

**Northwestern Lehigh School District  
6493 RT 309, New Tripoli PA 18066  
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
District Board Room  
Wednesday, July 22, 2020, 7:00 PM**

**1. Opening Procedures**

**1.01 Call to Order**

The July 22, 2020 Special Board Meeting of the Northwestern Lehigh School District Board of Directors was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Willard Dellicker.

**1.02 Opening exercises included the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence**

**1.03 Roll Call**

PR/AB

PR	John Casciano	PR	Todd Hernandez	PR	Alan Rex
PR	Willard Dellicker	PR	Todd Leiser	PR	Rachael Scheffler
PR	Joseph Fatzinger	PR	Marci Piescienski	PR	James Warfel

Also Present:

3 Call-in Listeners, David Brannon, Mike Mish, Kelly Booth Drey, Mary Ann Metzger, Mel Martin, Michelle Baker, Wendy Fornwalt, Amber Kinney, April Hofmann, Nicole Christopher, Steve, Gottlieb, Tara Banninger, Vanessa Fenstermacher, Ann Hoffman, Derek Steidle, Jessica Moyer, Amy Stauffenberg, Andrea Edmonds, LeAnn Stitzel, Maria Pulli, Jill Berlet, Aileen Yadush, Arthur Oakes, Luann Matika, Troy Sosnovik, Jennifer Holman and Janine Partenio

**1.04 Approval of Agenda with moving item 2.01 -Announcement of Meeting Business to just before 1.06 – Courtesy of the Floor**

Moved: A. Rex

Seconded: T. Leiser

Vote: 9 Aye, 0 Nay

**1.05 President welcomed guests**

**1.06 Courtesy of the Floor**

None at the time.

**2. Meeting Business**

**2.01 Announcement of Meeting Business**

W. Dellicker explained how the purpose of this Special Meeting was to discuss the Health and Safety Plan for the 2020-2021 school year as well as the Budget Goals for the 2021-2022 school year.

On June 25, 2020 an advertisement was placed in the Morning Call stating the Northwestern Lehigh School District would be holding a Special School Board Meeting on Wednesday, July 22, 2020 at 7:00 pm and connection information could be found by going to the School Board page under the District Website.

**2.02 Health and Safety Plan**

J. Holman reviewed the Emergency Instructional Time Template and explained how it was communicated to chief school administrators on July 6, 2020, Section 520.1 of the School Code provides flexibility to meet minimum instructional time requirements in the event of an emergency that prevents a school entity from providing for the attendance of all pupils or usual hours of classes at the school entity. The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) considers the World Health Organization-declared Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) a global pandemic and an emergency as contemplated by Section 520.1. She mentioned that temporary provisions would be implemented in response to the COVID-19 global pandemic that the District would meet the minimum 180 days of instruction and 900 hours of instruction at the elementary level and 990 hours of instruction at the secondary level through a combination of face-to-face and remote instruction. She stated the first day

of school would be August 31, 2020 and the tentative last day of school would be June 11, 2020 and how there are different samples of school days as stated in the Health and Safety Plan.

J. Holman recommended the approval of the Reopening Health and Safety Plan for the Northwestern Lehigh School District and submission of the Health and Safety Plan as well as the Emergency Instructional Time Template to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for the 2020-2021 school year. She explained that the approval would give the superintendent authority to select the best option of education at the given time. She thanked the administration team for their dedication and planning; teachers for their input, support and dedication; and support staff for their assistance with back to school planning.

T. Sosnovik said the intent of this presentation is to provide an overview of the District's Reopening Health and Safety Plan (RHSP) for the 2020-21 school year. He explained that they were seeking School Board approval of the plan, in accordance with Pennsylvania Department of Education's (PDE) requirement. He mentioned how the plan represents the instructional models and procedures that have been designed for the Fall of 2020 based on the data and orders/guidance as of July 22, 2020. Although the original intent was, in addition to presenting the plan details, to inform families which specific instructional model the District would be implementing for the first day of school, our current intent is to gather additional data from families, review latest guidance with health partners, and provide an update on the plan on August 3, 2020. He stated how the science, public health conditions, and orders/guidance surrounding COVID-19 are continually evolving.

