

**St. Louis Park Public Schools**  
Minutes of the School Board Meeting  
Special Meeting - Safe Learning Plan  
Tuesday, December 22, 2020 – 5:30 p.m.  
Online Meeting

The special meeting of the School Board of Independent School District No. 283 of St. Louis Park, Hennepin County, Minnesota, convened on Tuesday, December 22, 2020 via online meeting platform. Present were Board Members Mary Tomback, Karen Waters, Anne Casey, Heather Wilsey, Laura McClendon, C. Colin Cox, Ken Morrison, and Superintendent Astein Osei. Also present were members of the Superintendent's Cabinet.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair Mary Tomback called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made by Waters, seconded by Casey to approve the agenda, as presented. By means of roll call vote, motion passed 7-0.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Safe Learning Plan Update**

Superintendent Osei presented a Safe Learning Plan update. The Minnesota Department of Education updated their Safe Learning Plan so that starting on January 18, 2021, every elementary school across the state may choose to operate an in-person learning model as long as they are able to implement all updated health and safety measures. Each Educational Delivery Model Consideration was reviewed including health and safety, staff coverage, student learning, staff preparedness, technology, and school operational readiness.

New required health and safety mitigation strategies were reviewed including implementing a rolling start process for students to be brought back to the building, the execution of a COVID-19 testing program (training and saliva test kits provided by the State; optional for school staff) every other week for all school staff, beginning January 4, 2021, requiring face masks and face shields to be worn together by school staff at all times, and adding a clear barrier when educators cannot be six feet from students (small group and individual instruction) when possible. The return date for athletics was extended to January 4, 2021.

To support staff coverage, the District is asking elementary school parents/guardians to select In-Person Learning or Distance Learning Academy for every elementary student by December 28, 2020. The District is also providing staff an opportunity to request a leave of absence until Tuesday, December 29, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. if they do not feel safe returning to work. Critical childcare will no longer be available effective February 1, 2021.

For student learning, a rolling start will be implemented to bring students back into buildings. Dates are as follows:

January 19, 2021 - Students in grades E - 2

February 1, 2021 - Students in grades 3 - 5

Date TBD - Students in grades 6 - 12

Winter MAP and FAST assessments will continue to be administered. Winter assessments, this year, provide consistency in data collection given that we cancelled spring standardized testing (MCA, MAP and FAST) last year. Consistent longitudinal data is important to provide principals, Teaching and Learning team members and other instructional leaders.

For staff preparedness, staff will have two transition days as permitted by Executive Order 20-82 for staff to come back into the building and prepare for students transitioning into in-person or hybrid learning with the additional mitigation measures.

For devices and school operational readiness, students will keep devices and hotspots and those will be collected at the end of the year. Nutrition services will continue to offer meal pick-ups, lunch and breakfast will be served daily at elementary sites, and all meals will be free. Transportation routes will be updated to reflect updated educational delivery model choices for students and mitigation strategies will be implemented on buses. Finally, workplace cleaning protocols will be updated to include daily disinfection.

The E-5 recommended Safe Learning Plan is as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Transition Event</b>
<b>January 11, 2021</b>	Check in on the preparation for early learning and elementary Distance Learning Academy and full-day in-person learning
<b>January 13-20, 2021</b>	Utilize transition time for progress reporting, staff preparation/professional development and Family Connect Time
<b>January 19, 2021</b>	Early Learning in-person learning begins
<b>January 21, 2021</b>	Implement elementary Distance Learning Academy and full-day in-person learning starting for students in grades E-2
<b>February 1, 2021</b>	Implement elementary Distance Learning Academy and full-day in-person learning starting for students in grades 3-5

The Secondary recommended Safe Learning Plan is as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Transition Event</b>
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<b>January 4, 2021</b>	Continue distance learning for students in grades 6-12
<b>January 4, 2021</b>	Resume High School athletics
<b>January 11, 2021</b>	Re-evaluate secondary educational delivery model

### **School Board Meeting Format**

The School Board discussed the format in which meetings will be convened.

### **MOTION TO AMEND THE ACTION AGENDA**

A motion was made by Tomback, seconded by Waters to amend the action agenda to add an item 4.B. School Board Meeting Format Approval. By means of roll call vote, motion passed 7-0.

### **ACTION AGENDA**

#### **Safe Learning Plan Approval**

A motion was made by Waters, seconded by Cox to approve the Audit Report, as presented. By means of roll call vote, motion passed 6-1 with nay vote from McClendon.

#### **School Board Meeting Format Approval**

A motion was made by Waters, seconded by Morrison to approve the recommendation to continue convening School Board meeting via Zoom. By means of roll call vote, motion passed 7-0.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Waters, seconded by Morrison to adjourn. By means of roll call vote, motion passed 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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 Laura McClendon, Clerk

Approved:

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 Mary Tomback, Chair

*Minutes prepared by Flower M. Krutina*