

Cheektowaga-Sloan Regular Meeting Transcript of July 28, 2020

At this time, we will recite the Pledge of Allegiance before our meeting.

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

I call this meeting to order.

Roll Call:

Mrs. McCowan, here.

Mrs. Ferrucci, here.

Mrs. Dombrowski, here.

Mr. Schlossin, here.

Mr. Sieczkerek, excused.

Mr. Smith, here.

Mr. Stewart, excused.

We have a quorum.

Can I get a motion and a second to go into Executive Session at 6:47 p.m. for Matters leading to the new appointments and employment of particular persons; and TAC collective bargaining negotiations? Claire, Steph, Claire and Stephanie. Onto Question. All in favor? Aye. Motion Carried and so ordered.

Can I get a motion and a second to adjourn from Executive Session and resume regular order of business at 7:02 p.m.? Steph. Wes. Stephanie and Wes. Onto Question. All in favor? Aye. Carried and so ordered.

Can I get a motion and a second to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 17 and the Reorganizational Meeting of July 7, 2020? Claire, Steph. Claire and Steph. Onto Question. All in favor? Aye. Carried and so ordered.

Can I get a motion and a second to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of June, 2020 as submitted? Claire. Wes. Claire and Wes. Onto Question. All in favor? Aye. Carried and so ordered.

Can I get a motion and a second to approve the Student Reports for June, 2020 as submitted? Steph, Zack. Steph and Zack. Onto Question. All in favor? Aye. Carried and so ordered.

Not much has changed.

Can I get a motion and a second to approve the School Lunch Report for June, 2020 as submitted? Claire, Wes, Onto Question? All in favor? Aye. Carried and so ordered.

Can I get a motion and a second to approve the Appropriation Status Report for the period ending June 30, 2020 and the Revenue Report for June, 2020 as submitted? Claire, Zack. Claire and Zack. Onto Question. All in favor? Aye. Any opposed? Carried and so ordered.

Can I get a motion and a second to suspend the reading of each Warrant payment and to approve payments for the General Fund, School Lunch Fund, Special Aid Fund and Capital Fund as submitted? Steph, Claire. Onto Question. All in favor? Aye. Any opposed? Carried and so ordered.

Next we have audience communication. Mrs. Finn, will talk to us about a PTech Grant.

Thank you for having me this evening. I will be providing an overview of this program tonight. Cheektowaga-Sloan is partnered with the other Cheektowaga school districts along with Erie 1 BOCES and SUNY Erie to provide an exciting opportunity for our incoming freshmen. PTech stands for Pathway Technology Early College High School. PTech is designed to bring together K-12 education, higher education and employees are integrated program beginning freshmen year. PTech students will be able to earn a high school regents diploma, gain relevant work experience with local companies, and will receive an industrial recognized associates degree at no cost to the families. The associates degree will be in one of the pathways – Building Management Maintenance, Electrical Engineering Technology, or Construction Management Engineering Technology. We originally had a parent informational night to let parents know about this program in March but because of the unexpected closure due to COVID, we had to reschedule that. So as a result we put all of the information about the program on the website and then sent home an all call to the families for the 8th graders to check that site, so they could learn about the program. The information is posted on the website along with the contact information for Mrs. Smith who is the director of the program. At this time, the parents had the opportunity to ask Mrs. Smith any questions they may have. After all of that process there was a due date three weeks later, where six interested families did apply for the program. To be able to apply, the students had to submit a completed application. They had to submit their career interest, and two letters of recommendation, which could be from a teacher, a coach, or a mentor that had to attest to their academic attendance records and their overall character. This information was taken into account to determine who would be committed to this program. It is a great deal of work and requires a balance where we had to make sure that those who applied and wanted to become part of it are committed to the program. All six students were interviewed with video conferencing by Mrs. Smith and our middle school counselor, Mrs. Stillman. After the interviews were conducted, they were evaluated and all the paperwork was submitted, they selected three students who have now been informed that they will be participating in this program. The families that we have talked to are extremely grateful and excited for their children to be a part of this program and at no cost. These children are speaking with great pride out about this program out in the community. Our school district is really proud of all the students who applied and for all of their work. We are very excited to try this opportunity with the students that we have. Thank you very much.

Thank you. Congratulations to the three students. I am looking forward to hearing about their journey over the next six years.

Now we have Mrs. Galenski, Mrs. Finn and Mr. Drescher will be talking about our reopening plan.

Good evening, parents, community, staff and whoever may be tuning in and listening to our board meeting this evening. On the screen in front of you is our District's Reopening Plan.

We will be presenting the plan for you tonight. Our draft plan is required to be submitted this Friday, July 31st. However, it is important for me to note that even once it is submitted, it will continue to be a living document. This means that we are able to continue to make changes as necessary.

As we present our draft plan to you, please remember that we cannot commit to any particular model at this point until Governor Cuomo announces his decision about reopening school on or around August 1-7th. He will make the decision and then we will be responsible as a district for putting one of the three plans in place for September. So much more work will need to be done once the Governor makes his decision.

We were required to prepare three plans or different scenarios for instruction. The first one is 100% in person attendance; the second is 100% remote learning; and the third one is what we are calling a Hybrid Model.

We were also required to prepare various sections in our plan such as screening procedures, social distancing, rooms to isolate ill persons, proper hand washing and respiratory hygiene, face coverings, cleaning and disinfecting, food service, transportation, attendance, social and emotional well-being, supporting diverse learners, this would be our special education population and our ELL learners, a section on Teaching and Learning, Grading, technology connectivity for hybrid and remote models, special areas such as music, library, physical education, instrumental music, computer classes and art, extracurricular activities, recess, and childcare.

The amount of hours, work and research that went into this plan has been monumental. It has taken a true team approach and full collaboration to complete our draft plan.

Before we expand on the various components of our reopening plan, it is very important to me to extend my gratitude to the following individuals and groups:

First, Our District Leadership Team – Mr. Drescher, our Business Official; Mrs. Finn, our Executive Director; Mrs. Emmerling, Special Education and Student Director; , Mr. Goodrow, our Building and Grounds Director; Mrs. Brucz, our Food Service Director; Mr. Zybala our Technology Coordinator; Mr. Mochrie, our Theodore Roosevelt Principal; and Mr. Julian, our JFK MS and HS Principal. The dedication, commitment, support and professionalism from this team has been extraordinary and I am fortunate to be a part of this District Leadership Team.

My second extension of gratitude goes to Horton Law, specifically Mr. Scott Horton our District Attorney and his associate Mrs. Julie Bastain. Their expertise in interpreting all of the Executive Orders and Guidance from the New York State Department of Health, and the New York State Education has been tremendous and so helpful to all of us.

Third, I would like to extend my gratitude to all of our Stakeholder Groups – Our CORE Stakeholder Group, our Leadership Team Stakeholder Group, our Parent Stakeholder Group, our Nurses Stakeholder Group and our Teacher and Staff PreK-12 Stakeholder Group.

We want all stakeholder Groups to know that your input was extremely valuable to us and as we go through our plan tonight it is with great hope that you will recognize where your voices made a difference.