T. Sosnovik explained that reopening schools for the Fall is a national challenge that is facing all educational institutions and all districts are working to design plans that are in the best interest of their school community based upon local health data and guidance. He mentioned how collaboration meetings were implemented Statewide and locally with the Secretary of Education (Pedro Rivera), other Superintendents, and the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit (CLIU 21). He explained that even though collaborations were instituted, our Health and Safety Plan was specific to the Northwestern Lehigh School District.

T. Sosnovik mentioned how, according to PDE, the District's Health and Safety Plan must be tailored to the unique needs of each school entity, created in consultation with local health agencies, aligned to Governor Wolf's Process to Reopen Pennsylvania and PDE Preliminary Guidance for Phased Reopening of Pre-K to 12 Schools, reviewed with local childcare facilities, approved by each school entity's governing body (Board of Directors) and then submitted to PDE. He said he was designated as the District's "Pandemic Coordinator" and a team of stakeholders were assembled for the purposes of creating and/or reviewing the plan details. He explained the team consisted of a broad cross-section of individuals that provided unique perspectives and knowledge in various areas. The team consisted of Medical Professionals, State and Local Professionals, a School Board Representative, School Nurses, District Administrators, Students, Parents, Teachers, & Employees. T. Sosnovik publicly thanked LVHN & Dr. Pellosie for their collaboration and stated the plan was fully endorsed by LVHN and Coordinated Health.

T. Sosnovik reviewed the key strategies throughout the plan. These are Social Distancing to the greatest extent feasible and appropriate; Sanitizing high-touch areas; Frequent and Effective Hand hygiene; Avoid touching the face; and Training for students, parents and employees. He explained how the development approach:

- focused on the safe return for students and employees.
- provided an environment that is conducive to teaching and learning where our students can learn with our highly qualified staff.
- provided transparency to our school community.
- served as a living document which is flexible to meet the demands of ever changing Federal, State, and local orders or guidance.

T. Sosnovik mentioned how the District designed our own template and elected not to use PDE's template. He said the team leveraged relationships with health partners and medical professionals and relied on credible information sources and health organizations. He said stakeholder input was gathered and considered and data was leveraged in order to drive decisions that were geared to Northwestern Lehigh School District's community. These data sources were derived from Global, National, State and local data sources as well as survey data from June 3, 2020, June 12, 2020 and July 17, 2020.

T. Sosnovik reviewed the following data from the first two surveys received:

- 90% of families want schools to reopen.
- 90% of families are comfortable sending their students to school with reasonable health and safety protocols in place.
- 84% of our educational staff are comfortable coming back to school with reasonable health and safety protocols in place.
- 93% of families are able to provide a bagged lunch each day.
- Some families wanted a blended option (some online, some in person instruction) for their students. (183 students).
- Some families wanted a completely online option for their students (selecting either online with Northwestern Lehigh teachers or Digital Academy) (100 students).
- Approximately 40% of our families responded that childcare would be an issue during the blended option. (Yes or it would be a hardship).
- 42% of families are able to provide transportation to and from school.

T. Sosnovik said the structure of the plan included over 20 instructional, operational, and health sections and each section was aligned to the Governor's Reopening Phases, as well as the PA DOH designation of community spread from substantial to low/no spread. He reviewed the action steps and links to procedures that outline the District's intention for each Reopening Phase of Red, Yellow and Green.

During the Green Phase District will institute one of the following Models:

- Traditional (Preferred)
- Online Instruction
- Blended Model

*Parent/Guardian Choice of*

- Digital Academy
- Homeschool Program

During the Yellow Phase District will institute one of the following Models:

- Traditional (Preferred)
- Online Instruction
- Blended Model

*Parent/Guardian Choice of*

- Digital Academy
- Homeschool Program

During the Red Phase District will institute one of the following Models:

- Online Instruction

*Parent/Guardian Choice of*

- Digital Academy
- Homeschool Program

T. Sosnovik explained the benefits of the Traditional model and explained how in the Yellow or Green Phase, students' instruction would be delivered at school five days a week in learning settings and classrooms that adhere to social distancing practices to the maximum extent feasible and appropriate. He mentioned another option considered would be an Online Instruction with Northwestern Lehigh School District Instructors. This could be delivered during the Red, Yellow or Green phases and students' instruction would be delivered online, through a self-paced module and/or live instruction, by a Northwestern Lehigh teacher. He reviewed the Blended Model which may be implemented in the Yellow or Green Phase where students would be split into cohorts and instruction would be delivered to them in both an online and traditional setting on alternating days. He gave an example of what a blended model would look like.

