

March 15, 2021

The Board of Education, Community High School District 99, met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, March 15, 2021 at South High School.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, the following Board members answered present: Nancy Kupka, President; Mike Davenport, Vice President; and Members Sherell Fuller, Terry Pavesich, Dan Nicholas and Rick Pavinato. Member Joanna Vazquez Drexler arrived at 6:31 p.m.

Also present were Hank Thiele, Superintendent; Gina Ziccardi, Associate Superintendent for Student Learning; Rob Lang, Assistant Superintendent for Staff Services; Scott Wuggazer, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services; Mark Staehlin, District Controller; Jim Kolodziej, Director of Physical Plant & Operations; Janice Schwarze; North High Principal; Student Board Members Zoe Boyd and Sam Bull; and Juli Gniadek, Secretary.

There were three visitors. A copy of the Visitor Roster is attached.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Vazquez Drexler moved and Member Pavesich seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the February 22, 2021 Business Meeting and the March 1, 2021 Workshop Meeting.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Vazquez Drexler, Pavesich, Pavinato, Davenport, Fuller, Nicholas and Kupka voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

2. RECEPTION OF VISITORS – PUBLIC COMMENT

Kevin Kuster, North High parent, advocated for students returning to a full in-person schedule with lunch, noting the current schedule was detrimental to students.

Dr. Thiele stated the Public Comments submitted online were shared with the Board in advance of the meeting, as they pertained to an Action Item at the meeting. He shared 29 comments were submitted and the majority supported expanding school to a full day model.

3. 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR UPDATE

Dr. Thiele stated the IDPH and CDC both released new guidelines and that community metrics will no longer apply at the school level. He shared changes in District 99 practices, based on the new guidelines, include: face shields are now optional; social distance can be reduced to three feet when masks are on; distance must be six feet when masks are off (lunch/snack); bus capacity is raised to 50; symptom check slips are no longer required; and saliva testing is remains optional.

Dr. Thiele shared results of the surveys sent to students, families and staff, with all three groups expressing concern about students eating lunch at school. He presented administration's recommended learning model to start April 6, which includes Tuesday thru Friday full in-person learning with four classes each day, ending at 1:20 p.m.; a snack break; Wednesday and Thursday, from 2:00-3:30,

virtual support for students; Thursday and Friday afternoons will be professional development time; and Monday will be remote, with 40 minute class periods. Dr. Thiele stated students still have the opportunity to be fully remote and may change their selection of learning model at any time.

The Board discussed the learning model recommended by administration and asked that before any changes were made to this model the changes would be brought to the Board and voted on. Dr. Thiele agreed, with the exception of changes that will be required the week of SAT testing. The Board agreed with that exception.

The Board thanked those who responded to the survey and the Administration for their work in addressing the possible options.

Dr. Thiele stated the District's challenge is to plan what is best for 5,000 students and both his and the Board's goal is to have students back in school.

4. 2021-2022 STAFFING AND CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Dr. Lang stated there were two changes to the Personnel Reports since they were posted on Friday: Agenda Item 7B – Mark Collins was added to the list of retirees and Agenda Items 5B, 7A and 8C – Dalila Lopez was move from the list of teachers being renewed to the list of teachers not being renewed.

Rob Lang stated for 2021-2022, based on student choices, the instructional FTE is 323.2 and non-instructional FTE is 96.0. He noted this is 1.8 FTE more than last year (1.0 FTE for T99, .6 FTE for Special Education Social Worker and .2 FTE due to sectioning).

Georgia Hash, South High Associate Principal, and Ryan Doherty, North High Associate Principal, reviewed enrollment trends by department. Gina Ziccardi spoke about the increased number of bilingual students at North. She provided information on courses not running due to low enrollment and the specialty courses, with low enrollment, that will run. Scott Wuggazer shared the needs of Special Services and Counseling and Student Support Services which included an additional teacher at T99 and additional Social Work support.

Jeff Bergholtz, Director of Human Resources, stated some of the staff being Honorably Dismissed are returning, but not at the same FTE, and those teachers not renewed were providing Leave of Absence coverage. He noted at the April Workshop information on newly tenured staff will be presented. Dr. Lang shared there are three ways to achieve tenure – traditional, accelerated and portable.

5. PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT FOR THE REXNORD FACILITY FOR THE 2020 TAX YEAR

Mark Staehlin stated the same Resolution was brought to the Board last year and is part of a nine year agreement with Rexnord to rebate a portion of their property taxes as an incentive to move their headquarters to Downers Grove. He stated the Resolution gives him the authority to make the adjustment to Rexnord's taxes. Dr. Thiele stated this is an Action Item later in the meeting.

6. T99 BUILD OUT BID APPROVALS

Jim Kolodziej stated the bids were for the 2,500 square foot build out of T99 to be completed this summer. He shared there were 47 bidders on the ten packages and the bids were very competitive, with the total coming in approximately \$200,000 under budget. Mr. Kolodziej stated administration is asking the Board tonight to approve the ten bids for a total of \$526,355.00.

7. MASTER FACILITY PLAN PROGRESS

Dr. Thiele stated the contingency increased slightly, administration is working on a long term plan for those projects not done under the MFP and the MFP continues to be on budget and on schedule.

8. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUESTS

Dr. Thiele reported the District had Freedom of Information Act requests this month and they are posted on the District's website.

9. PUBLIC HEARING – HONORABLE DISMISSAL OF TEACHERS

President Kupka stated the next agenda item is a public hearing on the proposed reduction in force of teachers. She noted the hearing is held in line with Section 24-12 of the Illinois School Code, which provides for the hearing when the number of teachers to be reduced due to economic necessity is greater than 5 or 150% of the average number of teachers honorably dismissed in the preceding 3 years, whichever is more. President Kupka stated while the reductions contemplated later in this evening's agenda are not based on economic necessity, we are holding the hearing with the intent of giving both the teaching staff and the public notice of layoffs and the opportunity to express their views.

President Kupka stated to be clear, the reductions in force contemplated later in this evening's agenda will not impact educational programming and are not based on economic necessity. She went on to state these reductions are based on courses selections for the upcoming school year.

No one addressed the Board.

Member Pavesich moved and Member Vazquez Drexler seconded the motion for the Board of Education to close the Hearing.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Pavesich, Vazquez Drexler, Davenport, Fuller, Nicholas, Pavinato and Kupka voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

10. CONSENT AGENDA

Member Pavesich moved and Member Vazquez Drexler seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the Consent Agenda which includes: A. Personnel Report - 2021-2022 Full Time Renewals; 2021-2022 Non-Tenure Part Time Renewals; Appointment-Certified; Transfer of Position-Classified; Appointment-Classified; B. Personnel Report - Retirements-Classified; Resignations-Classified; C. Financial Pages; D. 2021-2022 Proposed Amended Calendar; E. Waive Spectator

Admission Fees Charged by District 99 for Events held on the D99 Campus for the 2020-2021 School Year; and F. Rescheduling Previously Scheduled Tour: Costa Rica 2020.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Pavesich, Vazquez Drexler, Davenport, Fuller, Nicholas, Pavinato and Kupka voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

11. APPROVAL OF 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR PLAN REVISION, AS DISCUSSED, TO BEGIN APRIL 6, 2021, AND CONTINUE TO OPERATE UNDER THE COVID-19 RE-OPENING PLAN APPROVAL RESOLUTION APPROVED ON AUGUST 3, 2020.

Member Vazquez Drexler moved and Member Fuller seconded the Motion for the Board of Education to approve the 2020-2021 School Year Plan Revision, as discussed, to begin April 6, 2021, and continue to operate under the COVID-19 Re-Opening Plan Approval Resolution approved on August 3, 2020.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Vazquez Drexler, Fuller, Nicholas, Pavesich, Davenport and Kupka voted AYE. Member Pavinato voted NAY. The President declared the motion carried.

12. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING NOTICE OF HONORABLE DISMISSAL OF NON-TENURED TEACHERS OTHER THAN FINAL YEAR PROBATIONARY TEACHERS

Member Pavesich moved and Member Nicholas seconded the motion for the Board of Education to adopt the Resolution Authorizing Notice of Honorable Dismissal of Non-Tenured Teachers Other than Final Year Probationary Teachers and that the President and Secretary be authorized to sign same.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Pavesich, Nicholas, Pavinato, Vazquez Drexler, Davenport, Fuller and Kupka voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

13. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING NOTICE OF NON-RENEWAL TO NON-TENURED TEACHERS OTHER THAN FINAL-YEAR PROBATIONARY TEACHERS

Member Vazquez Drexler moved and Member Pavesich seconded the motion for the Board of Education to adopt the Resolution Authorizing Notice of Non-Renewal to Non-Tenured Teachers Other than Final-Year Probationary Teachers and that the President and Secretary be authorized to sign same.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Vazquez Drexler, Pavesich, Pavinato, Davenport, Fuller, Nicholas and Kupka voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

14. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT FOR THE REXNORD FACILITY FOR THE 2020 TAX YEAR

Member Davenport moved and Member Fuller seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the Resolution Authorizing Property Tax Abatement for the Rexnord Facility for the 2020 Tax Year.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Davenport, Fuller, Nicholas, Pavesich, Pavinato, Vazquez Drexler and Kupka voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

15. AWARD OF CONTRACTS - T99 BUILD OUT

Member Davenport moved and Member Vazquez Drexler seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve bids in the aggregate amount of \$526,355.00 for the T99 Build Out.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Davenport, Vazquez Drexler, Fuller, Nicholas, Pavesich, Pavinato and Kupka voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

16. OLD BUSINESS

None.

17. NEW BUSINESS – POLICY COMMITTEE – FIRST READING

Dr. Thiele stated the Board would be asked to approve the following policies at the next Board meeting. He noted the majority of the changes were recommended by PRESS, except Policy 3.56 and Policy 7.345, which were recommended by the District's legal counsel in response to changes in laws related to technology. He asked that anyone with concerns regarding the proposed changes to contact Members Fuller, Pavinato and himself.

- 3.56 Director of Technology and Information Services
- 4.30 Revenue and Investments
- 4.80 Accounting and Audits
- 4.90 School Activity Funds
- 5.110 School District Recognition
- 6.300 Graduation Requirements
- 6.310 High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students
- 7.100 Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students
- 7.300 Extracurricular Clubs and Organizations & Athletics
- 7.345 Protection of Student Personal Information Online

Hank Thiele stated at the last Policy Committee meeting those policies that are unique to District 99 were reviewed as part of the two-year review and no changes were needed.

18. RECEPTION OF VISITORS – PUBLIC COMMENT

Kevin Kuster again addressed the Board advocating for students to be back in school full time.

Dr. Thiele shared there were eight comments submitted on line via the Public Comment form from four individuals. He stated one expressed concern about how he presented the survey results and there were some general questions.

Hank Thiele stated general questions should be sent to administration for response; the Public Comments are messages to the Board.

19. REPORT ON LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION NETWORK OF DUPAGE (LEND)

Dr. Thiele reported he sent an update on legislative actions to the Board.

20. REPORT ON SCHOOL ASSOCIATION FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION IN DUPAGE COUNTY (SASED)

Member Vazquez Drexler reported SASED is looking for ways to increase the amount of in-person learning and still has many students choosing remote. She shared they are also looking at ways to address the social emotional needs of the students.

21. REPORT ON DISTRICT 99 EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Member Pavesich reported Teacher Appreciation Week is in May and the Foundation will be doing something for staff. She thanked all those that participated in Pizza Wars, noting the proceeds fund teacher grants.

22. REPORT ON ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS (IASB)

Member Davenport reported the DuPage Division meeting is Saturday.

23. UPCOMING BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

President Kupka announced the following meeting dates:

April 12, 2021 Workshop Meeting – 6:30 p.m. – South High School

April 19, 2021 Regular Business Meeting – 6:30 p.m. – South High School

24. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business or discussion, Member Pavesich moved and Member Davenport seconded the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Upon the unanimous voice vote of the seven members in attendance, the President declared the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.



