

# ALLEN PARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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## ALLEN PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION VIRTUAL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES ▪ JANUARY 20, 2021

DRAFT ☐

APPROVED ☒

The virtual special meeting of the Allen Park Board of Education was held on Wednesday, January 20, 2021. The district live streamed the meeting via the district YouTube account.

Virtual special meeting called to order/Instruction for Public Comments: Mr. Gordon Miller, Board President

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call/Present: Filipiak, Klein, Luecke, MacDonald, Martin, Miller, Warren

Absent: None

2021-114	<p>Motion by Miller, supported by Warren, that the January 20<sup>th</sup> agenda be approved as presented: Yeas: Filipiak, Klein, Luecke, MacDonald, Martin, Miller, Warren Nays: None Absent: None Motion carried.</p>
	<p><i>President's Communications:</i> None at this time.</p>
	<p><i>Reading of Communications:</i> None at this time.</p>
	<p><i>Citizens Comments: (Pertaining to agenda items)</i> The following citizens provided comments and/or asked questions regarding the district's Extended COVID-19 Learning Plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Amy Senior, Nicole Adkins, Yolanda McNeice, Jes Brown, Nicole Bundas, Dan Smith, Erika Velez-Gobea, Amanda Andres, Aimee Smith, Melissa Tuccini, Richard Browning, Lora Kowatch</li></ul>
	<p><i>Extended COVID-19 Learning Plans</i> Since the Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan was approved, the board must meet to: reconfirm delivery of instruction, solicit public comment on how instruction is going to be delivered, and publicly announce weekly 2-way interaction rates every 30 days.</p> <p>On January 11, 2021, the Board of Education voted to re-confirm the delivery/mode of instruction, which included the continuation of remote learning, while monitoring the 7-day rolling average for Wayne County, utilizing the COVID Act Now site, for 7 consecutive days at a positivity rate of less than 5%, for a safe return to in-person instruction per the COVID Extended Learning Plan.</p> <p>In addition, the board requested a Special Meeting to be convened for further discussion after following up with the Elementary &amp; Secondary Hybrid Committees, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Further explore data source – currently using Wayne County data as opposed to focusing on Allen Park specific data, or data derived from communities in which we have accepted students through the Schools of Choice Program, as well as consideration for staff coming from multiple communities/counties.</li><li>Further explore data threshold in regard to positivity rate.</li><li>Receive an update from Wayne County on status of staff vaccinations.</li></ul> <p><i>Reports and discussion ensued regarding these topics:</i></p> <p><b>1. Hybrid Committee Update</b> Last week administration met with the Elementary and Secondary Hybrid Committees for further review of the proposal discussed at the January 11<sup>th</sup> Board of Education meeting. While there is support from teachers for a hybrid plan for the remainder of this school year, if the hybrid proposal is a short-term solution, with in-person instruction as the long-term goal within a matter of weeks, teachers on the Hybrid Committees</p>

recommend remaining in remote instruction until determined safe for in-person instruction, in order to provide stability and consistency in instructional delivery.

## **2. Data Source**

When considering a data source, statistics for Wayne County was selected as Schools of Choice students attending APPS come from \*24 of the 33 districts in Wayne County. The district is currently at 29.5% Schools of Choice. Another consideration is the composition of APPS staff, which is from multiple communities, as well as multiple counties.

Since there is not a great variance between our incoming Schools of Choice community data and the Wayne County COVID Act Now data, for transparency purposes, my recommendation would be to continue using the COVID Act Now data.

## **3. Data Threshold/Positivity Rate**

At this time, administration supports raising the COVID positivity rate to reflect the district safety initiatives implemented, in addition to considering that there was no evidence of school associated spread of the virus while in-person instruction was ongoing and that the district received a 100% passing score on the Allen Park Public Schools Mitigation Plan. (Mid-Risk Range Designation: 3-10% positivity rate)

## **4. Wayne County/School Employee Vaccinations**

Original plan announced administering vaccinations to school employees on January 11 – that has been pushed back to January 25. Wayne County continues to work thru vaccinations for prioritized individuals in Group 1A (school employees-Group 1B).

The plan at this time is to administer vaccines to school employees by organization, as opposed to individual school employees scheduling their own appointments. Wayne County is still considering: How best to choose and schedule schools, are their priority cases/districts in-person vs districts still remote, possible locations, etc.

## **5. Goal: Implementation/plan for return to in-person instruction**

At the January 11<sup>th</sup> Board of Education meeting, the Board reduced the number of consecutive days required to meet the targeted (below 5%) positivity rate from 14 consecutive days to 7 consecutive days, to reflect the new (December) CDC issued quarantine guidelines from a 14-day quarantine, to a 7 day with 2 negative tests, or 10 day quarantine).