T. Sosnovik explained that (for any grade and in any phase) Parents and/or Guardians have the choice of Digital Academy or a Homeschool Program and mentioned where to find additional information. He also stated how the District may have to alternate between options based upon emerging local health data, in addition to issued Federal or State orders/guidance.

T. Sosnovik reviewed the Green phase for Transportation as follows:

- Students will sit no more than two students per seat on the bus (56+/-).
- Bus drivers and passengers must wear face coverings while on the bus.
- Promote social distancing at bus stops.
- Disinfect buses after each run. Thoroughly clean and disinfect buses daily.
- Open windows and hatches, if weather allows, to improve ventilation.

He explained that during the Yellow Phase there will be no transportation and Parents and/or Guardians will need to transport children to and from school; however, the District may transport students utilizing community stops, if the Yellow phase is greater than 10 days. If this occurs the following would take place:

- Students will sit no more than one student per seat on the bus (28+/-).
- Bus drivers and passengers must wear face coverings while on the bus.
- Promote social distancing at bus stops
- Disinfect buses after each run. Thoroughly clean and disinfect buses daily.
- Open windows and hatches, if weather allows, to improve ventilation.

T. Sosnovik reviewed classroom guidelines during the Green and Yellow phases. He said the number of individuals in classrooms would be limited and larger spaces would be utilized to maximize social distancing. He stated class schedules would be instituted that limit the number of people during transitions and allow for students and staff to be as static as possible. Classes would be held in gyms, auditoriums, other large spaces, or outdoors whenever possible and interactions would be limited between students to the maximum extent feasible and appropriate. He said sharing of supplies/materials would be limited to the maximum extent feasible and appropriate. Also, additional supplies would be provided to classrooms to minimize sharing of supplies. Shared supplies would be sanitized regularly. He mentioned that field trips and large group assemblies would be postponed until social distancing could allow participation without accommodations and field trips and large group assemblies would be canceled, in the Yellow Phase.

T. Sosnovik explained how the District must adhere to the legally binding order of face coverings which would remain in effect until further notice from the Pennsylvania Department of Health. He said the intention is to establish creative solutions which allow students to remove face coverings as much as possible while still adhering to social distancing requirements set forth by Pennsylvania Department of Health. He mentioned that State orders and/or local data may result in modifications to District face covering practices. He also explained that staff and students must have a face covering in their possession, to be utilized as instructed, including if the individual becomes symptomatic or if the minimum social distancing cannot be maintained such as during transportation, movement in the hallways/transitions, food serving line, or during Chorus/Singing. He said any student or staff member who prefers to wear a face covering will be permitted to do so and written medical exemptions will also be accepted. Face coverings may be removed when participating in outdoor activities while remaining socially distant from other individuals. He asked parents to please teach kids to be respectful of others' opinions.

T. Sosnovik discussed how classrooms would be organized with desks all facing in the same direction to allow for social distancing to the maximum extent feasible and appropriate. He said they strive for six feet but no less than three feet is recommended by LVHN. He said mixing between groups/group work would be limited to the extent practicable and classes would be held in gyms, auditoriums, other large spaces, or outdoors whenever possible. He mentioned that offices will adhere to social distancing to the maximum extent feasible and appropriate with barriers installed in main office/reception areas.

T. Sosnovik stated that grab-and-go breakfasts would be continued in the elementary schools and the cafeteria would be utilized for students to retrieve pre-packaged meals and eat lunch. Also, each building has identified overflow rooms so students could accommodate social distancing requirements. He said limited meal menus will be developed and all items are pre-packaged. There will be no salad bar; however, individually packaged à la carte and bottled items, would be available. He explained a

cashless payment system would be instituted and students will be required to sanitize or wash their hands prior to and after eating. He also announced that the Birthday Bag program would be suspended.

T. Sosnovik mentioned how Elementary School Students will remain in homerooms and teachers will move to classrooms to the maximum extent practical. He said traffic patterns would be established to reduce the amount of traffic in hallways at one time. He also explained that Special Area teachers will come to the classrooms versus the students going to the Special Area classrooms, in order to reduce student transition during the Yellow Phase. He mentioned that High and Middle School students would move classrooms based on a defined schedule and traffic pattern that promote social distancing during transitions. He said congregations of students will be limited before/during/after school hours during the Yellow Phase.