Nancy Kupka, President



Juli Gniadek, Secretary

Public Comments Submitted via Google Form

March 15, 2021 Board Meeting

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| AMY ROGERS | Kids need to be back in school full time- 5 days per week. Teachers have been vaccinated and those that don't want to get it need to take a leave of absence. Kids/parents that want remote can take that option. Hybrid option needs to be eliminated. It's safe for kids to go to school and it's time to get them back into the school for in person instruction. |
| Jane Smith | I thank you for your continued attention and focus on establishing a school attendance schedule during these trying times. While I understand the push for more in-person time, I do not believe that this is in the best interest of our students. We are still in the midst of a pandemic, with concern over numbers spiking again following break. While the students themselves may not become ill, there is risks with their possible asymptomatic contact with the adult staff at the schools, especially when all have not yet been vaccinated. With respect to the six remaining weeks of school following break, I do not believe that the current attendance schedule should be changed with the exception of seniors. The schedule should be modified to allow seniors to attend more in-person, if they so wish. Focus should be shifted on giving these seniors fond memories for the remaining school year. We can then direct our focus on opening strong in the fall. Further, any and all field trips and travel should be cancelled or postponed for this school year and summer. Let's direct our focus on helping our seniors finish strong. |
| Jim Devitt | As a parent of a D99 child, I see so many surrounding districts of similar size going back to full in-person learning and think that its time we do the same...no more excuses from all of you about size of student body or buildings, or how "robust" one program is over the other, but return to FULL IN-PERSON LEARNING ALL DAY EVERYDAY. The state-wide positivity rate is around 2%, Teachers have been vaccinated. Social distancing has been reduced AGAIN. It's time to do something for our kids and return to all day learning! |
| Kevin Kuster | As elected officials, why did the board abdicated their responsibility to the community and give superintendent sole decision-making power on interpreting and enacting government guidelines and what does distinct 99 need to do that was implemented at private and catholic school that has allowed those learning institutions to be open since the fall of 2020? |
| Anthony Addante | After 1 year of remote learning the results are frightening. Our youth has a mental health crisis from the lack of in-person learning. I see it personally and professionally daily. Please get our children back to in-person learning full time. |
| Erica Koeplin | With an early release schedule wouldn't those in athletics and clubs have to leave and return every day? That seems very difficult with rides and timely for those that walk. |
| Robert Benton | <p>While I am very happy that a full return to in person learning beginning in early April. The block scheduling concerns me. Is it an effort to limit the number of passing periods? There would seem to be minimal additional risk in 7 passing periods vs 4. The loss of instructional time in the block scheduling concerns a lot of parents.</p> <p>Previously, students were getting 5 x 50 (250 min) per week per class. Our goal should be to get VERY, VERY, VERY close to this number.</p> <p>There is a methodology for project mgmt and solution delivery called Scrum. Look it up. One of it's key tenants is regular daily check-ins. Those 50 min per day check-in for the students is key to keeping the learning moving forward.</p> <p>PS. These public comments would be best printed and read prior to any voting items so the board members know the public's stance prior to an agenda item they may have to decide on.</p> |
| A. Millar-Mandziara | Upon returning to this new in-person schedule, will the saliva tests still be optional? |
| FULL TIME ALL DAY | The only schedule that will work is full time all day every day. Teacher's are vaccinated, people are getting vaccinated, numbers down, kids are playing sports. If they can come back for sports they can stay all day. This better not be the schedule for fall. Let the parents know now so we can make other arrangements for the fall. So disappointed in the district. Kids need to be back to their regular schedule after Springbreak. |

