



EAST OTERO SCHOOL DISTRICT R-1
301 RATON AVENUE
LA JUNTA, COLORADO 81050

BOARD WRAP-UP

Board of Education Meeting

March 18, 2020

1. **ROLL CALL** – Ayala, Backes, Bickel, Derbigny and Leyba
2. **APPROVE EXTENSION OF SPRING BREAK TO APRIL 6, 2020** – **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

3. **OPERATIONS DURING EXTENDED BREAK** –

Superintendent Lovato shared the plans for the upcoming extension:

- **Meals**
There will be three sites open from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and this will be a drive through delivery system in the parking lots. The locations are Primary School, 601 Topeka Avenue; Intermediate School, 901 Smithland Avenue; and Tiger Trades Academy (East School), 1401 East 6th Street. A bag lunch and breakfast (for the following morning) will be given out to kids 18 and under. Director Leyba asked if adults would be able to purchase a meal and Cori Hanson, Chartwells Food Service Director said at this time, there will not be an option for an adult meal to be purchased. Director Backes asked about communication and Superintendent Lovato stated communication will be sent out in a variety of media.
- **Classified Staff**
Superintendent Lovato said he will be meeting with maintenance and custodial staff at 8:00 a.m. on Monday morning. He said deep cleaning will begin next week. He will ask the paraprofessionals to help with the distribution of lunches so the Chartwells staff can be in the kitchen preparing the meals. He would like one secretary to be in each building to handle phone calls, deliveries, etc. He said he is also aware that this is subject to change with an executive order from the Governor.
- **Instructional Staff**
Superintendent Lovato said he will have teachers meet in small groups along with principals to develop a plan for curriculum. He would like to incorporate some face to face time with the elementary students. The district does have an online platform that serves grades 3-12.

Superintendent Lovato said his number one priority from an educational stand point is to have the seniors graduate. Prom has been delayed, as well as missing out on spring sports. He stated graduation is also subject to anything the governor says. He wants to make sure seniors meet the requirements and will be able to graduate.

Superintendent Lovato shared he is confident in staff. He said this is a great opportunity for our kids and community members to rally around one another. Superintendent Lovato feels this is the kind of challenge where we need each other.

Director Backes asked if there is an estimation of classified staff who might not get their normal hours. Superintendent Lovato said he is planning on classified staff to be able to get their hours. Director Backes also asked if there are plans for health screenings for staff and if staff's health would be monitored. He shared that is being left to the districts to manage so at this time Superintendent Lovato is leaving it up to staff that if they don't feel well to stay home.

Director Ayala stated it should be kept in mind that not all students have internet access. Superintendent Lovato said Comcast is currently offering an opportunity for families who don't have internet. He is meeting with Scholastic tomorrow for some more hands on options. Superintendent Lovato mentioned that academic resources could be coordinated with food pickup.

Director Backes asked about special needs students who need paraprofessional support. Superintendent Lovato said special needs students can't go more than nine days without support. In this count, spring break isn't included. BOCES is currently working on a plan. Superintendent Lovato also said some of the special needs students are in the high risk category which needs to be kept in mind.

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Director Ayala said the district is at the mercy of the Governor at this point. She said the safety of staff and students must come first. Superintendent Lovato said there is a press conference scheduled for Friday and we should know more by then. He said there are many things beyond our control and we all need to remember the basics, i.e., washing our hands and if you don't feel well, stay home.

Superintendent Lovato encouraged people to rely on one another socially and check in with each other. He said this is uncharted territory and no one knows what is next. He asks for everyone's patience and understanding.

4. BOARD COMMENTS

- ✓ Director Backes reminded everyone to get through this together and take one day at a time. She asked everyone to be flexible, as things are changing often. She said everyone is trying to do the best they can for the facilities, schools and community.
- ✓ Director Leyba reminded people to follow the local and state health department to stay informed. She said the website will stay current as well.

5. ADJOURNMENT – MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:18 p.m.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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