In addition to our stakeholder groups, we thank all of our parents and community for completing the three surveys that we made available and for your support throughout this challenging time. The pandemic has created stress and anxiety for our Country and our World and it has impacted education and what we are used to in ways we could never have imagined. Please know that we in Cheektowaga-Sloan wish that September brought a typical new school year with all of our children coming back to our schools as we normally do. However, more importantly now is the protection of everyone's health and safety to best reduce the possibility of spreading this deadly COVID-19 virus. We are in a position where our Governor is making the decisions and we as districts must respond accordingly. Please know that in developing our reopening plan, we had to take into account so many factors such as transportation. We do not have our own fleet which has brought some complications for us. Staffing, and how could we cover classes properly with the amount of staff we have, we had to take into consideration classroom space, social distancing requirements and more. Thank you again parents for your strong partnership with us. As I mentioned in my All Call to all families last Friday, we plan to conduct a virtual parent meeting once the Governor announces his decision so that you can ask questions and interact with us to learn more about the model we have move forward and then put in place this September.

At this time, we will begin taking you through the plan. So if you could please move to page 2. Because the plan is 30 some pages in length, what we are going to do is really just summarize some of the really strong key points that we want our community to better understand. Once we have that virtual meeting when we have the plan in place it will be a great time to take questions and interact with you.

On page 2, this is really just the standard plan development. I already spoke to this. This talks about the Stakeholder groups that we have engaged and will continue to engage and it identified who is on or Core Re-opening Team. Again, summarizes some of the things that I already mentioned with those individuals.

So if we move to page 3, it talks about responsibility. Throughout this plan, and the guidance we have received, it refers to the responsible party and District's Safety Coordinator. Those responsibilities are designated to the Superintendent of Schools. I believe it was the NYSED document that kept referring every other line to the responsible party, that would be me. So I just wanted to give you some of that terminology.

Our school principals are designated as COVID 19 resource persons, so when it refers to our school resource persons, that will be our school principals; and those principals will be responsible for overseeing the implementation of this plan within their school.

If you move to page 4, this page identifies communication. We have also inserted various links throughout this document so you will be able to click on the links and it will take you to the really important documents. Our website, I just want to highlight that we established a COVID-19 page where we have posted information and updates, and we will be posting our final draft plan on that page this coming Friday. As you know we are moving to an improved communication platform so that we can send out mass text messages and emails directing our

parents and staff to our website for updated and important information. We will also be using the All Call system when it is more important, or more personal for me or District Staff to send out an All Call.

Parents, I just want to make mention of this, if you haven't opted into this texting service to date, we encourage you to please do so. Letters have been sent home with instructions, but if you need any help, you can reach out to any of us here. Mr. Brian Zybala, is the best contact for that. He is our Technology Coordinator. His email can be found on our website.

On page 5, This is about Health and Safety. It talks a lot about safety training. We will be providing training to our staff, and to our students regarding proper handwashing, and respiratory hygiene. We will make sure the videos for students are developmentally appropriate and we talked as a Leadership Team to make sure these are appropriate and consistent for students from grade level to grade level. We recognize this year will be different, we will be devoting a lot of time in the beginning of the year to these procedures, to these trainings so that everyone, our children and our staff feel comfortable.

Also on page 5, unique to Cheektowaga-Sloan, we have been going around and around with this and we really want to work in collaboration with the Leadership Team, particularly with the Principals to get videos out to our families before the start of school. Once we know the plan_ for example, entry ways, just so we know how that would look and acquaint our children to the various new protocols, if you would that will be up and coming. I also wanted to point out social distancing and face coverings. We have spent significant time on this component and in order to ensure our children and staff are safe, we will be making certain that students are socially distanced six feet apart and everyone will be wearing masks. So we have committed to that as a District again six feet apart so that we are adhering to that component of social distancing and wearing masks.

On page 6, this is high priority to us along with recognizing that students and staff will be wearing masks all day long. On page six, it talks about frequent mask breaks. We have been talking a lot with our staff about this and we will absolutely be making it a top priority to have multiple frequent mask breaks and we plan to do this outside as much as possible. We recognize again that this will cut into some of our instruction time should we be present in school in the fall. We are willing and knowing the priority because even as adults, it is difficult to go for long periods of time without a break. So we will be taking frequent breaks so that everyone can receive fresh air.

Also on page 6, I felt this very important to share with the community that the district has purchased PPE for students, administrators, teachers and support staff. This includes, but is not limited to disposable and reusable face covering, face shields, physical barriers, disposable gloves, thermometers, and any other PPE that was deemed necessary. Cheektowaga-Sloan has made a commitment. That we have looked into, we have partnered with a company for professional plastics as well as our architectural firm Young and Wright. The District Leadership Team walked every one of our schools last week and we have the exact measurements, we counted, we looked furniture, we looked at spacing. They are called polycarbonate barriers, they are fire retardant clear plastic that gives an extra level of safety for children and staff. We are committed to having these ready. We are committed to putting that order in place once the Governor makes his decision. These barriers, as you can imagine

families, will adhere to the desks and it will be Pre-K through 12 and the adhere to the desk with Velcro and are not very obstructed. You can actually see one here in the Board meeting. They are lightweight and clear so that everybody can see through them. We will be cleaning them properly. The company has specific products we will need to use on these barriers. We just felt that this was an extra protection measure. We heard from parents, they are concerned. Of course, we as parents are all concerned. We are ready to make that commitment. We are just waiting on the Governor's decision so we know how many to order. I just want to make mention these will not only be on the desks. They will be on all cafeteria tables. They will be on all tables in classrooms. For example, our science rooms. They will be in the Nurse's office areas. They will be in the main office areas where there is close contact and the opportunity for contamination. We are very excited about that and we are ready, willing and able to make that commitment.

If you move to page 7, this is our cleaning and sanitation and it does go into page 8 as well. I just want to reassure parents that this is a big topic as well as staff and every one of our Stakeholders. The building and grounds department will clean, disinfect and sanitize each building within the District. Again, these are links that can be clicked on, on Friday. Cleaning Guidance for Schools, released by the NYS Department of Health; the Reopening guidance for Cleaning and disinfecting Public Spaces, Workplaces, Businesses, Schools, and Homes, published by the CDC and prevention. Again, to go through just a couple of them, we have already begun this summer with cleaning logs. Cleaning logs are in place. It's an accountability measure that we felt strongly about and we will continue to have that be a protocol that will continue to follow. Once on Friday, when this is published, I know it may be a little bit hard to read through the whole thing right now. All high touched areas, daily cleaning and disinfecting. All of this will be occurring every single day. I will talk about deep cleaning in just a little while, as that will also be taking place.

If you move to page 8, many of you are probably familiar with this. Really this page identified symptoms for COVID-19 that we have all been made aware of. We also recognize that the CDC can come out with updates to this list at any time, so that is why it is a living document. If they were to come out with updates, we will be sure to insert them right away. Our nurses have been very involved, they continue to be very involved and again through Mrs. Emmerling's leadership.