Public Comments Submitted via Google Form

March 15, 2021 Board Meeting

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Barbara Pearcy | I like the idea that you have drafted for early release, but why are periods 7/8 before periods 5/6? My student is in work/study and is done after 5th period. There is an hour and a half gap between 3/4 and periods 5/6 with periods 7/8 in between. Why is this the case? Wouldn't it make more sense to have the periods go in order (3/4, 5/6 then have 7/8)? |
| Tyler Pappas | In RE: Resolution 8.A: Does returning to in person learning directly after Spring break, when multiple families are traveling around the country makes sense? Yes, it's important to get our students back in person and so many students have voiced their issues with Covid fatigue. As the community leaders, perhaps the board could consider a later return date to in person instruction. If this is not an option, will students have the option to learn remotely for the first and second week? |
| Rhonda Seelinger | Can you please let parents and students know what teachers, if any, will continue to work remotely? This is a consideration when choosing whether or not to be in-person or remote. Thank you. |
| Kate A Benton | <p>Wow. I don't even know where to start. Hank, how could you send me an email on Friday promising a return to full in-person learning and then submit this plan and show your face tonight? NO ONE would look at this plan and call it a return to full in-person learning. This doesn't even come close. It might actually mean LESS instructional time. I will have to crunch the numbers myself, but don't have time for that right now.</p> <p>Let's cut to the chase. Of course, the kids are going to say what they said. They get a shorter school day! Who wouldn't vote for that?! Of course, the staff is going to say what they said. They get to work fewer hours! Who wouldn't vote for that?!</p> <p>Are you a superintendent or a politician? Where is your leadership? Sometimes mom or dad, or teacher or coach, or administrator has to take a hard line because the youngster don't know what is in their best interest. Do you think it is possible that your staff might just like working shorter days? Perhaps their motives are not so genuine. Does this mean we let the kids education suffer because staff don't want to work full-time?</p> <p>This plan needs to be immediately thrown out. The kids go back full time, 5 days-a-week, in-person learning. Any parent not comfortable with lunch can keep their child at home. You may have to run a waitlist for students who have opted for fully remote. That was their choice. Figure out more places to have lunch, if necessary. Put up tents, if necessary. Let the kids eat in their classrooms, if necessary.</p> <p>Get your priorities straight, stop making excuses, and OPEN THE SCHOOLS NOW. OR WE WILL FIND A WAY TO OPEN THEM FOR YOU.</p> |
| Michele Kus | Both of my students (freshman & junior @ DGN), myself, and my husband all agree that the current Hybrid schedule is much better and far less confusing than this new proposed schedule to begin after spring break. |
| Wendy Fredricks | Will all teachers be required to come back to teach in person April 6th with full time - it is very difficult for students to be in school when their teacher is remote. |
| Carrie swenson | Please amend the action item full in person learning schedule to discuss and vote on a true 5 day a week, full 8 period schedule. Also please discuss that families concerned about lunch still have a remote option available. |
| Mara Haiduc | It feels really hard for students to adjust to a new schedule. We have already adapted and found a routine for this year and it honestly feels quite pointless to rearrange all our transportation arrangements, class schedules and overall daily flow just for the last two months of school. It also feels quite tiring to have to sit through 4 incredibly long classes without a break in the middle. While getting out of school early does sound appealing, it just adds extra stress to change the schedule now but also for people who would have to return to school for things like sports (unless those are also getting moved up). Also, I have friends that are in hybrid currently but with everyone in the school, they would go full remote because they do not feel comfortable with everyone in the school. And personally, for me, it makes it harder for my parents to pick me up from school at that time. |

**Public Comments Submitted via Google Form
March 15, 2021 Board Meeting**

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Still Not Good Enough | Send the kids back everyday full day. Instead od sitting in class for over an hour, split the time. Have one class 40 minutes. More productive kids are still sitting to long. This is a terrible plan. All day everyday shorter periods... |
| Amy Laverty | <p>Good afternoon! I am writing a short email to make sure I am leaving no stone unturned in my efforts to advocate for those students and families that want a choice to return to school IN PERSON FULL DAY. We have gone through nearly an entire dismal school year without an In-person learning option which many schools around the area as well as around the nation are offering. Our students are safe in our schools. Staff is also safe because D99 has gone to great lengths to make it safe. We have been able to obtain the proper protective equipment. School cleaning protocols and social distancing have made it possible for us to have a hybrid plan. Only a few cases were evident since school began. We have mitigated COVID-19 very, very well! Great job! Guidelines are changing rapidly, and we have even agreed to perform saliva testing. We feel confident that our schools are safe. Our children deserve an option to return to full-day learning. Nothing related to the remote option needs to change. Families and children who are remote lose nothing. I am presenting an option for children to safely attend school and continue to get screened, saliva tested, and stay 3 feet apart while in class! We have relied on the board to make decisions for our student population while many other school boards have achieved full-day, in-person learning! What is the barrier here in district 99? We cannot continue to lag behind and I hope to see the Seniors on campus for the last few weeks!</p> <p>I am an advocate of safety and data driven decision making. I am an optimist, as well, and I know that we will succeed with ALL of the protocols in place for safety but the waiting game has to stop now! I am a mental health professional with over 20 years of experience in Proviso township as a Crisis worker, Police Crisis Worker, and Crisis Supervisor so I know exactly what is going on with our children's mental health. I have been saddened by the numbers rising so drastically in the suicidal thoughts category and suicide attempts category. Please make a positive change for the students. I believe you will put the students first as you move forward with your plans for the remainder of the year! There is no time to waste!</p> <p>Sincerely, Amy Laverty (parent of DGS Freshman)</p> |
| Holly Pappas | I have two concerns about sending our children back to full in-person learning. 1. The recommended model includes less instruction time than our students are getting during the current model. The current model includes more instruction time and still allows for some in person time. I think its a nice balance. 2. My student is extremely concerned about returning to full in-person right after spring break because a very large number of families are planning to travel and won't follow guidelines of keeping their students home for 10-14 days post travel. Several area private schools are pausing in-person learning after spring break for 2 weeks for this reason. My student wants to return to full in-person learning but not right after spring break. We should delay the full in-person return for two weeks. |
| Barbara Percy | As long as they're not doing a full day with lunch and they have early dismissal, they should just continue right through and have all the periods one right after another My student is a senior in work/study and is done after 5th period. It is an issue with him right now as on days when he only goes in the afternoon for that one class he stays home. This model that you're proposing with. Seven and eight before five and six, how many students will leave after fourth for an hour and a half and then come back? I think there should be no break like there is now as the students are having an early dismissal anyway. The periods should be continuous and will be more structured for the students. |