T. Sosnovik mentioned that recess & Physical Education would be aligned to the Northwestern Lehigh School District Board approved Return to Sport COVID-19 Health and Safety Plan. He stated that established practices would be consistent with CDC Considerations for Youth Sports and that hand washing is essential prior to and after ending any Physical Education or Recess activity. He said during the Green Phase, selective team sports would be introduced with exchange of equipment (balls/rackets) with the sanitizing of each participant's hands and equipment before and after each Physical Education or recess activity. He said the playground equipment would be able to be utilized and locker rooms will be open, while adhering to social distancing. He discouraged any unnecessary contact and asked to create distance between players whenever possible. During the Yellow Phase, no team sports would be implemented at recess or physical education class. He explained how the focus would be on strength, individual skills, conditioning and agility or technique/strategy only. Also, there would be no sharing of equipment, as well as greatly restricted, or eliminated, use of playground structure. Locker rooms will be closed.

T. Sosnovik explained Music, Instrumental lessons and Chorus during the Yellow and Green phase. He said General Music Class, Instrumental lessons, and chorus will continue and the NFHS, NAFME and the NAMM Foundation guidelines for instrument cleaning would be followed. He said lesson size would be limited to the greatest extent possible and there would be no sharing of materials or equipment. He said curricular modifications to remove shared musical instruments would be made and the auditorium or outdoors would be utilized for instrumental larger groups, or band rehearsal. He mentioned that no large group rehearsals would be held in Yellow and there is a potential cancellation of large group performances. He stated the High School Band and Chorus would follow NFHS guidelines as defined in the Extracurricular Activities and Use of Facility Plan.

T. Sosnovik reviewed the Extracurricular Activities and Use of Facilities in the Yellow and Green Phases. He said the Extracurricular Activities Health & Safety Plan has been developed and consistent with the approved Athletic Plan. The Band and Chorus Extracurricular Activities, Advisors must review and, whenever feasible, implement the guidelines issued by the NFHS. Also, Drama Activities, Advisors must review and, whenever feasible, implement the guidelines issued by the Education Theatre Association (ETA). He said the Use of Facilities shall be restricted to only Groups 1 and 2 per Board Policy 707 until Board action permits, otherwise. He reviewed Cleaning Sanitizing, Disinfection and Ventilation during the Yellow and Green phases. He explained the cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting procedures of touch points, classrooms, restrooms, transportation vehicles, hallways, and all other areas will follow the CDC Cleaning and Disinfecting recommendations. He also mentioned the use of water fountains would be prohibited; however, bottle fillers or touchless hydration stations will be permitted. Also, the use of lockers is restricted, but lockers may be considered during the Green Phase. He said the Nurses Suite/Separation Room would be sanitized with the HALO each night, which is above and beyond the recommendation to follow.

T. Sosnovik announced the District's COVID-19 Website has been established for all District communications and plans and the District will provide ongoing communication and collaboration with families regarding:

- elements of the local health and safety plan.
- school/District specific protocols.
- best practices with regard to safe hygiene at home.

T. Sosnovik mentioned that District branded signs, student bookmarks, and screening cards were created to help support the process and families are asked to:

- review and discuss new school protocols at home prior to coming back in the Fall.
- practice and reinforce good prevention habits.
- keep your child home if they are sick with any illness.
- be prepared if your child needs to stay home from school.

T. Sosnovik urged parents and/or guardians to please ensure their child's Emergency Contact information is accurate since there is a continuum of screening procedure established for students and employees conducted throughout each student/work day. He explained that the screening for students begins at home by the parent/guardian each morning, by completing a temperature and symptom check prior to the student going to the bus stop, or being dropped off at school, and continues with visual screening for symptoms throughout the day. He said no child with symptoms, as defined in the procedure, shall be sent to the bus stop or dropped off at school. He also explained that all employees shall perform a symptom screening on themselves prior to leaving for work and no employee with symptoms, as defined in the procedure, shall report to work. He reviewed the following COVID-19 Visual Symptoms:

- Appearance of a fever - an appearance of a flushed face, glassy eyes, or chills.
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath.
- Persistent cough - a cough is frequent and severe enough to catch the attention.