If you turn to page 9, this connects with Nursing and goes into COVID-19 symptoms and covers both the health screening questionnaire as well as health screening temperature checks. This was an area from the parents that we had a lot of discussion about. Of course as well as our staff and nurses. I just want to touch on this again on page 9. The health screening questionnaire, based on NYS guidelines, the District will require students and employees to complete a health screening questionnaire regularly during periods of in-school instruction. For staff this is going to be daily. For students, it talks about once a week for this questionnaire. We are currently in the process of making this available and easy for our families to do. We recognize this is an additional step for our families, but we all have to ensure that all of us our safe. That is why we are putting that texting in place. We are working on an electronic measure, where it is a real quick one, two, pressing of buttons and then it links right to Cheektowaga-Sloan so that we can compile and be sure that the students coming in daily are free of the symptoms. It now connects with the next thing- they don't have a temperature. Also with the health screening temperature

check, families will be required to take student's temperatures at home before sending students to school. We recognize this is a bit of a challenge. This was a really big discussion point again, with our stakeholder groups. We recognize the need for people to feel safe, that employees, children, visitors to the school are free of a temperature. The temperature where students and staff will not be allowed into school is 100 degrees Fahrenheit. We realized in order to make this highly effective, we needed everybody to be completely comfortable, we are working on an easy electronic system that we will be utilizing for the temperature checking.

Also if you turn to page 10, please, we are committed and will be purchasing what is called high traffic temperature detection cameras. These cameras will ensure that our schools are free of anybody who has a temperature. As we know, that is one of the number one symptoms and this is going to bring some peace and comfort in a quick way for us to monitor as students are coming in and that is another area that we will get to. They won't be coming in traditionally as they have before where everyone is getting off the bus, rushing to the front doors. It is going to be very well monitored and very well organized by the principals so that we have a safe, entrance into the schools and exit every day, while remaining socially distanced. So as students are coming through these detection cameras, they won't keep child's names or anything. It will simply say cleared or not cleared because we will not keep that data on file. If someone is not cleared, we will guide them to the nurse. The nurse will retake their temperature and follow protocols at that point on whether or not a child or employee needs to be sent home. We are very proud of that and excited to be able to share that with you.

Also on page 10, it talks about COVID-19 testing. I just want to make one thing clear. If a student, faculty or staff member has signs of COVID-19, the school nurses will work with the families about necessary next steps including seeing their health care provider and possibly pursuing testing. So our nurses will be well equipped and be ready to take on that responsibility.

If you turn to page 11, I just want to reassure everybody that I am responsible and will absolutely follow that protocol and expectation for notifying the State and Local Health Department upon the findings of any COVID-19 positive test results by the individual facilities or on school grounds. This includes children, staff, a visitor that was there. That is why these questionnaires are so important. We have already been practicing these all summer so that we can go back and trace who was in our school and who may have contaminated other individuals. I am responsible and will be doing that. We of course, will be confidential in nature, as you can imagine, we will be protecting everybody's confidentiality.

Going back on page 11, a little bit on cleaning and disinfecting, following suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases, this section identified the protocols that we must follow and will follow if someone is suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19. We will absolutely adhere to these requirements as identified here on this page. Finally, at the bottom of page 11, the student will be evaluated by the school nurse and when necessary, arrangements will be made for a parent/guardian to pick up the student. I just want to let families know that we will have a designated room in each of our schools to isolate ill persons, this would be children and employees who are exhibiting possible COVID-19 symptoms. The intent is not to have children or employees there for a very long time at all, we will be communicating immediately with our families so children can be picked up. This is where the nurse steps in and gives the next steps. We are responsible and we will be having these isolation rooms if you would.

Moving to page 12, this just continues to identify our procedures for management of ill persons and return to school after illness. If you read through all of this once the plan is posted on Friday, it will bring clarity to exactly what we are expected to do.

If you turn to page 13, I would like to point out that our nurses will also be trained to identify any staff/students who display the following symptoms with no explanation. This was added. These symptoms have been associated with COVID-19 and will need to be monitored to ensure staff and student safety. This is in addition to the typical symptoms that surface with COVID-19. These symptoms include flushed cheeks; Rapid or difficulty breathing, without any recent physical activity; fatigue, and or irritability; and frequent use of the bathroom. Our nurses are going to be trained in this and they will be the leaders in this area of identifying these symptoms.

Finally, on page 13, it talks about safety drills. I just like to reassure of parents, staff, and community that we will be responsible for continuing to implement safety drills. We are just going to be doing them in a modified version, where we can have staggering drill schedules or smaller groups where we can ensure social distancing.

Turning to page 14, page 14 goes into detail about our facilities and ventilation systems. I know this was an important topic with parents and some of our staff. We are fortunate to have systems that pull air in from outside and pull it upward toward the ceiling which is what they are asking school districts to do. We are sort of ahead of the game with that. Our ventilation systems are fairly new and we will be putting all of the protocols that they have put in place, such as cleaning the filters, replacing the filters and keeping them as safe as we absolutely can. We also will be opening windows when we can, we will be following all of those protocols as we are required to do.

Page 15 identified building traffic patterns and posting signage which we have already begun to do this summer with staff present and will continue to do as we prepare for September. I can reassure everybody that our principals, and our Leadership Team are working on all of this, where flowing of traffic is important, keeping students socially distanced even in hallways, in higher traffic areas, we will have appropriate signage posted. We will make sure that we are adhering to all of the expectations set forth by the guidance that has been put out for us.

If you move to page 16, page 16 discusses more details about smaller spaces and limiting density in those areas as well as signage and posting signage in highly visible areas. We will make sure that we adhere to all of those recommendations so that we keep people socially distanced. We are very cognizant of signage, making sure people understand what they have to do, by wearing a mask. We will be making sure that our schools have signage up throughout them. We are following all of these healthy hygiene expectations.

As we move to page 17, page 17 goes into detail about classrooms. I would like to point out a few important points that the District has already addressed and is planning for. Social distancing is one of them and I already spoken to that a few pages back. The rearrangement of classrooms to ensure that all students, desks, and tables are facing the same direction that is an expectation that has been given to us and we will be making happen. We will be repurposing areas throughout the building so that we can have classroom instruction, again not knowing what model we are being told to implement, we will be prepared. Let's say if it is 100% in person attendance, we are prepared to utilize additional space, to be flexible, to repurpose areas so that

we can reduce density in classroom and particular spaces. We recognize in order to distance six feet apart we are going to have to do this. For example, I am thinking about our cafeterias. We are repurposing our gymnasiums in John F. Kennedy HS, MS, and Woodrow Wilson so that it's an overflow area. So if we are at 100% in person or even if we are at a reduced percentage of attendance, we have to ensure the students are spaced apart and the only way for us to do that is to use the gymnasiums as overflows. We will put tables in those spaces so that we can appropriately space the children apart.

The physical barriers, I already spoke to. Those are those polycarbonate barriers that we are ready and committed to place the order once we have direction.

Face shields, I know this was important for staff to make them feel comfortable. So we will have face shields readily available and I also wanted to talk about assigned seating. It is being recommended and we will be following this protocol where students will be assigned seating because of less contamination. If a student has to get up and use the bathroom or any other time throughout the day, they know where they need to be seated, and so assigned seating will be utilized.

There is much more included on this page but those are some of key areas.