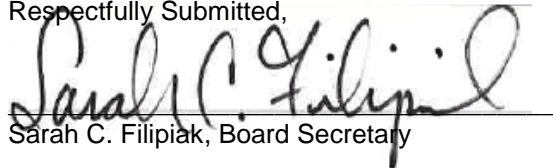
*In an effort to simplify and accelerate the return of students to in-person learning and to sustain a model that allows for students to attend four full days per week, District Administration recommends consideration of the following in light of the State's goal/recommendation to have all Michigan school districts offer an in-person learning option for students by March 1:*

- That the district include a metric point that will provide a date for the return to in-person pending the positivity rate metric per the Wayne County/or new matrix data. It is important to note that the district had no evidence of school associated spread of the virus while in-person instruction was ongoing. Another significant factor is that the district received a 100% passing score on the Allen Park Public Schools Mitigation Plan.
- Prior to resuming in-person instruction, all students will have the option to be in-person or virtual (Calvert Learning/Elementary, Courseware/Grades 6-8, or Edgenuity/Grades 9-12)
- All in-person students will attend four full days per week: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Wednesday will be a ½ day remote – the afternoon will be dedicated to necessary special education meetings/assessments and teachers will be available to assist students remotely. (Schedules to be sent to staff/families by building administration. Secondary students will continue with 'block scheduling' to minimize passing time/reduce exposure)

Board members were afforded the opportunity to ask questions and discuss Extended Learning Plans and the implementation goals.

2021-115	<p>Motion by Warren, supported to Filipiak, that the Allen Park Board of Education re-confirm the mode of instruction, which includes the continuation of remote learning, while monitoring the 7-day rolling average for Wayne County, utilizing the COVID Act Now site, for 7 consecutive days at a positivity rate of less than 7.5%, for a safe return to in-person instruction per the COVID Extended Learning Plan. The Board of Education will reconfirm how instruction will be delivered every 30 days.</p> <p>Yeas: Filipiak, Martin, Miller, Warren  Nays: Klein, Luecke, MacDonald  Absent: None</p> <p>Motion carried.</p>
2021-116	<p>Motion by Miller, supported by Warren, that per Motion 2021-115, the Allen Park Board of Education re-confirm the mode of instruction, which includes the continuation of remote learning, while monitoring the 7-day rolling average for Wayne County, utilizing the COVID Act Now site, for 7 consecutive days at a positivity rate of less than 7.5%, for a safe return to in-person instruction per the COVID Extended Learning Plan. And further, that in no event will the district return to in-person instruction prior to February 1, 2021. The Board of Education will reconfirm how instruction will be delivered every 30 days.</p> <p>Yeas: Filipiak, Klein, Luecke, MacDonald, Martin, Miller, Warren  Nays: None  Absent: None</p> <p>Motion carried.</p>
	<p><i>Reports of Officers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mrs. Luecke thanked everyone who sent emails with input and stories, she is proud to be a part of this caring school community. Mrs. Luecke expressed appreciation to Mr. Shearer and Mr. Moynihan for everything. Lastly, Mrs. Luecke gave a shout out to the two APHS divers who competed at State level – Amelia Luecke and Amanda Abraham – they were the only Freshmen competing!</li> <li>▪ Mrs. Filipiak stated that today is a proud moment to be a part of civil discourse on this Inauguration Day, to be a part of that political process. Mrs. Filipiak also gave a shout out to the student teachers out there – student teaching during COVID and to all community members, staff members and students that she has talked to; she truly listens and thinks about what she hears. Mrs. Filipiak shared that this community touches her heart and she is really proud to be a part of it.</li> <li>▪ Mr. Klein thanked the school community - it's been a tough year, and it's continued to be tough. But thank you for staying with us. Thank you to the families for reaching out – they are impassioned, kind and frustrated, but everybody has the kids best interests in mind. While we can agree on that, we just have different opinions on how to get there safely and that's okay. Mr. Klein thanked staff for all that are doing. This decision will be hard on families that are not ready for their students to return, and asked that as a district we assist them as they transition to full remote and offer support in creative ways.</li> <li>▪ Mrs. MacDonald echoed sentiments of fellow board members and thanked everybody. She promises to work with the team as we move forward. Mrs. MacDonald is pleased to hear about the N95 masks for staff.</li> <li>▪ Dr. Warren expressed appreciation to board colleagues, each and every one of your opinions matters to her. All the letters, emails, texts and stories – both ways of it's time, or not time – are appreciated. Her dedication to this school community is 100% and she appreciates everything everyone is doing. In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Dr. Warren shared a quote, "I've decided to stick with love, hate is too great of a burden to bear."</li> <li>▪ Mr. Miller echoed sentiments of fellow board members and entertained a motion to adjourn.</li> </ul>
2021-117	<p>Motion by Filipiak, supported by MacDonald, that the meeting adjourn at 8:11 p.m.</p>

Respectfully Submitted,



Sarah C. Filipiak, Board Secretary