T. Sosnovik explained that separation rooms have been established, in each school building, to separate anyone exhibiting COVID symptoms from the general population. He said procedures have been developed with our nurses to separate and evaluate students who are suspected of exhibiting COVID-19 Visual Symptoms and to identify and notify individuals who came in "close contact" with the individual who tested positive for COVID-19, in collaboration with the PA DOH. He mentioned that procedures have also been developed to keep track of students/employees quarantine dates as well as outline the steps required for students/employees to return to work. He said specific procedures were also created to define use of benefit time for employees.

T. Sosnovik explained how we are all in this together and together we will get through this. He said the success of the District is dependent on the continued collaboration and communication between the District and families. He mentioned that additional data will be gathered from families, the latest guidance with health partners, and direct liaisons at the Pennsylvania Department of Health and LVHN, will be reviewed, and an update on the plan will be provided on August 3, 2020. He reminded families that the plan is a living document that will continue to be adapted to meet the demands of ever changing science, public health conditions, and orders/guidance surrounding COVID-19. He urged anyone with questions to direct them to [admincontact@nwlehighsd.org](mailto:admincontact@nwlehighsd.org).

J. Holman explained how they need help from Parents and/or Guardians to help reinforce the procedures for the Fall and to screen children each morning, before going to school. R. Scheffler asked if students would be allowed to use backpacks for school. J. Holman said yes, backpacks would be allowed but would look differently from last year. A. Stauffenberg stated that the lockers are close together and they are working on a plan for students' coats. A. Yadush agreed and explained that there are things to keep in mind for Winter months and the students' extra clothing.

J. Warfel commented on the extraordinary effort required on the creation of the Health and Safety Plan. W. Dellicker said the implementation will be equally challenging with the ever changing regulations. He thanked all of the stakeholders, community, parents, students, teachers, staff and administration for this comprehensive plan. He mentioned that other districts were utilizing Northwestern Lehigh School Districts Plan as a template. He said the plan addresses different situations as well as a well thought-out action plan. He hoped parents were watching the meeting streamed on Youtube so they could receive all of the information. J. Warfel said he received a count of 132 people watching the stream on Youtube.

T. Leiser felt it was a great plan. He was concerned about the personnel impact and if personnel would be unable to return to work. J. Holman explained that if staff were concerned about returning or needed accommodations, they should reach out to L. Matika to discuss their concerns. She said some have already reached out. L. Matika said she was working one-on-one with some employees with health concerns or who were considered high-risk. She said she was concerned with substitute employees and is currently working on a survey on training or continued interest. W. Dellicker mentioned substitute bus drivers. L. Matika agreed that substitute bus drivers were an area of concern that they are working through. T. Leiser questioned if busing would be cancelled if there is

not appropriate transportation available. J. Holman said they would revert to a yellow plan where parents would be required to transport students or bus them from community stops and shuttle back and forth with fewer drivers. She said A. Oakes was currently working on these schedules. T. Sosnovik mentioned that parents dropping off and picking up students could create another issue with traffic patterns and they are working on creating a smooth process for that as well.

J. Fatzinger said 84% of staff were ok with returning and 16% may have felt uncomfortable returning to work. He asked if that remaining 16% has grown or lessened since the survey was issued on June 12, 2020. T. Sosnovik explained there was a Districtwide faculty meeting on Monday and the interaction seemed positive. He believed that the 16% did not increase. J. Fatzinger asked about the bus drivers. J. Holman explained the survey went to Educational staff such as Teachers, Certified Staff and Instructional Assistants only. J. Fatzinger asked if it was the District’s responsibility to provide face coverings. J. Holman said yes, all PPE gear, which varies slightly by job. T. Sosnovik mentioned that parents can supply their own face coverings and there will be a supply for students if they do not have one or need a replacement.

W. Dellicker wished everyone the best to make this successful, healthy and safe. J. Holman thanked the Board for their support and mentioned there could be changes with updated guidance. She said she would upload the approved plan to PDE.