If we turn to page 18, this is a continuation of classrooms and what we will be doing. For example, this is something important to note for our families and community. Our staff has already been made aware of this. The excess furniture is being removed from our classrooms to create additional space for social distancing. The fewer items in a classroom will reduce the risk of germs remaining on objects and cross contamination. We will be removing as many items as possible so you can imagine and vision a classroom full of desks. Again, I want to say this is against what we are all used to and it is difficult for us to grasp, but we are doing what we are told to do. We are doing it as best we can and so even for cleaning purposes, if you think about it, those extra shelving and things that may be in a classroom. It is really helping to reduce the risk of getting COVID-19 and it is reducing the spread of germs. It is helping make a situation very safe.

Regarding lockers and changing classes, Mr. Julian is in the process of working out a plan for locker use and changing classes. Once the Governor decides what plan we are following, these plans will be confirmed and shared with our families, community, students and staff. Again, this may need to be adjusted, this particular section that we put in here now when students arrive and we are allowing them to go to their lockers while being socially distanced. If for some reason, new guidance comes out and we can't do that we would go into our document, because it's a live plan and make those changes.

If you turn to page 19, there is a very large section that goes into page 20 as well. We will focus on page 19 momentarily. For page 19, food service. Mrs. Brucz was an integral part of developing our plan for food service and making sure we have the cleanest and healthy environment possible. Some of the highlights include the District will continue to provide school breakfast and lunch to all students that need it. All breakfast meals will be pre-made and ready for students upon arrival. All trays and utensils will be disposable. That was a big point of discussion with our parents and so I wanted to communicate that out that all trays and utensils will be disposable. At John F. Kennedy High School, breakfast will be distributed and eaten in

the cafeteria where students must sit in designated seating, six feet apart. At Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, and JFK Middle School the food will be distributed at kiosks around the building where social distancing will be enforced. Students will eat their breakfast in the classroom seated six feet apart. Important for me to note as well, all lunch meals will be pre-plated and put on the line, one at a time for each student. There will be no more self serving at this time. Students will state their name or present their swipe card and then students will then be designated seating, six feet apart. Again, safety first.

We will be attending to all students who have allergies. Parents brought up those concerns. Of course, we are concerned as well so we will definitely be making provisions for that. We will also be concentrating on snacks and hydration. I have already spoken to the gymnasiums being overflow areas but I also want to mention, this was a difficult decision that was collectively made here, that we will be removing the old booths in our Middle and High School cafeterias. They are not sanitary and we need more space to ensure social distancing. When we looked at these booths very closely the food can get into the spaces and crevices, it will be more difficult to get the food out and we were worried about getting the food out and being worried about it being unsanitary. Also in these booths, we even sat down in them. It is hard to get out and the most you can seat there would be one student. Plus, the booths are old. The recommendation from Mrs. Brucz is that we need to get rid of them to make space for tables. We have committed to buying tables for the middle and the high school cafeterias, so that we again, can ensure six feet apart.

If we move to page 21, pages 21 and 22 cover transportation. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents for responding to our transportation survey. If you haven't responded, the deadline is tonight, so please do so in order for us to gather the most accurate feedback as possible because that is a critical piece for us for being able to socially distance our students on buses and to be able to follow the transportation guidelines. I just want to personally thank parents. We have received great data within an hour or two of time from a lot of parents. Almost 49% could transport their children. I really appreciate that. Any help we can get and work as partners is so appreciated. Again, if you did not complete the survey, I would appreciate if you could do that tonight.

I just want to make some highlights on page 21. Both students and drivers will wear masks and social distance at all times on the bus. Students must wear acceptable face covering over their mouth and nose at all times while boarding, riding, and getting off the bus.

Bus drivers will be required to wear facial coverings at all times. Students and parents should wear face coverings at bus stops. Parents and students need to maintain six feet distancing at bus stops and while loading and unloading.

The District will require the bus company to comply with NY State's COVID-19 reopening guidance for Public transportation operations and any additional requirements imposed by the State Education Department or the NYS Department of Health for school transportation, including sanitation requirements. Drivers will wipe down high touch surfaces between bus runs with a deeper sanitizing procedure will be done once the morning runs are done in between the morning and afternoon runs.

The District encourages parents and guardians to transport their own children to and from school when possible while the COVID-19 safety and health restrictions are in place. We encourage families, this was in a lot of the guidelines to be careful with carpooling and that cross contamination not knowing who may have been exposed and just protecting your own families. So that covered page 21 and the highlights on that page.

On page 22, I would like families, community and staff to know we are developing internal plans in addition to this framework at each schools drop off and pick up process to ensure safety and efficiency. What I mean specifically by that is we recognize there will be a much greater amount of students being driven and so we have to prepare for that and so we are preparing for that and we will make sure that everybody is comfortable, everybody is clear and we will not be holding parents up through a drop off process and pick up process. We are working on that behind the scenes and will communicate it out when we have that ready.

Loading and unloading we have addressed that with you, students will be unloaded and loaded in a manner that will reduce potential contact with other students. Stickers will be utilized to convey social distancing requirements in a student friendly way. Windows will be kept open for air flow when appropriate. First student, I just want to say has been working with us. It is difficult when you do not have your own fleet and you do not have that direct control over your buses, but they have been great partners with us. I have confidence that we will continue to be in the future.

Page 23, talks about attendance. This was really a big discussion on attention point with parents and staff and all of our stakeholder groups. It is being addressed now with the NYSED guidance and we are adhering to this. So it identifies attendance and the requirement now that we take attendance and enter it into our student management system. That is eschool for us, for both in person and remote learning. So when we talk about remote learning, we heard from parents, we heard from staff, we heard from our stakeholders that they wanted more accountability and we agree. Attendance will be taken, and accountability measures will be put in place.

Turn to page 24, this is a very important section to our district. It is about social, emotional well-being. Our philosophy here is to educate the whole child. We believe in that. We are passionate about that. I haven't talked about this yet, but I want to insert it now. We heard your concerns and we believe it. We feel the same way. These areas in addition to social, emotional well-being, Art, Music, Physical Education, Computers, Library, all of our special areas will continue to go on. It will be in a different way, whether we are in person or remote. I just wanted to communicate that our because I know it is really a topic that came up and absolutely, we will be having special areas. Our special area teachers are meeting to start working out the details and how their programs will be looking be it remote or in person.

At this time, I am going to turn it over to Mrs. Finn who has been working directly with our mental healthcare providers and will be doing so in the future regarding this social, emotional piece. So Mrs. Finn, I am just going to ask you if you don't mind speaking to this briefly.

Sure. Thank you Mrs. Galenski.

First of all, the district recognizes that this toll that COVID-19 pandemic has taken on our families. This has greatly impacted people's social emotional well-being and need to provide

students, faculty, staff and their families extra support is going to be more important than ever. In addition to our Family Support Center and support provided by our counselors and social workers and our school psychologists, that we will be implementing various meetings, supports, partnering with agencies for different services. All of these things will be occurring for sure. In addition to all of those measures we will also be implementing Restorative Practices district wide in 2020-21 school year regardless of the educational setting that we will be in.

