

# OFFICIAL MINUTES

## Chatfield Public Schools Special School Board Meeting

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the special meeting of the School Board of Independent School District No. 227, Olmsted, Fillmore and Winona Counties was held on Wednesday, August 12, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. via ZOOM videoconferencing. Others Present: Ed Harris, Randy Paulson, Shane McBroom, Trista O'Connor & Lorri Lowrey. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken with the following members present: Jeffers, Isensee, Priebe, McMahon, and Lowrey.

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### Action/Discussion

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Motion by Lowrey/Priebe to delay an operating referendum on the November 3, 2020 ballot. Mr. Harris recommended this delay after consulting with Sue Peterson from School Perceptions. The board is in agreement with holding off on a vote this year and educating the community as to why an operating referendum is needed before asking them to vote on it next year. Motion carried 5-0

Principals Mr. McBroom and Mr. Paulson shared their 2020-2021 Learning Plans with the board. Mr. Harris then introduced the following resolution outlining their plans for approval.

#### **Adoption of Base Learning Model for the 2020-2021 School Year and Other COVID-19 Related Matters**

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota Statutes Section 123B.09 vests the care, management, and control of independent districts in the school board; and

**WHEREAS**, the Superintendent of Independent School District No.227 [hereinafter the "Superintendent"] is responsible for the management of the schools, the administration of all School District policies, and is directly accountable to the School Board; and

**WHEREAS**, when responsibilities are not specifically prescribed nor School District policy applicable, the Superintendent shall use personal and professional judgment, subject to review by the School Board, pursuant to School District Policy 302, *Superintendent*;

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz issued Emergency Executive Order 20-01, which declared a peacetime emergency in Minnesota in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 30, 2020, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz issued Emergency Executive Order 20-82 and the Safe Learning Plan for 2020-2021 (the "Safe Learning Plan"), which set forth five Learning Models (in-person learning for all, in-person learning for elementary students and hybrid learning for secondary students, hybrid learning for all students, hybrid learning for elementary students and distance learning for secondary students, and distance learning) and authorized all school districts in the State of Minnesota to select and implement an appropriate base Learning Model in accordance with, and subject to, the Safe Learning Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Minnesota Department of Education ("MDE") has issued and may continue to issue written guidance for Minnesota schools on educational issues related to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the Minnesota Department of Health ("MDH") has issued and may continue to issue written guidance for Minnesota schools on public health issues related to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the Superintendent and the administration of the School District have conferred with the School Board regarding the available Learning Models, the current MDE and MDH requirements for each, and other relevant information; and

**WHEREAS**, the Superintendent, in consultation with the District Learning Model Planning Committee and Fillmore County Department of Health, recommends that the Chatfield School District use Fillmore County COVID case data when evaluating learning model options under the executive order 20-82 and the Minnesota Department of Education's Safe Learning Plan guidance ; and

**WHEREAS**, based upon the collective consideration of these factors, the Superintendent, consultation with the District Learning Model Planning Committee has recommended to the School Board that *In- Person Learning (Elementary School) and Hybrid Learning (High School)* will be the base Learning Model to be implemented at the commencement of the 2020-2021 school year.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 227 as follows:

Section 1: The Superintendent is hereby directed to implement the following base Learning Model(s) to open the 2020-2021 school year: In-Person (Elementary School); Hybrid (High School)

Section 2: The Superintendent is hereby authorized, after consultation with the School Board Chair and notification to the School Board, to select and implement a different Learning Model for the School District or any specific school buildings without School Board action if the Superintendent reasonably believes that prompt implementation of a different Learning Model is necessary, and that constraints of time and public health considerations render it impractical to hold a School Board meeting to approve the implementation. The Learning Model selected and implemented by the Superintendent shall continue in effect unless and until the School Board, in consultation with the Superintendent and appropriate school district staff and public health officials, deems it in the best interest of the School District and its students to implement a different Learning Model.

Section 3: The Superintendent will provide regular updates to the School Board regarding the School District's efforts to implement COVID-19 related educational and public health guidance issued by the MDE and the MDH, respectively.

Adopted this 12th day of August, 2020.

Board members McMahon/Isensee motioned for approval as presented.

Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Jeffers, Isensee, Priebe, McMahon and Lowrey.

The following members voted against: none

/s/ Amy Jeffers - School Board Chair

/s/ Lanny Isensee - School Board Clerk

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted. Motion carried 5-0

Priebe/McMahon motion to approve these postings/hire in support of the elementary and high school plans.

- i. Up to 1.0 FTE teacher for upper elementary distance learning (estimated new cost: \$55,000)
- ii. Up to .25 FTE reassignment of high school paraprofessional to teacher for high school distance learning (estimated additional cost: \$4,754)
- iii. Up to .5 FTE transfer of existing staff member from elementary Title to elementary distance learning (estimated additional cost: \$22,514)

Motion carried 5-0

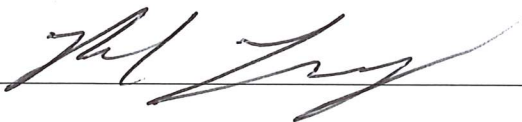
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## Adjournment

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Motion to adjourn by McMahon, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Isensee, discussion, passed 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

/s/ 

Board Clerk

*Complete copies of Mr. Harris', Mr. Paulson's and Mr. McBroom's reports are attached.*



Board,

Here is info for you relating to tonight's agenda items. Please keep it handy for the meeting.

Randy and Shane, please let me know if I missed anything.