Moved: J. Warfel

Seconded: J. Casciano

Aye	John Casciano	Aye	Todd Hernandez	Aye	Alan Rex
Aye	Willard Dellicker	Aye	Todd Leiser	Aye	Rachael Scheffler
Aye	Joseph Fatzinger	Aye	Marci Piescienski	Aye	James Warfel

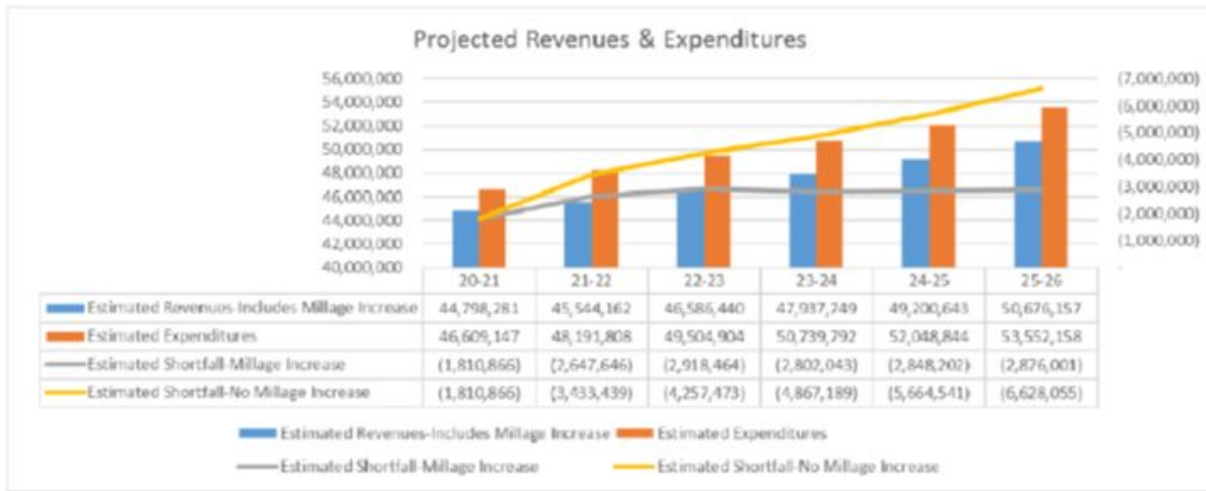
**2.03 Budget Goals**

W. Dellicker stated how the last several years have had similar goals and wanted to see if there would be any desire to discuss the goals further with the Board and come up with any necessary changes for the goals. W. Dellicker reviewed the following Goals:

1. Implement strategic planning mission, vision & goals
2. Provide instructional programs to meet Chapter 4 requirements in core content areas and in the related arts
3. Provide staffing to meet instructional & operational needs
4. Continue to commit to long range technology planning
5. Continue to support the Facilities Master Plan to address ongoing facility needs
6. Develop a budget with a long-term and short-term focus
7. Continue to identify areas to maximize efficiencies and reduce costs without negatively impacting programs
8. Provide a fund plan to meet the District’s needs while minimizing any potential tax increase to taxpayers

W. Dellicker reviewed the following projected tax assumptions:

# Five Year Budget Projection



W. Dellicker explained he did not want to get specific without the attendance of Leslie Frisbie, Business Administrator, but would like to bring back a recommendation in order to start the budget for next year. He said he would like to look at Fund Balance and see if the current strategies are appropriate. The Board discussed Budget Goal #7 and felt it would need to be addressed due to the increase of expenditures. T. Leiser felt some creative thinking may be able to help balance this. J. Fatzinger believed they should prioritize them 1 through 8 in order to help focus on a plan. J. Warfel agreed that #7 was vague and the Board needed to determine specific language.

W. Dellicker explained that the reason for the discussion this evening was to make the public aware of the situation the District is in for the 2020/2021 budget approval and mentioned that he has not heard much from the public. He stated the Fund Balance is being depleted and something needs to be done. J. Holman asked if there was specific information that would be helpful to the Board or if they would like to discuss this further at the Workshop Meeting in August. J. Warfel explained that he would like to discuss before they get into budget discussions in March or April, so he was looking for a timeline and process to have the Board contribute ideas to. W. Dellicker recommended that the Board get together for a Board Retreat to hear what administrators have in mind and to delve into goals. The Board agreed. J. Holman mentioned that enrollment and tax information may be skewed this year due to the COVID impact. W. Dellicker recommended the retreat in October or possibly November. J. Warfel recommended sooner than later, even in September. W. Dellicker asked J. Holman to send out a schedule request. He said the implementation of the Health and Safety Plan will be a challenge and would like to try to let the school year settle in before adding this to staff to think about.