Mrs. Galenski has provided an overview of this program in the past, but just to recap, Restorative Practice is an emerging social science that focuses on strengthening relationships between individuals and communities. It's a shift in thinking from rules that are broken and punishment to try to have students learn from their mistakes and repairing harm that they may have caused. As a result of this, the District has partnered with the Erie County Restorative Justice Coalition and has been getting support and training from Dina Thompson, who is the Executive Director. In 19-20, a group of teachers piloted this program and we had a committee of 35 people which was student support staff, administrators, teachers, everyone that you could imagine that came together and said that they wanted to learn about this program. Mrs. Thompson provided us with a very in depth training every month and we continue to meet about every month or at least every six weeks until school was closed. I just want to say that recently we have been trying to get this going in a virtual setting as well. We just recently held a beautiful meeting with all 35 of our committee members and we were able to use zoom which is being purchased by the district to break into very small groups and create a really safe and supportive environment for everybody. A major component of Restorative Practice is called circles which can be used proactively to build community and relationships or it can be used reactively to respond to wrongdoing. We will be providing district wide training and scripts for circles for teachers to use to help them talk through this difficult trauma that people have received in COVID-19. Whether we are in person, hybrid, or remote, those meetings will continue since we have zoom. We will continue to have this support in place.

We believe that this will provide a sense of community and closeness our students need now more than ever.

Thank you so much Mrs. Finn. I also just want to say how important this is to the children, the circles, I spoke about that at the public hearing. These circles have been so profound this past year. These restorative circles help with students feeling connected, they feel a sense of belonging. We don't want to lose that and so I want to thank Mrs. Finn and the Restorative Practice committee, it is a lot of individuals who have so much expertise. They are going to keep those circles whether we are in person or remote. We will make that happen, because it is important for our children.

I just want to add that this wonderful committee broke into subgroups now and have been given a task such as checking the environment of the buildings, everyone is volunteering their own time to be able to make sure that when people come back we welcome them with the language, signage and promote this and support our students a great deal. We are really excited, thank you Mrs. Galenski for supporting this initiative.

Thank you Mrs. Finn.

Community, we are going to move to page 25. This is another big passion of ours, it is devoted to diverse learners. This is all specific to our special education population, as well as our English language learner population, and so this articulates exactly what we will be doing for those populations, and again Mrs. Finn, I would just ask you since you have been working on these areas as well as Mrs. Emmerling. If you want to give some key points.

Absolutely, Mrs. Emmerling has been working very closely with our special education department to ensure that individual needs of our students' IEPs have been met at all times. She is working very closely to be sure that student evaluations are completed in a timely manner regardless of what setting we might be in. She is holding stakeholder meetings with the special education teachers as well to gather input to how we can meet the needs of our students, and the different programming that we can bring them. Finally, Mrs. Emmerling is creating an expectations document that will be distributed to the special education staff to help with a consistent approach when we are working with students. Parents are looking for a consistent program and this will help provide that. To say that we are going to set some protocols across the departments, that everybody will adhere to doing these minimal things. Of course we welcome teachers to go above and beyond those things, but we want to set a minimal standard that is very clear to everybody and how we can support our students.

In addition to that, Mrs. Emmerling and myself are going to be working with the ENL teachers to assure that our English Language Learners are getting the support that they need. We have put this in place to fill the gaps for not only English Language Learners, but all learners due to the unexpected closure due to Covid this spring. We are ensuring our ENL assessments, our services will continue without interruption, again regardless of the setting that we are in. Mrs. Emmerling has reached out to the ENL teachers to receive feedback to this portion of the plan. They have already responded and have provided us with additional ideas that we will be adding to this page about this process before Friday. This will be updated once we get feedback from the other stakeholders as well.

Okay, parents and community, if we move to page 27, this last portion of the reopening plan is devoted to teaching and learning. Most important area to all of us. I have to emphasize that we are required to submit these three options, so throughout these pages you will see the inperson model with 100% attendance, the remote model where 100% of the students will be learning remotely, and the hybrid model. I am going to spend a little time talking about the hybrid model momentarily.

I just wanted to say a few things. We heard the what the stakeholder groups have said regarding the remote learning that we had from March through June. We took action, we have ordered and will be prepared to have every child in our district to have his or her own chromebook. I know how difficult it was because we weren't prepared to execute that one on one. At no fault to the District, we had to wait for the Smart Schools money to come through, which did not come through, but we are not waiting. We made the commitment. They are here. We are processing them and each student in our District will have a chromebook so that we are ready. Even if we come back in person, we will spend time training on the chromebook so that we are ready if we have to pivot at a moment's notice for remotely and we are ready, and the students prepared to do so and the staff. That is just one thing that I really wanted to report out.

We have also made the commitment to order laptops, which are in. Laptops for every teacher so that we can ensure that everybody has the technology that they need and so that we can make this remote program, should it be 100% or the hybrid the best it could be. So, that was important for me to communicate out.

We heard from parents, and other groups. We are prepared to grade, we are prepared to provide daily lessons and implement a strong remote learning program should we begin again, either fully remote or a hybrid model.

Mrs. Finn will share more details about that momentarily. I would like to take you to page 33 at this time, where we have identified our District's hybrid model. We took into great consideration, and I need our families to know this. For all of us here as parents, this is so difficult. We want our children back, but we want it safe and we have been asked by the State to put a hybrid plan in place. We took into great consideration that our families needed a consistent and simple schedule that we needed to keep between groups of children with as less cross contamination as possible. We had to take into consideration our contractual busing obligations. Since I mentioned earlier, we contract with First Student and we do not own our own fleet. We had to take into consideration the size of our classroom and the size of our staff when developing this hybrid model. All of that had to be taken into consideration. But the one thing we kept focusing on was what is going to be simple for our parents with childcare if we have to do this hybrid model. As a parent myself, if it is changing every week, one week it's this and the next week it's this. That is confusing as a parent. It is difficult to secure childcare and to get a real solid plan in place. So having said all of that, in front of you on page 33 is what we are proposing to the State, our hybrid model. It is not fancy, but it is safe, it is clear, it is simple for parents. This is what it is. Children district wide will be divided into group A and into group B because we are told that we have to prepare for 50% attending. By dividing into group A and B, I want to tell parents this, we did not put it into the plan yet, but we are looking at dividing the alphabet. So group A will be A-L, let's say, and group B would be M-Z. The issue with that is we want flexibility for parents. For example, we recognize that some parents have several children in the district and maybe they request their older children be in different groups so that they can watch over the younger children while they are at home and that may help with childcare. We are ready and willing and we are going to do the best job that we can when we are told by the Governor which plan if it is this one to accommodate our parents. Keep that in mind if you would. We will be on top of this, we will get it out to you as soon as we can as who is in group A and group B. We know parents have to plan. That is our thought process right now. The A group would come Monday in person, and Tuesday in person. That would be 50% so we would be able to six feet apart, socially distance. On Wednesday we would have Asynchronous and Synchronous instruction. Mrs. Finn will speak to that momentarily, but this is what is important to Cheektowaga-Sloan. The reason we are having A come Monday and Tuesday, is so that we don't have cross contamination with group B. We have A, A and on Wednesday we have remote for all and it is deep cleaning for our schools. So that when our B groups come in on Thursday and Friday, they are coming in to a sanitary, completely clean environment with no cross contamination with Group A. After Thursday and Friday, another deep cleaning will take place. So that on Monday of the following week when the A's come back, it is deep cleaned and it is safe. The same procedure follows week after week after week. As a parent, if your child is in group A you know they are coming Monday and Tuesday, it is more simplistic for you. It is better for planning. The same goes for group B. That is our model.