### OPERATING LEVY RENEWAL

Here is the most recent financial projection. This includes renewing the current operating levy and cutting another \$150,000 in the spring of 2022. It does not include extra costs associated with COVID. As you can see, the natural time to ask for an increase in the operating levy would be November of 2023 to boost revenues in 2024-25.

2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
\$2,194,944	\$2,205,089	\$2,276,161	\$2,208,595	\$2,177,946	\$1,910,735

Same as above but without a renewal of the current operating levy.

2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
\$2,194,944	\$2,205,089	\$2,276,161	\$2,208,595	\$1,770,842	\$1,113,525

I spoke with Sue Peterson from School Perceptions this morning by phone. We spoke of everything locally and nationally that may impact an operating levy election this fall. If you recall, she is our survey consultant who knows our district well. I asked for her feelings on going for a renewal this fall. She asked me to send her an email to respond to about our conversation. See attachment.

Here is the resolution in case the SB decides to put the renewal on the ballot this November. See attachment.

My recommendation is that we follow Sue's advice and wait until November 2021 for the renewal but start planning now for a spring survey.

### 2020 LEARNING PLAN

1. Randy and Shane will brief you on their plans to date and recommendations. The District Planning Committee met yesterday.
2. In support of the elementary and high school plans, I am requesting approval for the following.
  - a. Post/Hire
    - i. Up to 1.0 FTE teacher for upper elementary distance learning (estimated new cost: \$55,000)
    - ii. Up to .25 FTE reassignment of high school paraprofessional to teacher for high school distance learning (estimated additional cost: \$4,754)
    - iii. Up to .5 FTE transfer of existing staff member from elementary Title to elementary distance learning (estimated additional cost: \$22,514)

NOTE: These would be one year positions due to the unique nature of what we are dealing with. As such, these would be one-time expenditures.

NOTE: The elementary plan calls for partial redeployment of 2 ADSIS teachers to distance learning. We believe at this time that move will be cost neutral.

NOTE: Last night, district were advised by the MDE that they may be getting additional aid to offset COVID expenses. There are very few details at this time, but I believe that we may be able to offset some of the new costs listed above.

3. The Superintendent, after consultation with Fillmore County Public Health and the District Planning Committee recommends the following
  - a. The school board approve the use of Fillmore County COVID 19 case rates as a guide when evaluating learning plan guidance from the MDE and the Governor.
  - b. The school board approve In-Person Learning for the Elementary and Hybrid Learning for the High School to start the year.

NOTE: The attached resolution articulates items 1 and 2 above. It also give the Superintendent latitude (in consultation with the Board Chair) to change learning models as conditions dictate without SB approval if time does not allow as long as the school board is kept updated.

4. Policy 808 Face Coverings (see attachment): Please review. Provides an opportunity to put into policy what is outlined in the Governor's order. Most districts are doing this. This will be on the September meeting agenda as a special one time reading/approval so it is in place in a timely manner.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks!

Ed

**My recommendation to the board is as follows:**

**In Person Model:**

All students in the building except those families choosing Distance Learning in alignment with our normal school day of 8:00-2:55. We will have separate teachers assigned to work with the Distance Learning Students in Multi Grade Classes (K-1, 2-3 and 4-6). These students will remain with the same assigned teacher even into the Hybrid and Distance Learning Models if we get to that point. If numbers of Distance Learners get to an unreasonable number we would have to re-evaluate staffing.

**Hybrid Model:**

-We will follow an AACBB Schedule.

-Group A will be in on Monday and Tuesday Group B will be "At Home Learners".

Our C Day will be Distance for all students.

-Group B will be in on Thursday and Friday with our A Group "At Home Learning".

-We are requesting a shortened day to meet the needs of our 2 groups each day with an early dismissal or late start.

Our committee feels very strongly that a daily connection with our "At Home Learners" will be essential for keeping them connected. Elementary learners need a daily interaction with staff members to remain on track.

**Distance Learning Model:**

All students will be in the Distance Learning Model.

**Parent/Student/Staff Conferences:**

We will have 4 days instead of the 2 that we have had in the past. Families will sign up for a 1 hour time slot. We will run a tentative schedule of Tuesday and Wednesday Noon-8:00 and Thursday and Friday from 7:30-3:30.

**Staffing**

Due to the re-alignment of staffing, I plan to post to hire a teacher. I will send an email out to staff after the board meeting tomorrow night with a staffing plan.

Thank you to the High School Planning Team Members: Appreciate the level of input, and the level of respect for each other opinions and thoughts.

High School (Grades 7-12) Recommended Plan for Board approval

**In-Person review and Distance Learning reviews**

**Hybrid Review**

1. The High School Planning Team is recommending a Hybrid Schedule with an A Group and a B Group with about 50% of the students in each group. The first week of school the A Group will meet in-person on Tuesday and Wednesday and B Group on Thursday and Friday. The following weeks the A Group will meet in-person on Monday and Tuesday with Distance learning on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The B Group will meet in-person on Thursday and Friday with Distance Learning on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.
2. The PLCs will continue to meet during the late start Wednesdays.

**\* Separate Door entry for grades 7 & 8**

**\*Options for Distance Learning**

- A. Live stream lessons real time Zooms with classroom teachers
- B. Pre-recorded Lesson (departmentalize content areas?) by classroom teacher
- C. Paper Packets (Ensure equitable)
- D. Gopher Virtual Learning

CHS will try to limit to two models for distance learning by regular classroom instructors.

**\*Grading:**

Hybrid Students: Standard Grading Procedures

Distance Learning Students: Standard Grading Procedures

The High School Planning Team will continue to meet at least once every month, and more often as needed, to reassess the current situation.