

MINUTES OF THE COMBINED WORK/BUSSINESS SESSION OF THE MARSHALL BOARD OF EDUCATION HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2020 AT 7:00 PM, @ https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCo_Dw2K8ptX5eFKauouPJZQ/

PRESENT: DESMET, NICHOLSON, MIDDLETON, WILLIAMS, GAMBLE, LANKERD, LINDSEY, DAVIS, JONES

ABSENT:

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President DeSmet.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Trustee Lankerd.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Lindsey, supported by Gamble, that the agenda be approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

President DeSmet called for any members of the audience to address the Board on agenda items only. Notes will be taken and questions will either be answered in Dr. Davis's presentation or at a later time via the MPS:Return to Learn webpage. No was no public comment

**APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA
MINUTES, EXPENDITURES, PERSONNEL AND OTHER**

Items included on the consent agenda were minutes of the July 20, 2020 combined work/business session, July 28, 2020 special session, August 4, 2020 special session and employment of six new teachers.

Moved by Lindsey, supported by Lankerd, that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda – Minutes, Expenditures, and Personnel as presented. A roll-call vote carried the motion unanimously.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SPECIAL RECOGNITION:NEW HIRES

Superintendent Davis welcomed the following new hires to the district and shared their background. Kyle Fuller, physical education teacher at Marshall Middle School: Mckenna Jerant, teacher at Harrington; Emily McCaleb, teacher at Harrington; Michelle Risner, special education teacher at Marshall High School; Amanda Skinner, teacher at Harrington; Marcie Zinger, teacher at Harrington.

ACTION AGENDA

COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PLAN

On June 30, 2020 Governor Whitmer issued her Executive Order 2020-142 and shared Michigan's Return to School Roadmap. The Roadmap is aligned with Michigan's Safe Start Plan, using the "six phase approach" as a basis for reopening schools. The Roadmap provides requirements, recommendations and guidance unique for each phase under which schools may

operate. As such, Governor Whitmer requires each district in Michigan to submit a Board approved “Preparedness and Response Plan” to the local ISD on August 17, 2020, and then to the Michigan Department of Education to be approved on August 19, 2020 to allow school to resume

Superintendent Davis gave an overview of the plan. Marshall Public Schools is offering parents two choices.

- In Person Blended Learning – K-5th grade students, MOHS students and MYCA students will attend school in person 4 days a week with Wednesday being a remote learning day. 6th – 12th grade will attend school in person 2 days per week with 3 days being remote learning. Students will be split into a cohort A & B.
- Virtual Only – this program will be taught by highly qualified and certified Marshall Public School Staff and requires a committee to at least one semester.
- Students with IEP’s or 504 plans may attend school 4 days a week at any grade level.

Superintendent Davis –

- This plan gives families the most options to make the best choice for their family.
- A survey is currently underway, as of Monday, August 10th, 76% of families have responded with 70% requesting in person learning and 30% requesting virtual only.
- The new teacher laptops have arrived and are being distributed. The Chromebook’s for students to have 1:1 technology will be distributed before school begins.
- Teachers are being provided additional training to be prepared for remote teaching.
- There are postings for 6 elementary virtual positions, one at each grade level and interested teachers need to submit a letter of interest by August 16, 2020.
- Marshall Public Schools is abiding by the recommendations provided by the Calhoun County Health Department to monitor COVID-19 conditions in our area.

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION ON PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PLAN

Vice President Nicholson

- With the MAC and Big Ten cancelling their footballs season are there any changes to MHSAA guidelines.
 - Dr. Davis – MPS will follow all MHSAA and CCHD guidelines for sports
- She feels education is more important than social gatherings, which have a size limitation, and that many students need to be in person learning.

Secretary Middleton

- What is the timeline for contacting families of students with IEP’s and 504 plans.
 - Dr. Davis – Jamie Rogers, special education coordinator and her team have been meeting, planning, and contacting parents.
- What is the timeline for families to select between the two options.
 - Dr. Davis – will would like families to make the decision as soon as possible but understand that may not be possible.

Trustee Lanker

- She is pleased to hear how many teachers are training and asked about training for support staff.
 - Dr. Davis – HR has established the required training for all staff

- She asked if there would be para health aides at each building
 - Dr. Davis – we are on our 3rd year with para health aides being stationed at each building and are posing for an RN to help support the para health aides
- She would like to see information on what a school day looks like for Virtual only and asked how to maintain rigor for the students.
 - Dr. Davis – there will be flexibility in the day for virtual learners and students will be help accountable for learning. Teachers will have weekly meetings with students and monitor and support students daily.

Trustee Gamble

- She is pleased with the amount of information that has been shared and with the response to the survey.
- She expressed concern with students wearing masks all day especially in the buildings without air conditioning.
 - Dr. Davis – students will have a break each hour from wearing masks.
- She requested the average number of students that can be accommodated in a classroom with social distancing.
 - Class sizes vary across the district but can accommodate 16-20 students.
- She is excited to hear about the training that is being offered to teachers and staff.

Trustee Lindsey

- He is struggle with have students back in person in classrooms but appreciates all the work by everyone that has been put into the plan.

President DeSmet

- He is impressed with the options that have been presented and feels that offers our families the best opportunity to make the choice that is best for them

Moved by Williams, supported by Nicholson, that the Board of Education approve the COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan. A 5-2 roll-call vote carried the motion with Williams, Middleton, Nicholson, DeSmet and Gamble in support and Lindsey, and Lankerd opposed.

RETURN TO LEARNING: ALL COURSES OFFERED IN VIRTUAL FORMAT

For Phases 1-3, the 4:1 model, the 2:3 model during Phase 4-6 and the 100% remote learning model; all Marshall Public Schools seated courses will be offered in a virtual format for the 2020-2021 school year.

Moved by Williams, supported by Middleton, that the Board of Education approve the Return to Learning Plan for all MPS seated courses to be offered in a virtual format for the 2020-2021 school year. A roll-call vote carried the motion unanimously.

DISSCUSION ITEMS

With the retirement of Michelle Morgan: Community Unlimited will begin providing GSRP services for the slots assigned to MPS this coming school year. The GSRP programs will continue to be hosted by MPS at Shamrock/Gordon and at Crowell.

Our teaching staff from GSRP will be reassigned to other teaching positions at MPS, and the aides in GSRP are being invited to work for Community Unlimited in the GSRP programs at MPS. We are excited that services will not be disrupted to this population of young learners.

PUBLIC COMMENT

President DeSmet opened the meeting for the public comment. Notes will be taken and responded to at a later time on the MPS: Return to Learning Website. There was no public comment.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS FOR WHICH
NO ACTION MAY BE TAKEN AT THIS MEETING**

Vice President Nicholson is pleased that a concrete decision has been made and thanks everyone, especially teachers, for their hard work.

Trustee Lindsey is pleased to have Marshall Public Schools teachers as the virtual teachers and will support the Boards decision

Secretary Middleton acknowledges that Phase 4 decisions are very difficult with more questions than answers and is amazed at the work that has been accomplished in such a short time. She feels Marshall Public Schools are setting an example for other districts to follow.

Trustee Lankerdt thanks teachers and staff for all of their work and will support the Boards decision.

President DeSmet thanks everyone for their work on the plan.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

LISA MIDDLETON, SECRETARY

LESLIE PARSHALL, RECORDING SECRETARY