On the other days, if you are group A, Monday and Tuesday they are in person, like a typical school day. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday they are learning remotely. I can tell you it is not going to be learning remotely as they were learning from March through June. We heard everybody's concerns. We heard your feedback, input, and we are going to make it a very strong program. I can rest assure you, we had two very long meetings with our teachers, they were great. They understand it. They are working with us. We are going to make this as solid as we possibly can and do the best that we can with this hybrid model if that is what they tell us we have to do. When the children are home, it is more that they are still learning and it is way more than 20 minutes and then they are done. That was some of the concerns that we heard. We recognize that and want to reassure you that the remote learning is going to look very different. This is our hybrid model. I do want to mention that our special education students who are self contained, those are children who are in a self contained setting already have reduced numbers in their classrooms, they have varying needs and because they are already in reduced sized classrooms, we are going to be bringing our special education students who are in self contained settings in Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday for in person instruction with our special education teachers. That is something that I wanted to point out as well.

At this time, Mrs. Finn I am going to turn this over to you. There is so much information and we will continue to work throughout the month of August but if you could just share for the parents and the community that may help with this particular model.

Sure. We are in the process of exploring various instructional models for all of these settings. Something that is really important to understand is regardless of what setting we are in, we have to have equity in what we provide the students. Say there is a child in group A that has a medical condition, and has to remotely learn from home, that child is entitled to the same quality education that a child in group A is receiving in person. So we are doing a great deal of research on how do we make sure that equity is in place? The same quality and content that they are receiving in person, the student working at home should receive that same quality education. We are in the process of researching a variety of instructional tools, things as blended and flip classroom to be able to promote this type of learning. Again, provide a procedurals document for our teaching staff, define all those different teaching styles and have the commitment as this is what we expect. You will be using this model, this way, so many times a week. So many videos, so many interactions, all of those things we heard from our stakeholders are very important to provide a consistent environment for our students. We are working very diligently to make sure that this happens. People talked about the program being engaging, and these are all things that we are trying do to make sure that this is required. In addition to that as you all know, we spent a great deal of emphasis and money on the reading and writing Lucy Calkins program that we just recently added the word study. It's all kind of happening as we are speaking but there is a option for videos that the company has come out with so we will not have to lose the program. I am very pleased that our efforts for that program can continue with the purchasing of these videos. We are very excited, but there are many working pieces in all of this. When we had our unexpected closure in the past it was hard with the paper packets. Mrs. Galenski already mentioned, now that we purchased the chromebooks, and zoom which I have mentioned is a really great way to have interactive lessons with teachers to make it feel a little more personal. You can break into small groups, virtually you can have quizzes, discussions that you can put right up on the screen. These are all things that we were not able to do in Google Meet. We have some advancements in there as well.

Mrs. Galenski has gone above and beyond with allowing us to purchase the program which will mock our school phones on our cell phones, so we can make phone calls with our families very seamlessly. We can leave messages, you can call us back. It will be a lot easier to flow, rather than that blocked number showing up in the past that did not always work out very well. We have learned from our lessons and it was an unexpected closure and we are very proud of the teachers and administration and everyone in our District and how they worked together to get through this unexpected closure. We are doing a great deal of work to provide a consistent program that is the best education that we can provide for our students.

I want to take a moment that this is involving a great deal of collaboration, as Mrs. Galenski has already mentioned we had two, two hour meetings, Pre-K through 5 and 6 through 12. Every teacher has volunteered to help us make this program the best it could be.

Parents, that is the end of our plan at this point. This is so we have a few extra things that we have to tweak a little bit. There is a little bit more on food service, a little bit more on social/emotional. We just want to include that before we post this on Friday. I can reassure you that what is in front of you is almost the final draft plan, with just a few little pieces that we need to tweak as I said. Friday, you can be reassured that this reopening plan will be posted on our website, then we will wait to see what the Governor announces. I am hoping and praying that it is in the first portion of August, around the 1st or 2nd so we can get busy and implement what we need to. We will wait on that decision. Once that decision is made, I will put out a message about a virtual meeting because it is very important to us to hear and answer your questions. We will make that happen. We ask people to attend, to ask your questions. Again, this is a living document as I told the staff. We are not afraid to make changes, maybe there is some different input and we can tweak something that we have. That is fine. We just want it to be the best it can be for everybody. I thank you again, the hybrid model is difficult for us. It is difficult for us, we are all parents, or have nieces or nephews, or grandchildren and I will tell you there is nothing like the school year starting, getting your school supplies, everyone is getting ready. This is challenging, it's really hitting us all hard. I just thank you for your support, your partnership, and I just want to reassure you safety is number one. We have gone above and beyond and will continue to do so in order to ensure the safety of everyone in our schools. I thank you for your time, your attention and in the upcoming week or two, your participation if you have questions if you need answers to and interact with us.

Thank you so much for your time and attention this evening. It is greatly appreciated.

If you don't mind I just want to add one more thing. The guidance from the State came out on July 15. We have come together as a team under Mrs. Galenski's leadership to accomplish the impossible. She was constantly reiterating about student's safety, and making sure that we are taking that feedback that we collected from our stakeholders and I am just very proud. It is exhausting and she has been working 24/7 with the team. She is working tirelessly because of the importance of safety and providing the best possible education. I just want to thank you.

Thanks, Mrs. Finn. I appreciate that very much.

Thank you very much for this presentation. It was a lot of work and we very much appreciate the time and energy put forth so far and for what is still ahead of us.

I think Mr. Julian has something to say. Sure. Should I wait until the appointment? Sure. I will speak afterwards.

Can I get a motion and a second that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Elizabeth Zaccarine, certified as School Building Leader; and also certified in English Language Arts 7-12; Early Childhood Education Birth – Grade 2; and Elementary Education, be appointed to the Principal position at Woodrow Wilson Elementary School effective August 3, 2020. This position holds a probationary period beginning August 3, 2020 through August 2, 2024. Compensation and benefits as per the Administrative contract. Claire and Zack. Onto Question. All in favor? Aye. Any Opposed? Motion carried. Normally we shake hands, so Elizabeth wherever you are we are shaking your hand.

I know I feel so bad that they can't be here in person. I just want to take this opportunity, so many people have been involved in the interviews. Mr. Mochrie, thank you for your leadership with that. We really appreciate it. The Board of Education, teachers, Mrs. Finn, Mrs. Emmerling. We are so excited to have Elizabeth join us, and again, if she was here in person, we would be extending that gratitude. It is going to be a great, great opportunity.

You want to wait until they are all done or do you want to speak now? I will wait till they are all done.

I will wait until they are all done.

Alright. Thank you.

