



Approved Minutes
Orange Board of Education
July 20, 2020
OBOE Conference Room - 2nd Floor
7:00 PM

Attendance

Present: Chairman Kraut, Mr. Cap, Ms. Riccio, Mr. Ziman, Mrs. Browe, Mr. Flynn, Mrs. Welander, Mr. Young, Mrs. Hadlock, Mr. Vitelli

Also present: Dr. Scarpetti, Dr. Russo, Ms. Koch, Mrs. Edo, Matt Ullring, Mike Gray

Call to Order

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman Kraut at 7:13 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited and the Mission Statement was read by Mrs. Browe

Public Participation

There was no public participation.

Correspondence

A note of thanks from the Flynn Family was shared with the Board.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Mrs. Hadlock and seconded by Ms. Riccio to approve the minutes from the June 15, 2020 BOE meeting. Unanimously approved.

Presentation

Dr. Scarpetti began the Reopening Schools Preliminary Development Plan Presentation by thanking those in attendance and at home. He expressed his deep appreciation for what they have endured over the past months while facing the COVID19 Pandemic. Dr. Scarpetti referenced the Adapt, Advance, Achieve Plan release by the Connecticut State Department of Education on reopening schools and outlined the district's priorities set forth guided by the health and safety of the students and staff. He spoke about the reopening committee, the ways in which the BOE has collaborated with the community to date, establishing a school liaison, forming a communication plan and the data collections that have been done and the responses from the district survey were also presented. Mr. Gray, Director of Business & Operations, reviewed the key mitigation strategies established for the keeping students and staff safe in our school

buildings. Mr. Gray outlined, in detail, the Operations Plan for facilities, daily operations which includes transportation as well as health practices and protocols. Dr. Scarpetti then reviewed health practices and protocols including immunizations and health assessments, reporting illness, addressing vulnerable populations, social distancing and face coverings. Dr. Scarpetti explained the containment plan for school based individuals confirmed diagnoses of COVID19. He went on to share the low to high indicators that will assist with decision making when it comes to cancellation of classes to remote learning. The presentation was turned over to Matt Ullring, Director of Technology, who spoke about the technology services provided during the months June and July and what is planned for August and September. Dr. Russo stepped up and spoke about instruction. She explained the following Phases: Phase 1- All students returning to schools with mitigating strategies in place and the priorities for students in the fall. She reviewed the importance of preparing and providing resources for remote learning for our students and teachers if need be. Phase 2: Hybrid Plan would look like as well as Phase 3: Full Remote Planning for All. Dr. Russo reviewed some of the resources provided by the state during her presentation. Mary Edo, Director of Special Education, came to the podium to reiterated that the guidance policies related to reopening plans apply to all students, including those with special needs who qualify for individual education plans under IDEA, english language programs and Section 504. Mrs. Edo stated that once plans are established, individual needs will be discussed and planned appropriately. She also spoke about the social-emotional and mental health strategies to help identify and engage populations and specific students that have been disengaged. Mrs. Edo concluded the presentation outlining family support available to our school community and to expect ongoing communication during and prior to reopening.

***Superintendent's
Report***

Since the reopening of schools has been the entire focus for the BOE, Dr. Scarpetti did not have much to share for his individual report but took a moment to remind families how much he understands the desire for answers to questions they may have and the district will to it's very best to provide timely communication to our school community as the school year approaches.

***Business
Administrator
Report***

Ms. Koch reported that the Finance Committee met prior to the BOE meeting today and reviewed June financials and there was nothing out of the ordinary with expenditures to report. She outlined some budget underspends that were offset by some budget overspends. Ms. Koch reported that they are currently bridging to two financial systems at the moment over the year end. Accounts payable and the general ledger package has transitioned over to the Munis System and all is going well. Ms. Koch explained that the district applied for ESSER funds to help

offset the additional costs related to the COVID19 pandemic. At this time, Dr. Scarpetti gave a personnel update which included the hiring of a Special Education Teacher at PPS and a First Grade teacher at RBS. He thanked the committees who assisted with these hirers.

BOARD
BUSINESS

1. Second Read - Policy 5131 Student Conduct: A motion was made by Mr. Ziman, seconded by Mrs. Hadlock to adopt Policy 5131 Student Conduct. Unanimously approved.

2. First Read - Policy 5141.8 Face Masks/Coverings: Chairman Kraut explained that this policy will be discussed at the August meeting for a second read and action will be taken.

3. District Ventilation Systems: A motion was made by Mr. Ziman, seconded by Mrs. Browe to accept the quote submitted by “vendor c” presented to the Board for cleaning the ventilation systems in the district in the amount not to exceed \$50,740.

4. Connecticut State Board of Education Resolution Required 2020-2021 School Days: A motion was made by Mr. Kraut to reduce the number of days on the 2020-2021 student calendar from 181 days to 178 days, seconded by Ms. Riccio. Unanimously approved.

5. Superintendent’s Evaluation: Discussion will take place in the Executive Session.

STANDING
COMMITTEES

***Finance &
Operations***
Ms. Riccio

Ms. Riccio stated that the committee met before this meeting and all the financials were in good standing and the year is closing out appropriately. Cafeteria costs end up more behind than anticipated due to the additional weeks of service provided and paying them throughout the school. She concluded her report with an update on 21 Century.

***Personnel/Policy
Transportation***
Mrs. Browe

Mrs. Browe stated the Personnel/Policy and Transportation met on July 16th to review the mask and face cover policy presented as a first read tonight. She provided background on this policy and some of the highlights on this important and timely policy. She expressed her thanks to those involved expediting this policy for the district.

***Building &
Grounds / Safety
& Security***

Mr. Flynn

Mr. Flynn stated that he would like the committee to meet early next week and also expressed how excited they are to be working with Mr. Gray going forward.

***Curriculum /
Instruction /
Technology***

Mr. Ziman

Mr. Ziman encouraged parents to help their children to begin the process of “adapting” new behaviors or habits before the start of school such as wearing a face cover and social distancing. He also reported that the Curriculum Committee plans to meet this Thursday, July 23rd at 4:30 PM.

ACES

Mrs. Ricco shared that ACES didn’t meet in July but will have a Special Meeting the beginning of August so more to come.

Adjourn

Mr. Flynn made a motion to adjourn at the regular meeting at 8:58 PM, inviting Dr. Scarpetti to join the executive session. Mrs. Browe seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Shaw

Mary Shaw

