

Minutes

At 5:00 p.m. Chair Jennifer Brumley called the meeting to order. Trustees Rebecca Smith, Casey Morrisroe, Tandra Pickford and Lisa May were present.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Mrs. May to approve the agenda as presented, second by Mrs. Smith, passed 5-0.

Superintendent Search: The Board has been in the process of a superintendent search over the past two months. Final interviews and a community forum took place last week.

Motion by Mr. Morrisroe to approve the hiring of Dr. Shon Hocker as Superintendent of Coeur d'Alene School District and execute a contract and addendum to employ Dr. Hocker effective July 1, 2021 for a period of 3 years, second by Mrs. Pickford, passed 5-0.

Board Policy 1207 – Masking Policy: Nichole Piekarski shared the most up to date incidence, positivity and hospitalization rates which have stayed relatively flat. The District's plan was modified to use regional metrics. Options for consideration are to continue to follow Panhandle Health District guidelines, look at a step-down model, use metrics previously recommended by the district, or a hybrid between the step-down model with a timeline.

Mr. Morrisroe would like to see a move to masks being strongly recommended. Mrs. May reviewed public health policy currently in place and has concerns about students missing opportunities due to quarantine. She supports the tiered approach that the administration has presented. Mrs. Pickford asked about a modified quarantine process; Dr. Cook shared a process being used in another district. Ms. Brumley asked if Lakeland and Post Falls School Districts follow CDC guidelines regarding quarantine practices. Mr. Morrisroe suggests keeping the current quarantine protocols in place. Mrs. Smith supports the step-down proposal and would like to re-evaluate for next school year. Ms. Brumley favors a recommended policy and noted the hundreds of emails received on both sides of the issue. She will continue to strongly recommend that students continue to wear masks especially high school seniors. Dr. Cook asked about the difference between staff and students and how to handle hot spots. Mrs. Piekarski recommends that staff continue to wear masks.

Motion by Mr. Morrisroe to modify Policy 1207 to strongly recommended for all students effective April 21, second by Mrs. Pickford, passed 3-2 (Mrs. May and Mrs. Smith voted nay).

Motion by Mr. Morrisroe to authorize district administration to use the building Covid tracker document to determine when schools may need to temporarily require masks, second by Mrs. Pickford, passed 5-0.

Motion by Mr. Morrisroe to modify the mask requirement for staff to strongly recommended, second by Mrs. Pickford, passed 3-2 (Mrs. May and Mrs. Smith voted nay).

The meeting recessed at 6:05 p.m. and reconvened at 6:15 p.m.

High School Bell Schedule Options: Assistant Superintendent, Kelly Niccolls shared an update of the committee process. Finance Director, Katie Ebner shared the budget implications and potential costs. Ms. Niccolls requests direction from the Board. Mrs. May feels that the trimester track has many obstacles and would consider taking that option away. Mrs. Pickford wants to hear from CHS for the modified schedule and others. As long as both high schools end up with the same graduation requirements, there may be some flexibility in the schedules. Mrs. Smith asked about maximizing the core classes and feels there too much flex time. Mrs. Pickford added that advisory classes should show the relevance and importance. Ms. Brumley doesn't want to take away opportunities, kids may lose out on a significant amount of courses. She has seen options for an 8-period day and she will share them with Mrs. Niccolls. The priority is providing opportunity for students and increasing time. She believes there are options and it may not mean same schedules at both high schools. Mrs. May asked for the percentage of students taking a full 8-period day not including TA. Mr. Morrisroe feels the block schedule contains less instruction time. Mrs. Pickford agrees we should always maximize instructional minutes. Dr. Cook added that whatever schedule moves forward, a professional development plan will be necessary.

Next steps: Look at modified 7 or 8 period block schedules and bring 2 or 3 options to the May Board meeting. Ms. Brumley and Mrs. May will attend the next committee meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Jennifer Brumley, Chair
Board of Trustees

Lynn Towne, Clerk
Board of Trustees