Public Comments Submitted via Google Form
March 15, 2021 Board Meeting

Board Members,

As you prepare to vote on what will be presented from the last minute School Year Update, I ask you to consider by which measure this plan can be considered full in-person. It is in-person only 80% of the days. It is in-person only 59% of the minutes compared to the normal schedule. And, with a highly optimistic projection, it is in-person for only 80-90% of the students. If you want to call this an 80% hybrid plan, be my guest. However, it is an obvious misnomer to refer to this plan in any regard as full.

The trade off in order to have a "higher percentage of students than many districts in the area" will be the lowest number of instructional minutes, both in-person and overall, when compared to our surrounding districts. I object to this as vehemently as I reject the practice of the administration that punishes the students with less overall instructional time whenever in-person time is added.

But what happens if less than 80% of the students participate in-person? Surveys are one thing. Registrations and actual attendance are another. If in the first two weeks of April the percentage of students who actually attend in-person mirrors that of the other districts, will we be tied to a schedule that is inadequate and uncompetitive when compared to our neighboring districts?

If this plan is so tremendously comprised on the basis of higher than average participation, please only approve tonight's motion on the provision that the administration have a contingency plan should that stipulation not come to fruition.

Thank you for your consideration,

Rich Bennema

Rich
Bennema

I understand you are voting on the new in-person schedule for the time remaining after Spring Break. Please pass it. Actually, please surprise me and vote to return full time. 5 days a week. 8 periods a day. All students welcome at the same time. It is more than time. The board and superintendent's foot dragging continues to harm all D99 students. Every day. Your precautions are adequate. You have zero evidence that opening school with the precautions already in place would harm anyone or even increase transmission. Zero. Your hesitancy is a tragedy. And unforgivable. And I am more than over any teachers being allowed to teach from home when the students are in the school building. They should not have been allowed to do this at any point, let alone now, after vaccines have been offered. Any teachers continuing to insist on teaching remotely should have their contract rescinded. It is safe for any person to be in the controlled environment of the school building with masks on and shields in hallways. You must allow for progress to be made toward pre-pandemic school life. The time is now. Really the time was months ago, but you've already missed that boat. I think a number of members on this board have allowed their own personal fears and concerns rule their decision-making. To them, I say, the job of the board is to make the best decisions for the students not for yourselves as members of the community. I also see that a few board members may enjoy a sense of power over the community at large with their ability to impact so many D99 families. This needs to stop. Help these students learn to navigate life in a pandemic environment. They can't learn this stuck at home or in the tiny groups you've allowed into a classroom at one time. This post doesn't even touch on the reports coming out about mental/emotional damage that continues to be done to our kids, or about the educational inadequacy that continues in a school schedule that is so much less than it should be. The damage has been accruing and continues to pile up. It will be a long time before we see all of the repercussions of this disaster of a school year. So surprise me. Vote to open in-person school 5 days a week, 8 periods a day, lunch, and activities included.

