

AUGUST 5, 2020 CONNEAUT BOD WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES

8/5/2020 [7:00PM-9:00PM] @ Alice Schafer Annex Cafeteria

- CONNEAUT SCHOOL DIST PUBLIC WS AGENDA -

1. Call to Order

Minutes

Mrs. Luckock opened the meeting at 7:00 PM. Noting the following board members and administrators present;

Mr. Burnham Mr. Ellis Mr. Hall Mr. Hornstein
Mrs. Luckock Mr. McGuirk Mr. McQuiston Mrs. Miller

it is noted Mrs. Klink was absent.

Administrators Present;

Jarrin Sperry, Superintendent George Joseph, District Solicitor Susy Dressel, Director of Student Services
Greg Mayle, Business Manager Brenda Kantz, Curriculum Director Frank Kimmel, Director of Buildings and
Grounds

Rick Kelly, Technology Director

Principals;

Doug Parks Kevin Burns David Maskrey

a. Moment of Silence

b. Salute the Flag Ceremony

2. VISITOR RECOGNITION

1. Visitor Recognition *

*Per Policy 903 – Public Participation in Board Meetings

All visitors who are recognized during the Visitor Recognition are allotted a maximum of five (5) minutes to address matters of their concern, unless otherwise determined by the Board President. Visitor recognition is to be limited to thirty (30) minutes unless otherwise decided by the Board.

Minutes

Mrs. Luckock reminded everyone we are in uncharted territories and Mr. Sperry and the Administrators have spent countless hours going through information daily to come up with guidelines to follow and the task of the guidelines changing daily from the State.

3. Discussion Items

a. Reopening of Schools...Mr. Sperry

Only changes have been to fever elimination (was 72 hours, CDC recommendation now is 24 hours)
Flow Chart has changed based on Health Dept Suggestions and CDC guidance

Minutes

Mr. Sperry recognized the combination of hundreds of hours of work with the three superintendents, the Crawford County Career and Technical Center, Crawford County Emergency Services, Erie County Department of Health and the Crawford County liaison.

A 44 page document with a combined 9,000 students in the county, this plan gives us lieu way together through the different colors of stage we are all in. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, it is important to have students back if we can do so safely. Since March 13 we have been closed and the number of abuse reports has gone up. Trauma counselors have not been able to work with students, but some parents have brought students in to meet in the summer but by and large not enough.

Every school district has to develop a plan which involves a lot of entities to create a draft. This includes emergency management, hospitals, neighboring schools, transportation, community resources, a lot in one room to draft in order to hopefully reopen. Currently our county is green and our numbers are fairly low; not the high case count some neighboring counties have had. The benefit is we are rural with most of us predominately doing what we are supposed to do. We have done good job and even when the state was shut down we could have stayed in green but it was a different time then as the entire state was shut down.

The four parts of each plan is intricately tied together with the first part designed for cleaning and sanitizing. Anyone who has worked with small children know they touch everything, hands in mouth, touching the walls, everything. Mr. Sperry has a teenager at home who still does. We are constantly cleaning schools for fight of infectious disease. We are also attacking high touch areas, wipe buses more, are increasing ventilation and cleaning high touch areas constantly.

Mr. Kimmel discussed his disinfection program beyond normal contracted protocol. Mr. Sperry discussed class size slides noting some districts are using a Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday and Friday virtual rule so that the buildings are empty 3 days for cleaning.

Masks, hand sanitizers and the like have been ordered for the start of school.

Mr. Sperry noted for fall sports, any school in our Intermediate Unit under the green stage we will keep in our schedule but if a school is in the yellow stage we will not participate with that school.

Mr. Sperry noted if a student is feeling ill, under the COVID-19 designated quarantine areas and guidelines they should not go to school, especially if one feels several of the symptoms, specifically fever. If a student or staff member is confirmed with a case, Mr. Sperry is notified, the student and staff in that building is notified and the school will be closed for 72 hours. CDC considers an active building to be closed 24 hours and no one in; the next 24 hours is for cleaning. Crawford County has added an additional 24 hours in case a surface is missed. If our district has an active case, the health department starts contact tracing, and anyone within 6 feet of the student more than 15 minutes will be quarantined for exposure to a positive case. Someone who is positive is to have 14 days of quarantine before coming back or 72 hour period between a negative test with or without symptoms. After 14 days and after 10 days with no symptoms you are no longer contagious, as the incubation is 14 days. If someone has symptoms and after 10 days after symptoms you are no longer infectious. If our district has to shut down we will use same resources, Facebook, the website, school messenger, radio tv etc. and again the guidelines are updated roughly every other day through the CDC and we monitor them daily with recommendations based on the current time.

Face masks are encouraged and mandatory in our state within 6 feet of another individual. If our district is in the red, everything is online as a county or a state. If we go on lock down, everyone is home with most education to be online. It is the green and yellow plane we have to work within for the school to be as normal, partial online, all online etc.

b. CAOLA Mr. Sperry

https://caola.caiu.org/caola_experience.php

\$5,000 initial fee to IU5

If we go to full closure and have all students in grades K-6 in CAOLA, the cost is \$4500 per grade / \$31,500 for K-6. If we are not in closure, district cost would be \$3,400 per 100 students.