Can I have a motion and a second? That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Daniel Reiford, certified in Studies 7-12; and Social Studies 5-9, be appointed to the Assistant Principal position at John F. Kennedy High School effective August 5, 2020. School Building Leader and School District Leader certifications are forthcoming. This position holds a probationary period beginning August 5, 2020 through August 4, 2024. Compensation and benefits as per the Administrative Contract. Claire, Wes. Onto Question. All in favor? Aye. Any Opposed? Carried and so ordered.

If I could say something? Sure, go ahead. I would just like to reiterate what Mrs. Galenski said. It was amazing sitting here and interviewing these wonderful people. If it wasn't for this administrative staff that we have bringing forth the best quality people, it would not have been that easy. So I just want to thank you all it was wonderful to be part of that group.

Thank you. Thank you Claire. I am sorry, the Board Members too. Wesley, Stephanie, and Gary Sieczakek.

Great support. Thank you everyone.

You're welcome.

Daniel, we are reaching out our hands and shaking your hand also.

Next we have,

Can I get a motion and a second? That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Andrea Parker, certified as School Building Leader; Early Childhood Education Birth – Grade 2; Literacy Birth – Grade 2; and Childhood Education Grades 1-6, be appointed to the Assistant Principal position at John F. Kennedy Middle School effective August 3, 2020. This position holds a probationary period beginning August 3, 2020 through August 2, 2024. Compensation and benefits as per the Administrative Contract. Claire, Zack. Claire and Zack. Onto Question. All in favor? Aye. Any Opposed? Carried and so ordered. Congratulations, Andrea. We are extending our hand for a handshake.

Can I get a motion and a second? That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Christina Boody, certified in English Language Arts 5-9; and English 7-12, be appointed to the ENL position for the Cheektowaga Sloan Union Free School District effective September 1, 2020. Certification in ESOL K-12 - English to Speakers of Other Languages is forthcoming. This position holds a probationary period beginning September 1, 2020 through June 30, 2024. Compensation and benefits as per the TAC Contract. Wes, Steph. Wes and Stephanie. Onto Question. All in favor? Aye. Any Opposed? Motion Carried and so ordered. Christina, welcome. Hands extended. Thank you very much.

Can I get a motion and a second? That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Michelle Joseph, certified in Students with Disabilities Grades 1-6; and Childhood Education Grades 1-6, be appointed to the 15:1:1 Special Education Teaching position at Woodrow Wilson Elementary School, effective September 1, 2020. This position holds a probationary period beginning September 1, 2020 through June 30, 2024. Compensation and benefits as per the TAC Contract. Steph, Wes. Stephanie and Wes. Onto Question. All in favor? Aye. Any Opposed? Motion Carried and so ordered. Congratulations Michelle, welcome. We are extending our hand for a shake.

Can I get a motion and a second? That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Jennifer Abbott, certified in Spanish 7-12, be appointed to the Spanish Teaching position at John F. Kennedy Middle School, effective September 1, 2020. This position holds a probationary period beginning September 1, 2020 through June 30, 2024. Compensation and benefits as per the TAC Contract. Steph, Zack. Stephanie and Zack. Onto Question. All in favor? Aye. Any Opposed? Motion Carried and so ordered. Jennifer, welcome. Congratulations, we extend our hands for a shake. Thank you very much.

Can I get a motion and a second? That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Sheila Solomon, Registered Nurse, be appointed to the School Nurse Position at Woodrow Wilson Elementary School, effective September 1, 2020. Compensation and benefits as per the *Terms of Employment*. Zack, Claire. Zack and Claire. Onto Question. All in favor? Aye. Any Opposed? Motion Carried and so ordered.

Can I get a motion and a second to approve the recommendation from the CSE /CPSE as submitted? Claire, Zack. Claire and Zack. Onto Question. All in favor? Aye. Any Opposed? Motion Carried and so ordered.

Can I step up into this area? Thank you. I would like to thank everybody for the opportunity to speak tonight to say a few words about the new employees at the Middle School and High School. I will begin by thanking Mrs. Galenski, Mrs. Finn and our Board of Education for their leadership and partnership throughout the interview process. I greatly appreciate our collegiality as we worked together to select the best candidates for our positions. Your input throughout the process and your focus on students continues to be tremendously valuable to me as a school principal. Thank you again for being a part of these important aspects of our hiring process. I am thrilled to introduce and say a few words about our three new team members tonight.

I will begin with our 8th grade Spanish Teacher. We are excited to welcome our 8th grade Spanish teacher, Ms. Jennifer Abbott for our JFK MS team and foreign language department. Jennifer brings with her a variety of teaching and studying abroad experiences including field experience and student teaching at Sweet Home Middle School. We look forward to Ms. Abbott partnering with our Spanish teachers as the work together collaboratively to ensure a rigorous curriculum for our students. Welcome Jennifer.

Next I would like to welcome Ms. Andrea Parker as the new Assistant Principal of JFK Middle School. Ms. Parker rose to the top of a competitive pool of candidates. We are so excited to have her join our team. Ms. Parker comes to us with strong leadership experiences, including an internship as co-principal of Lancaster Central School District's K-6 Jumpstart Summer School Program. While co-principal, Ms. Parker focused on the completion of the program. NYS Mental Health mandates and STEM projects for teachers. Throughout her career, Ms. Parker has led several initiatives including curriculum and instruction, data analysis and professional development, including launching the Leader in Me Curriculum Leadership Day at her current school. We are confident that Ms. Parker will have a tremendously positive impact on JFK Middle School. Congratulations and welcome, Ms. Parker.

Next I have HS Assistant Principal and Athletic Director, Mr. Reiford. JFK HS is proud to introduce Mr. Daniel Reiford, HS Assistant Principal and Athletic Director. Mr. Reiford rose to the top through a challenging interview process and bring with him a wealth of experience in the field of education, specifically at the high school level. He has completed administrative internships at Pioneer Central School District and Hamburg Central School District where he participated in several critically important administrative tasks, including the review development of a student disciplinary handbook. Mr. Reiford has scored advanced placement exams on a National level. Participated in labor relations and led the development of a school wide initiative promoting a positive inclusive school culture. As the Athletic Director, Mr. Reiford looks forward to developing a total sports program that supports our Athletics and extra curricular code of conduct while promoting academic performance, personal character, and sportsmanship on and off the field. Congratulations and welcome, Mr. Reiford.

Once again, we are excited to welcome our newest JFK Bears. Thank you Board of Education and Mrs. Galenski for an opportunity to welcome our new team members tonight.

Thank you for everyone who was on that team.

Thank you, Mr. Juian.

Mr. Mochrie.

