - 6:15 Review Data and Primary Sources of Information
6:15 - 6:30 Review Workforce Screening Approach & District Work Teams Overview
6:30 - 7:45 Shaping our Approach to Reopening - Consideration of Recommendations
7:45 - 7:50 Recommendation Summary
7:50 - 8:00 Review objectives and wrap-up

Support Materials
● [Presentation](#)
● Waukesha County [COVID-19 Dashboard](#)
● Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction - [Education Forward](#)
● Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) [Guidance for Summer Activities](#)
● [Elmbrook Workforce Screening Protocol](#)
● [Elmbrook Work Teams](#)
● [Elmbrook Staff Return to Work Survey](#)
● [Determining Release from Isolation and Quarantine Cases and their Contacts in Day Care Settings or Schools](#)
● [Interim COVID-19 Infection Control and Mitigation Measures for Schools](#)