



CARLISLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

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MINUTES

CARLISLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Special School Board Meeting

November 16, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

Carlisle School District Board Room

In-Person Live Stream Viewing available in the Carlisle Elementary School Media Center

Livestream: CCSD.LIVE

The Carlisle School Board will follow CDC and Iowa Department of Public Health guidelines on physical distancing. The district will provide in-person live stream viewing in the Carlisle Elementary School Media Center for individuals who want to attend the school board meeting. The live stream will also be available at ccsd.live.

Patrons who want to participate in public comment can do so in person in the school board room and then view the board meeting proceedings in the Carlisle Elementary School Media Center.

President Hill called to order the November 16 special meeting at 6:01 p.m.

Directors Present: Art Hill, President
Mindy Donovan, Vice President
Jeramie Eginoire, by Zoom
Samantha Fett
Hillary Gardner

Also Present: Bryce Amos, Superintendent
Jean Flaws, Board Secretary

Motion by Gardner to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Donovan. Motion carried unanimously.

UPDATES/INFORMATION

A. District Learning Model Protocols

Mr. Amos reviewed the current county data for Polk and Warren counties by zip code. The current positivity rates as of Nov. 16 are 18.3 and 20.5 for Warren and Polk counties respectively. As of Nov. 13, there were confirmed cases of fourteen students and 2 staff and 96 students and 15 staff quarantined because of close contact. The week of Nov. 16, 31 students and 3 staff are scheduled to return. New positive cases on Nov. 16 were 6 students and 3 staff with 41 students and 5 staff having to quarantine because of close contact. The fill rate for absent teachers for the first two weeks in November is 64% compared to 81% same time last year. The fill rate for absent para-professionals was 8% compared to 40% same time last year.

Mr. Amos reviewed the school opening protocols noting one change in the hybrid model of having school on Wednesdays so the District would meet the 50% attendance guideline set by the state. Currently 19% of students are doing remote learning and 81% are on-site.

Considerations for on-site learning are face-to-face learning is the best model, staff and student absences, not being able to cover positions because of absences which puts a strain on the staff and being able to maintain co/extra-curricular activities.

Hybrid learning considerations are device and wifi needs by households, the impact on student learning with on-site students being at school only half-time as remote students would continue remotely, logistic issues with transportation and child care, could help some with staffing gaps in certain areas, would help with close contacts as fewer students in a classroom and would eliminate early out Wednesdays for staff professional development.

Considerations for remote learning are the district not having enough devices for every student or household, the impact on student learning, synchronous learning schedules, would provide for limited on-site learning

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support for students (special education and scheduled computer lab support), non-classroom staff would have roles and responsibilities (bus drivers, food service, custodians), teachers and para-professionals would be on campus in various roles and the 100% remote waiver lasts for 14 days. The remote learning waiver can be by building or district. A waiver is not needed if a classroom or grade level goes remote.

The guidance from the State Dept. Of Education includes immediate transition to remote learning for up to 48 hours while waiting for a waiver decision. Because of the 50% in-person instruction requirement based on a two week period, the District could move to remote learning for up to five days without needing approval.

Each request to use remote instruction is reviewed on a case-by-case basis (not necessarily having to wait until student absenteeism is 10% and county positivity rate is above 15%). If a school or district chooses to use primarily remote instruction, in-person extracurricular activities will cease during the period requested.

Mr. Amos is proposing to continue to use current mitigation strategies, continue the current model while monitoring student and staff positivity rates and absences, extend the Thanksgiving Holiday break by 3 days, Nov. 30 – Dec. 2 (there would be no practices or games for any group during the long break as the buildings will be closed) and schedule a special board meeting Nov. 23 to review the numbers and make a decision whether to go remote after the break. Should the board decide to move to remote instruction, Dec. 3 & 4 would be teacher work days in order to prepare with device distribution on Dec. 4. The District would apply for a waiver for Dec. 7 – 22.

There was a staff survey for teachers and para-professionals about the model they prefer at this point. With 175 responses, 88 preferred remote, 62 preferred on-site and 22 preferred the hybrid model. Mr. Amos will be sending out a parent survey on technology needs this week.

BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of District Learning Model Plan Protocol and Plans

Motion by Gardner to extend the Thanksgiving break by three days, Nov. 25 – Dec. 2 and have the board meet Nov. 23 if not earlier. Seconded by Donovan. Motion carried unanimously.

FUTURE MEETINGS

A. November 23, 2020 Special School Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Carlisle Community School Board Room

B. December 14, 2020 Regular School Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Carlisle Community School Board Room

Motion by Gardner to adjourn the November 16 special meeting. Seconded by Donovan. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Art Hill, President

Attest: Jean Flaws, Board Secretary/Business Manager

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These minutes will be presented at the December 14 regular school board meeting for approval.

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