Erin Gee

Brian
Smetana

Very pleased with the quick action to move to more in person learning - thank you. Regarding the early release time what action will you be taking to help get students back to school for sports and other activities? Not all of them are old enough to drive or have parents readily available.

Public Comments Submitted via Google Form

March 15, 2021 Board Meeting

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Susan Chavez Jimenez | With the Spring approaching and better weather. I would strongly encourage the Board to select the late start option for attendance. The gap left between end of learning and sports only promotes ideas of hanging out until sports starts or leaves those with no activities far too much time for potential trouble. Additionally it burdens parents to get kids back to school for participation in sports. I will need to make these arrangements in addition to picking him up 1 day since he has no 5th period which is difficult for working parents. Transportation is a serious issue that should be addressed that allows all students to participate in extracurricular activities when it can easily be accommodated by selecting the late start option |
| Paula Duellman | I am happy to see the proposed plan for further in person learning for the last quarter of the school year. I would of liked to option for full 8 periods a day in person however understand part of the reasoning behind the current proposed plan for only part time school. However I do not see any justification to not have it 5 days a week. Why not a rotation of even and odds 3/2 times a week. Since your proposed plan reports that 90% of students will be in person the Remote only day is no longer needed to "accommodate" the 10% of students who are opting to not return to in person for the last month and half of school. It has been a Year since our children were in school full time. Please don't hold them back even more. |
| Ann Pogorelec | The proposed school schedule is a complete disgrace. How can neighboring districts return to FULL 8 period days 5 days a week with lunch and District 99 can't? Does anyone in administration or on the board even care that the instructional time our kids are receiving is less than other districts and less than they received in previous years? Also, please note that many teachers are only teaching for 50 minutes and the rest of the class time is spent doing homework or "whatever". If teachers are fully vaccinated why can't we return to a full 8 period schedule? It should be up to parents to decide if they are comfortable with lunch seating not being 6 feet apart. |
| Amy Postmus | Will those in the Special Services Classroom(s) be following the same early release schedule? |
| Amy Postmus | Will those in the Special Services Classroom(s) be following the same early release schedule? |
| Christina Konieczka | Please do not approve the proposed return plan. Students are not vaccinated yet, and having all students in the buildings with reduced social distancing and no face shields is putting all of our progress at risk. We're so close to the end, let's not create a super spreader event now. At least continue with A/B groups to allow better spacing/distancing! |
| Amy Balicki | I am glad kids are going to be spending more time at school. I do get concerned that being taught in person isn't what we think it is. The teachers are in front of their computer screens having to teach to the remote kids at the same time they are teaching to the in person kids. Unfortunately, I think this minimizes the interaction benefits that the in person kids get with the teacher. I wish there was a way to address this and make in person learning seem more meaningful as it was before teachers were required to teach to two audiences at once. That said, please get the kids back in school. |
| Carrie swenson | YOU NEVER GSVE A REGULAR PRE COVID SCHEDULE CHOICE. Never offered it to us. |
| Anonymous | Less than half were uncomfortable with lunch, less than half. More than half are fine. We should be full day. Five days a week. 8 periods. |
| Carrie swenson | Utilized unused classroom. They can bring their lunch. Come on get creative. Middle school is doing it, lame excuse. |
| Jennifer Sichel | I would like the board to be aware that students going to school are really not recieving a different experience. Many times, not all classrooms, but often, students are logged into a zoom meeting on their laptops while sitting in a desk at school. This is not the pedagogical practice that I would consider acceptable for in person learning. How will this be addressed as we move forward? |
| Carrie swenson | That is NO! what people are thinking about lunch. We want a full regular day. That is wrong and inaccurate sentence. Hank. You need to stop. But we can snack? Makes no sense. You have snack. Then have rolling lunch. These are excuses |
| Carrie swenson | 58 is full five day all grade levels. Step it up. |

Public Comments Submitted via Google Form

March 15, 2021 Board Meeting

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Carrie swenson | That is NOT what people are thinking about lunch. We want a full regular day. That is wrong and inaccurate sentence. Hank. You need to stop. But we can snack? Makes no sense. You have snack. Then have rolling lunch. These are excuses |
| Amy Postmus | Will those in the Special Services Classroom(s) be following the same early release schedule? |