Staffing could be up to 17 staff at one hour per day @ \$30 per hour for \$91,800 for the year

Minutes

Mr. Sperry reported the avenue for the District to provide a robust private program for K-6 grades through our IU is CAOLA. This program is a necessity this year because for the first time ever we are moving cyber into the elementary arena. We, as a district, always shied away from elementary cyber because education is best in brick and mortar. Judging on comments through this past spring and summer, most parents agree. However, we are living in unprecedented times and have to give families this option. Since we don't have the luxury or time to build a program for elementary, he is recommending CAOLA. Our 6-12 grades took 8 years to get it to the level it is right now online.

CAOLA is an online curriculum and still using our teachers to deliver but they did not have to develop the program or content. Currently the District needs a \$5000 initial fee. This program is currently available through seven districts in the consortium out of our Intermediate Unit. We currently pay \$3,400 for 100 students, with right now we have less than that who have opted for cyber. If we exceed 100 students it is an additional \$3,500 to go up to a few hundred students. However, if for some reason the state comes out and says we are going to online instruction for extended period of time it will advocate we pay that additional \$3,400 and we can put every student into CAOLA. He is not sure if it will happen but this gives us the option. We will use up to 17 staff to run it like we do our high school cyber after school one hour a day. But we also have a full-time applicant available during the day to help students, answer questions, much like Mr. Bossard, this person would do for elementary for one year, it is only a one year position during the COVID.

This is all brand new, we still have See Saw and will continue to use it. If a student has to go out on quarantine they can use See Saw to keep up with their class and CAOLA is the avenue to provide for our elementary students for a full time online learning option.

The monies the District has received for COVID will be used to purchase the CAOLA as it is part of our curriculum. This is also another creative way to keep students in our district rather than going to an outside cyber. There will be a motion next week to approve this program/agreement.

c. Property Appraisals....Mr. Mayle

Minutes

Mr. Mayle addressed the Board on the assessment of the Evans Square property in the Conneaut Lake Borough to be \$126,000, this is very high and the school taxes are \$6,500. He has reached out to appraisers on what it would look like to get an appraiser to potentially appeal the assessment. The best pricing he has is from an appraiser out of Erie, who quoted \$1,000 base appraisal and \$225/hour. This has been budgeted for.

The Board was in agreement to pursue this more.

d. Right of Way Discussion...Mr. Kimmel/Mr. Joseph

Minutes

Mr. Kimmel noted this is a combined efforts with PENNDOT to add a bridge over the creek behind the high school to use the property. The right of way is for access to the property behind the high school so as the state can get equipment to the property.

e. Maintenance Updates...Mr. Kimmel

Minutes

Mr. Kimmel reviewed what his department has been working on this summer including delays, what has been completed and what projects still needs done. The building custodians and cleanliness is a big issue. A full scale cleaning has been conducted this summer, much more aggressively and Mr. Kimmel feels confident on the work that is being done to prepare the students to return this fall.

f. Water Bottle Donations...Mr. Parks

Minutes

The school board was provided with samples of bottles, pencils, lanyards which the High Street Church in Conneaut Lake wishes to donate to the Lake schools K-8th grades.

g. Policies for 1st Reading...Mr. Sperry/Ms. Dressel

Mask Policy

Department of Health July 16, 2020 update:

o Children two years and older are required to wear a face covering unless they have a medical or mental health condition or disability, documented in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or IDEA, that precludes the wearing of a face covering in school.

Accommodations for such students should be made in partnership with the student's health care provider, school nurse, and IEP/504 team.

Policies that need language adjustments for 2020/2021

204 Attendance

206 Assignment Within District

208 Withdrawal from School

236 Audio and Video Recording

237 Electronic Devices

802.1 Attendance Area Boundaries

904 Public Attendance at School Events

907 School Visitors

Minutes

Mr. Sperry and Mr. Joseph each provided an update on the face mask policy which included an update from the Department of Health July 16, 2020:

Highlights include-

- Children two years and older are required to wear a face covering unless they have a medical or mental health condition or disability, documented in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or IDEA, that precludes the wearing of a face covering in school. Accommodations for such students should be made in partnership with the student's health care provider, school nurse, and IEP/504 team.
- If a student has a 504 plan, for student with a medical necessity that doesn't impact their learning. could be an allergy or anxiety but doesn't affect their learning like an IEP does. The Department of Health recommends schools create mask policy or dress code to include wearing mask.

Mr. Joseph noted some of the policy is related to pandemic, and he notes it continues to change daily. The State does have a mandatory face covering policy adopted by the Governors Executive Order and a similar order by Secretary of Health on July 1st. At the time the Secretary of Health order the face covering was outdoors. With the inability to inconsistently maintain distances and in locations where members of the public are permitted, these two are important for schools setting. The face covering order is a universal order document put out and addressed to all schools and the order applies to all in a school entity K-12. For the purpose of the order children and staff are considered to be members of the public so indoor mask requirements became part of our obligation. Since July 16, the Department of Health and Department of Education have updated the order to include IEP/504 plan individuals. The question is then how do we apply this to the school enforcing the mask order.

