## Colfax-Mingo Community School District

## Board of Directors Special Board Meeting

Video/Phone Conference Call - Originating from CMCSD Central Office

Wednesday, November 11, 2020

In compliance with recommended safety practices in regard to COVID-19. Per Iowa Code Section 21.8, when an in-person meeting is "impossible or impractical," a governmental body is permitted to conduct a meeting by electronic means. November 5, 2020, Jasper County reached a 20% positivity rate for the coronavirus. CMCSD will operate Virtual Distance Learning November 6-12 and board meetings will be held virtual as well.

- Call special meeting to order and determination of quorum: President Patrick Utz called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Present: Chet Williams, Mary Poulter, Mardell Tomlonovic, Jan Myers, Dawn Gibson. Absent: Doug Van Administrators present: Superintendent Anderson.
- 2. Poulter moved, Williams seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 6-0.
- 3. Discussion Items:
  - 3.1. 2020-2021 Return to Learn Program

Superintendent Anderson provided charts and data on the fourteen-day positivity rate in Jasper County. The rate increased to over 20% as of November 5, and the district moved to Virtual Distance Learning on November 6 for a one week period. As anticipated, the Board convened to consider extension of Virtual Distance Learning, and to consider other models that will balance the delivery of education, protect persons from exposure, and mitigate the spread of the virus.

Superintendent Anderson and the team of Principal Jones, Principal Summy, Special Education Director Ross, Curriculum Director Russell, and Behavior Interventionist Surprenant researched and developed models. Three models most relative to this district's learning plan and mitigation strategies were: 1.) continuation of PK-12 Distance/Virtual Learning, 2.) PK-12 Orange/Blue Hybrid, and 3.) PK-6 on site every day/7-12 Hybrid. Multiple sources were used, including recent summer legislation (SF2338); IDPH and DE guidance; varied guidance from AAP, CDC, DE, IDPH, and Governor Reynold's recent proclamation. In addition, teacher survey results, by building, were shared.

Key components of the educational delivery plan should consider educational value, physical/social-emotional safety and well-being of students and staff; and community impact, such as need for daycare. Extensive discussion revolved around all of these components, including the suspension of extra-curricular activities and sports if the Virtual Distance Learning plan is continued.

In addition, the implementation of daycare for most needy families for grades K-6, and grab-n-go meals during this first week of Virtual Distance Learning will continue. The parents have responded appreciatively to these extended services.

Jan Myers was called to work and left the meeting at 7:13 pm.

- 4. Action Items:
  - 4.1. Consider Modifications to 2020-2021 Return to Learn Program

Poulter moved, Tomlonovic seconded to approve the recommendation to continue the Virtual Distance Learning model through November 19, to finish the two-week commitment. Then, November 20, the district will implement the PK-6 on site every day/7-12 Hybrid model, to be in place until December 31. Extra-curricular activities and sports may resume at this time. This plan will remain in place unless: staff absences increase to the margin that educational learning will convert back to Virtual Distance Learning and mitigation efforts will increase; or the positivity rate consistently charts below 15 % in Jasper County and students can return to on-site learning. Motion carried 5-0.

5. Adjournment: Williams moved to adjourn. Motion carried 5-0. 7:25 pm.

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Patrick Utz, Board of Directors President

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ATTEST

**APPROVAL** 

Debra A. Hodgson, Board of Directors Secretary