



**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
KEENEYVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT 20  
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, July 29, 2021, 7:00 PM**

**Virtual Meeting via Zoom & Spring Wood Middle School Innovation Center  
5540 Arlington Drive E  
Hanover Park, IL 60133**

***Ignite the Power and Potential of Each Student!***

**I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

The Special Board Meeting of the Keeneyville Board of Education was called to order at 7:01 p.m., by Board President, Heather Weishaar.

Roll Call:	Heather Weishaar	-present
	Sara Bruno	-present
	Andrea Schnorr	-present
	April Dislers	-present
	Jennifer Kuban	-present
	Terry Walloch	-present
	Farwa Ahmed	-present

A quorum was present.

Also in attendance: Dr. Omar Castillo, Superintendent; Reiley Straub, Director of Finance & Operations/CSBO; Julie Relihan, Director of Communications & Community Relations; Colleen Flores, Director of Student Services; Carrie Fogarty, Director of Teaching & Learning; Dr. Jon Pokora, Principal, Waterbury; Jamie Principal, Spring Wood; John Gustafson, Principal, Greenbrook; Art Andersen, Director of Technology; Benny Cieslewicz, Technology Assistant; & Carl Esquibel, Technology Assistant.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Heather Weishaar led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. Approval of Agenda**

Andrea Schnorr moved that the Board of Education approve the agenda as presented; Sara Bruno seconded.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

**IV. School Year 2021-2022 Reopening Presentation**

Dr. Castillo presented the School Year 2021-2022 Reopening Presentation.

V.Public Comment - Please email [mnoyola@esd20.org](mailto:mnoyola@esd20.org)

The Board welcomes and encourages the community to attend board meetings and ask questions during Public Comment. You are asked to limit your comments to 5 minutes. Please understand the Board will not respond to your questions and concerns during the meeting. They will follow up with you regarding your questions and/or concerns.

Public Comments (Virtual) were as follows:

Ginger Seehafer (WB & SW Parent) - I want to speak of making sure we follow the science for mask mandates for the unvaccinated children k-5. With Delta surges, keeping them in-person and safe should be our district's #1 priority.

My name is Ginger Seehafer, I have two sons who attend both Springwood and Waterbury.

We must keep masks mandatory in schools. Having our children in-person is imperative but we cannot allow best practices to protect them from contracting COVID to be optional especially with the Delta variant, which is affecting young people and children at much higher rates than the native virus.

Our children depend on us and the community to do our best to keep them safe and healthy. This pandemic has been exhausting, frustrating and divisive. That being said, we can all agree that none of that matters compared to the health and well-being of our most vulnerable. Young children do NOT have the option to get vaccinated yet.

So the best defense they have is to follow protocols given by the CDC; Sanitize, good ventilation, distancing and masking.

Since distancing cannot be achieved with in-person classes we must not also allow masking to be optional and take another level of protection down. Masks are only effective when all parties wear them indoors. Until vaccines are available to our children, it is imperative we as their parents and guardians do the next best thing to help them stay healthy and in school during this ongoing viral pandemic.

Thank you.

Katarzyna Garcia (GB Parent) - As a parent I think the choice of wearing mask should depends from parents not from school.

Kristen Ashby (WB Parent) - I was wondering about the mask will they need to wear them and if so will they get mask breaks.

I started to buy school supplies and I was wondering if they are sharing supplies this year or not. No second grader need 6 dozen pencil.

Tonia Ventrella (WB Parent) - First of thank you to everyone for doing an amazing job on keeping our kids safe and welcoming them back for in person learning. But I do believe masks should be optional and it should be up to the parents to decide what is best for their children.

My children in particular complain about how hard it is to breathe and focus while wearing one. It is a distraction and they have come home with wet masks. Plus, some children do not even wear them properly.

Thank you for your time. And I hope making masks optional will be considered.

Jolanta O - My name is Jolanta O

And I'm mom of 3 kids in this district

For some reason I won't make today to be at the meeting but I have a letter from my family dr who wants to share her thoughts about mask in schools and I want you to ask if u could please read this letter attached for you below at the meeting tonight for all of you and people who will come Thank you. Oh and one more thing, I'm 100% for mask optional for our schools Please make good decision for our kids

Lily Grossman (WB Student) - Hello my name is Lily Grossmann

I do not like these masks. They give me a headache make me feel very anxious and angry. I do not always understand my teachers. It is hard to breath. I just want to be a kid and enjoy my schooling. This is very hard for many kids. I am sad that I cannot see and hear my teachers and friends.

thank you

Brianna Young (WB Parent)

I just wanted to say congratulations on the fantastic mitigation policies you have in place for this next school year. You are taking into account the science and current CDC guidelines, and I could be more proud to be a parent at Waterbury.

(In Person Comments) –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SMxHN7NPF44&list=UUJcvcXof2uGAMuYCV0Baydg&index=1>

#### VI.Dates to Remember:

- Thursday, August 12 - Board of Education Meeting @ 7:00 PM - SW Innovation Center
- Monday, August 16 - Teacher Institute Day - No Classes
- Tuesday, August 17 - First Day of School Grades 1-8 Full Day
- Wednesday, August 18 - Preschool Screening Day
- Thursday, August 19 - First Day of Preschool
- Monday, August 23 - First Day of School - Kindergarten Full Day

#### VII.Adjournment

At 8:24 p.m., April Dislers moved to adjourn the meeting; Sara Bruno seconded.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Abstains: 0

Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Heather Weishaar, Board President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrea Schnorr, Board Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date