Good evening everyone. I am just going to stand back here. Thank goodness I can take my mask off so I can project. On behalf, I guess I am the senior leader of the Leadership Team which is kind of scary, but a good thing. I think reiterating what everybody said here this evening, we have some changes over time. With the changes during my tenure I cannot say, from the bottom of my heart, Mr. Julian had his own statement, I am more from the heart and speak from the cuff. The fact is that over this time it has been very challenging and I am passionate for what I do. Never in a million years, I think Mrs. Galenski kept reiterating at every meeting is that we have never come to this point in our career or plan or prepare for something like this pandemic. There is no school book, no manual, there is no process in that. It has been challenging, yet rewarding to be able to say that I can lean on her shoulder, Mrs. Finn, Brian, Jessica just joining us, Rob here, Beth who we went through the interview process that I was part of, rose to the top. She is going to be a compliment to WW and our Leadership Team. The new individuals, I can tell how passionate Mr. Julian was in his speech. Talking with Mrs. Galenski earlier, how excited he was to bring those individuals on to our Leadership Team. It is crucial now more than ever for us to work collaboratively together. Some of the conversations that we had today, I won't say, because some of the frustrations were there. But we always leave each conversation with collegial support and collaboration and it starts from the top, your support of us and the teaching staff. I cannot say how exciting and challenging this is with our staff. We want the kids back. I wish it was something I could say to you tomorrow when the Governor comes out in a week here and says here is what we have. It just kills me inside. I have two kids myself, a middle schooler and an elementary school child. I wish it could be back to normal. Eventually we will get there. These days in these buildings have been very challenging. Hourless times of the day, night, texts, you name it, frustrations, but positive for the collaboration. I cannot say how much this team has truly been there for me. I almost broke down because I was like I can't... It's not right for kids. The team working hard, we know we will get through this. The new members we are bringing on board, I look forward to working with them and continuing to see the passion that Rob has shown with those individuals. Thank you again for the opportunity to do this and I appreciate, you know there will be challenges and know that you can lean on us during these challenging times and what is going to be best for our kids.

Thank you very much.

Can I say one thing? Yes. I know we did not get it on the record last time, but Mrs. Kross needs to be recognized. Dawn with all the work for the vote and everything. She needs to be recognized for all of her hard work too. I know she has gone above and beyond. Thank you Dawn.

You're welcome. Thank you.

We will move forward here.

Can I get a motion and a second to approve the request from Robert Julian and Jeffrey Mochrie, to deem the following as obsolete and dispose of the same?

- Kenwood Walkie Talkies with chargers T2993, T2996, T2997, T2998 and T2999
- Wooden computer cart
- 3 Fabric Chairs

Motion, this is Claire, Steph. Claire and Stephanie. Onto Question. All in favor? Aye. Any Opposed? Motion Carried and so ordered.

Can I get a motion and a second to adopt the following resolution?

WHEREAS, the Assessor of the Town of Cheektowaga has certified to the Board of Education, that the total assessed evaluation of real property including special franchises, subject to taxation of Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD lying in the town of Cheektowaga as shown on the completed tax roll of the said Town of Cheektowaga, for the year 2020-21 in the sum of \$435,720,787.

WHEREAS, the Assessor of the Town of West Seneca has certified to the Board of Education, that the total assessed evaluation of real property including special franchises, subject to taxation of Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD lying within the Town of West Seneca, as shown on the completed tax roll of the said Town of West Seneca, for the 2020-21 school year in the sum of \$12,514,512.

WHEREAS, the equalized rate of taxation for school taxes in the Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD, as fixed by the New York State Equalization Board, duly made and filed with the Board of Education of the Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD, with said Towns in as follows: for the Town of Cheektowaga 83.00% and for the Town of West Seneca 36.00%.

WHEREAS, the portion of the budget fully adopted by the qualified inhabitants of Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD for the current year, which commenced July 1, 2020 and shall end June 30, 2021, shall be levied and spread upon the taxable property within the said Towns as follows: on property lying within the Town of Cheektowaga, at the rate of \$33.223031 per each thousand dollar of assessed valuation. On property lying within the Town of West Seneca at the rate of \$76.597543 per each thousand dollars of assessed valuation.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the amount of the budget for the current year to be raised by levy taxes of \$15,434,546 be levied and spread upon the taxable property of Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD at the rate herein before determined and fixed by the Board of Education.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the District Clerk of the Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD prior to the 1st day of October, file with the Clerk of Erie County Legislature verification of adopting of the tax budget and tax rate. Claire, Wes. Claire and Wes. Onto Question.

Mr. Drecher.

Thank you. I just want to point out that as we put this out to a vote, the voters really are voting on the appropriations. What we're about to spend. However, since that time we have been able to reduce that tax levy by \$110,000. That was achieved by really watching our pennies through this pandemic, doing everything we possibly could to save money. Not only for the residents this year but in the future as well. Such things as not filling 8 positions that were vacant that we desperately need, we felt it important to save money. Ordering supplies and materials, we basically stopped them, except for buildings and grounds and food service. We actually turned down the heat starting in March. We turned off the lights believe it or not. We thought that would save us some money, and it did. We controlled all overtime to basically a zero level, and we needed no substitute teachers. So, that effect of that is, when we went out to the budget vote,

we told all of our residents and interested parties, that our tax rate would be 1.59 %, which was a good increase. People voted it in very strongly. We are going to decrease that increase. For the Town of Cheektowaga, the increase will only be .57 or about a third of what we told them it would be. For the Town of West Seneca, the increase will be .93% again, a pretty good reduction from what we told them. We have some huge issues in front of us financially and logistically, which you just heard. But we also realize our community has some huge issues in front of them as well. They are facing many difficulties, so we tried to do what is best for our students, and our community. We hope this helps in some small way. For a little historical perspective, the last eight years, our total, our total for eight years' increase has been 3.82%. A lot of districts have done that in one year or more. That's an average per year of .41% four tenths of one percent per year. If you looked at our tax rate this year for the Town of Cheektowaga being \$33.22 approximately, that is almost what it was in 2015-16 or 5 years ago. In the Town of West Seneca, our tax rate this year, it will be less than it was 5 years ago. So, while we have a lot in front of us, and a lot to do, we will be facing those challenges strongly. I think this is something we can be proud of as a group.

Thank you Wayne.

Any questions? All in favor? Aye. Any Opposed? Motion Carried and so ordered.

Can I get a motion and a second to approve the Tentative Agreement between the Cheektowaga-Sloan Union Free School District and the Teachers' Association of Cheektowaga-Sloan Union Free School, and to authorize the Superintendent of Schools and the Board President to execute the resulting Teachers' Association contract for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2025? Steph, I'll second. Stephanie and Claire. Onto Question. All in favor? Aye. Any Opposed? Motion Carried and so ordered.

Correspondance Reports, Nothing.

Buildings and Grounds Reports? Anything? No

Interview Committee, thank you very much. I believe we have a couple more that we will be working on. Yes.

ECASB, just the officers met to start planning forward. We have some ideas. Again, everything will depend on what is happening. Our NYS conference has been changed to virtual. Details for that will follow. Since we missed the end of the year, we are working on some form of dinner, awards, kind of like graduation. Step up, take your picture. Something is in process for that and we'll keep everyone posted. Meetings have been scheduled. I think everyone has calendars. We will keep you updated on that. That is it for now.

Before we leave, I would like to say if anyone has any comments about the items on the agenda, please email the District Clerk, Mrs. Kross with your questions. Please include your name and address, so that we can get that answered for you.

Can I get a motion and a second to adjourn this meeting at 8:39 p.m.? Motion? Wes, Steph. Wes and Stephanie. Onto Question. All in favor? Aye. Any Opposed? Motion Carried and so ordered.

Thank you very much everyone.