The District is protected by a tort liability insurance and as an entity for creating a policy or practice of indifference of the unconstitutional rights of others. Mr. Joseph suggested the District amend the dress code to require to carry masks. Under current guidance students are not obligated to wear masks when sitting at their own desk,

maintaining distance or working on studies. But they are if in the hallway, in collaborative work and cannot stay distant.

Mr. Joseph recommended relaxing the truant language because of quarantine requirements. He emphasized he does not want to change and then re-change but he would like to have clarification/statement that during emergency statement in policy 204.

Policy 206, 236 and 237 and Policy 802.1 were reviewed.

Mr. Joseph noted visiting schools during the pandemic we will have to restrict visitors to building as well as restrict them under Policies 907 and 904. Noting any indoor event is still limited to 25 currently and outdoor events 250 with practicing social distancing therefore, we may need to further restrict under current guidance.

Mr. Joseph will come back with resolution made only during the pandemic period.

Mrs. Miller asked how do we keep practicing this consistent. Mr. Joseph responded the same as any dress code issue, a teacher reports to office, no different than anyone violating dress code. Mrs. Miller noted in the past you see some teachers go through six periods and then the 7th period a student is in trouble. Mr. Joseph responded- building administration needs to be aware, this is a serious issue and for the purpose of universality we can all agree whatever level of concern you have for the virus is that masking and social distancing works so administration must be working with staff to make sure those policies are enforced. Mrs. Miller appreciated his response.

Mr. Hornstein put a spin on it; saying it is very important that we follow this much more than the dress code so he asked Mr. Sperry how do we insure that. Mr. Sperry replied- that we have a separate mask policy for lack of better term that carries more teeth than amending a dress code. If there is a student who is willfully not wearing or refusing much different than someone who forgets and doesn't have an IEP or 504 bldg then the principal needs alerted.

Mrs. Miller wanted to know how the staff is going to be trained to all comply and enforce the policy.

Mr. Sperry noted he is not sure if we have staff that will disregard the mask mandate set by the state. With that being said when close doors in class room but we also have teachers who are high risk and even with safe distance they will want students to wear mask. Mrs. Miller noted that is her point we won't have teachers all complying with the policy. Mr. Sperry replied; it is not easy but we also have the ability to excuse students from school if willfully not wearing mask. Mrs. Luckock added this will need to be constantly reminded, to impress on your staff that inconsistency can jeopardize someone/us. We all must work with staff so that there is consistency for mask compliance. Mrs. Miller noted, now that we have a policy, we need to layout to the consequences. so we have masks to offer students, if they refuse to wear one that is offered at that point. Mr. Joseph replied; the order carries the force of the law until removed, even in green phase there is an online option for students who refuse to wear a mask. We would encourage the cyber option for their instruction.

h. Superintendent's Report...Mr. Sperry

Minutes

Mr. Sperry provided the following in his report;

We have conducted numerous interviews since July 8 th . As you can see from the Agenda, we have many new hires. We still have a few to fill before we start the school year. We have had many great candidates and coming to a decision on one candidate has often been a lengthy and difficult decision.

2. All IU5 superintendents have been in weekly and sometimes bi-weekly meetings since July 8th . We have another one scheduled tomorrow. These meetings are lasting anywhere from 1-3 hours.

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3. We (as a county) have also met with Crawford County Emergency Management 2-3 times since July 8th. We are attempting to coordinate with the county to secure rapid COVID-19 testing that would be available for county residents through the use of local funds and COVID-19 grant funds that the county received.
4. The Admin team has had numerous meetings and attended training's on CAOLA. (On-line curriculum we will be using K-6 for this year)
5. We have had one meeting with the county (and are trying to schedule another meeting) to discuss the possibility of expanding broadband access throughout the county. The commissioners are looking at possible sites across the county to give families local access to high speed internet.
6. The three county districts met with Meadville Medical Training Coordinators to discuss sports and athletic trainers' responsibilities for this coming season.
7. I also attended a zoom meeting for superintendents across the state to discuss and share their re-opening plans.

i. Board Retreat Reminder...Mrs. Luckock/Mrs. Miller

Reminder Saturday, September 19, 2020 starting at 8:30 AM at CASH library.

Minutes

Mrs. Luckock reminded the board of the retreat scheduled for Saturday, September 19, 2020 starting at 8:30 AM.

j. PSBA Voting for PSBA Officer Elections...Mr. Ellis

Minutes

This item was delayed until September.

k. PSBA Updates...Mr. Ellis

- PSBA Federal Focus July 15, 2020
- PSBA Introducing the new Success Starts Here
- PSBA Liaison Insider August 3, 2020

Minutes

Mr. Ellis summarized information from PSBA.

l. Agenda Review...Mrs. Luckock

Minutes

4. ADJOURNMENT

adjourned at 9:18 PM

Minutes

The meeting adjourned at 9:18 pm.

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was announced there would be no EXECUTIVE SESSION -



Dorothy Luckock, Board President



Greg Mayle, Board Secretary