## 3. Communications

### 3.01 Courtesy of the Floor

T. Banninger stated she has a son who is a freshman at the High School and is concerned with him attending school due to her health concerns and is thinking of enrolling him into Digital Academy. She asked about the ability for him to transition into traditional schooling. J. Holman explained that students may transition in and out of Digital Academy to Traditional School; however, it is difficult to transition with the block scheduling at the High School. She recommended that transitions occur during semester breaks. A. Yadush agreed. T. Banninger asked how it would work for LCTI students. A. Yadush explained they are working with LCTI to mesh their plans. She explained how LCTI is working with nine different sending districts and their goal is to send students as scheduled.

T. Banninger asked what the schools would do with students that are not following the recommendations of face covering orders. T. Sosnovik mentioned that the District will be following the order as defined by the state with students ages 2 and older unless they have a medical or mental

health exception. He said they are currently working on a procedure to better enforce face coverings. T. Banninger thanked everyone. W. Dellicker thanked her for her questions and wished her well with her health issues.

V. Fenstermacher thanked the Board and the administrators for their time and effort into the Health and Safety Plan. She said it was very comprehensive. She asked how the teaching would be different if they go virtual. J. Holman explained that the Continuity of Education was approved by the Board for last school year and asked for parent feedback. She said they determined that the educational time and content needed to be more robust. She said if the District is in a Red Phase, they will implement the online learning and a revised Continuity of Education Plan would be followed. She said that the Emergency Instructional Time Template that the Board was approving requires 180 Educational Days with 900 hours at the Elementary Level or 990 hours at the Secondary Level. She stated that time would need to be increased online and there would be changes for grading and student/teacher interaction. V. Fenstermacher asked if the live teaching would be done from the classrooms. J. Holman said teachers who want, or need, to utilize the classrooms may; however, there is a technology issue that is to be addressed with streaming multiple Zoom sessions. T. Sosnovik said the bandwidth is currently being updated in order to give a greater capacity to live stream Zoom sessions simultaneously for the start of school. V. Fenstermacher questioned if additional programs had been purchased for the schools. J. Holman explained that Canvas or Schoology was used for Secondary levels and Google Classroom or Seesaw was utilized for Elementary levels. She said Seesaw was an additional purchase. V. Fenstermacher asked how teachers had been trained over the summer months. L. Stitzel explained that a number of teachers have spent their trade days over the summer to develop ways to make their curriculum more robust if virtual is needed. She said online training courses have also been utilized to help them become better online instructors. T. Sosnovik added that the District also has a Technology Integrator that has been supporting classroom and online instruction. He said this will continue to be reinforced.

D. Brannon said Governor Wolf announced there was almost \$524 million in CARES funds to be distributed in Pennsylvania. He asked how much of that would be allocated to Northwestern Lehigh School District and how it would affect taxes. J. Holman explained there were two parts of federal funds that were received. L. Stitzel said the ESSA CARES Grant was up to \$140,000 and the PCCD Grant was about \$268,000. She explained that they are looking to utilize the grant money for one-time technology purchases such as Seesaw to increase communication with Elementary teachers and also items for Digital Academy.

A. Hofmann asked if kids at the High School and Middle School could take their masks off at their desks. She also asked if attendance requirements will be affected due to increased absences with symptom screening. J. Holman explained how enrollment and the size of the class were important in making that decision and if students are not able to maintain social distancing then masks would be required. She mentioned that furniture has been moved or larger class spaces are being utilized to allow for social distancing. She also explained that there had not been any updated attendance requirements from PDE regarding absences and doctor excuses, but she believed they would be reasonable, more so this year than other years. T. Sosnovik added that they are looking to implement creative solutions for masks to be removed when able.

### **3.02 Meeting Announcements**

Board Meeting was held on June 17, 2020 at 7:00 PM, virtually.

Executive Session for Personnel, Safety and Legal purposes was held on July 8, 2020, virtually.

Executive Session for Personnel will be held July 22, 2020 after the Board Meeting, virtually.

Board Meeting will be on August 5, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

Executive Session for Personnel will be on August 5, 2020 after the Board Meeting.

#### **4. Adjournment**

Upon motion by A. Rex, seconded by M. Piescienski, the meeting was adjourned at 8:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John Casciano, Secretary  
By J. Partenio, Assistant Secretary