



LA CENTER SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NO. 101 BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
BOARD MEETING

**BOARD WORKSHOP AND  
LINKAGE MINUTES**

**Tuesday, October 13 2020  
7:00 PM**

**\*\*\*VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE\*\*\***

Board Members Present: Todd Jones, Eric Lindberg, Win Muffett, Cris Yaw, Wendy Chord

Board Members Absent:

Superintendent: Dave Holmes

Administrators: Peter Rosenkranz, Carol Patton, Kurt Gray, Greg Hall, Nancy Carner

Staff and Guests: Bill Hrdina, Jill Cole, Anan Halme, Dean Tapani, Robert Whitham, Katrina Peterson, Trevor Elliott, Andrew Helm, Alyson Hass, Simone Auger, Ruthie Muonio, Stacy, Kevin, Brian, Josh Soske

Minutes taken by: Tammy Lichliter

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Jones called the meeting to order with the flag salute at 7:00 p.m.

**ITEMS NEEDING BOARD DISCUSSION**

1. Discuss modification to reopening plan and transition to in-person learning. What are other school districts around the state or country doing that can be used in our district?

The reopening plan has been solidified. Safety precautions (PPE, sanitation procedures, attestation app) have been taken and the district is prepared for students to return. The district is waiting for the green light from Clark County Health. The district will be in contact with the department of health to discuss whether the numbers for the community and not the county can be used to determine whether students can return. The 98629 zip code has had only 25 confirmed Covid cases.

If given the approval to move ahead with the community infection rate and not the county rate, then the district would slowly return students to the classroom using the A/B hybrid schedule.

The kindergarten team visited Evergreen School District to view their model of bringing in 5 students at a time for in-person learning and still retaining an online presence with the remainder

of the class. This model fits under the current guidance from the department of health. Mr. Holmes will meet with the kindergarten team to discuss the steps for implementing this model as soon as possible. If this works well, other grade levels will follow.

## 2. Budget update

The end of the 19/20 year had a higher ending fund balance based on board directive and forward thinking from the district. The district did not fill 2 administrator positions and 5 teaching positions over the summer and there was a reduction of hours for classified staff beginning this school year.

As of October 1, the district is down 92 FTE and 112 students from the end of last school year which represents a loss of \$1 million in revenue to the district. If nothing changes, the district will be short \$138,000 from this year's budget. The district is in pretty good shape. The Home School Academy has done a fabulous job of recruiting some of the FTE losses from the schools. Without the Home School Academy, the district would be down nearly 200 students.

The board asked if there has been any conversation at the state level regarding state funding. The state has not discussed funding yet, but they could cut non-"basic ed" programs. Four percent of the budget is defined as non-basic ed.

This year there will be an increase in employee unemployment insurance due to the furloughs and cuts in Clark County ESD group. Transportation funding will also be impacted because it is calculated based on student ridership which is not occurring right now.

## 3. Information for board on staff hour cuts or furloughs this school year.

The district had to cut hours from approximately 60 classified staff. Most from 6.14 hours per day down to 4 hours per day. This represents an approximate saving of \$50,000 to the district per month. The district wanted to be sure to provide staff the 4 hours per day so that their benefits would stay in place. This was an important factor that would have impacted many staff negatively if their benefits were cut.

Certified staff were not cut, but two administrator and five teaching positions were not filled over the summer. One teaching position was filled this month due to the additional enrollments in the Home School Academy.

## 4. Community questions or comments for the board

How many high school students are failing at least one class and how does that compare with a regular school year?

The board directed the question toward Carol Patton and Kurt Gray to answer. There is a pretty high rate of students failing at least one class. Approximately one third of high school

students have 1 or more F's. The comparison was made that in a normal year, when an F report is run there are about 8 pages of students with F's. The last report had 16 pages. The consensus from principals across the state is that it is a very common issue.

Ms. Patton stated that students are not engaging in their learning. They need to turn on their cameras during zoom meets so that teachers can help them engage. Parents are frustrated with distance learning as well. Teachers have been keeping zoom meetings open to try to help struggling students. The library is open from 11-7 Monday through Thursday to help 5 kids at a time if they need help. Parents are encouraged to let the schools know what their issues are so that they can try to help.

The next question was regarding bringing students back in a hybrid model and what that will look like. There was also a question if parents had been asked whether they would like to send their kids to school for in-person learning.

The elementary school has been in contact with almost all families regarding in-person learning. Most parents want to return to in-person learning while a few would like to continue distance learning when students return. The hybrid model consists of students attending 2 full days per week and every other Wednesday. The schedule would be Monday/Thursday for A-K students and Tuesday/Friday for L-Z students. Elementary students would begin the process of the hybrid model as contact tracing would be much easier for those students as they only are in contact with their class for the day. Grades 6-12 students have 6 different classrooms in a day, so their contact tracing would be more complicated.

To be able to start with the small groups, kids would attend in groups of 5 for the day. The schedule would be rotated. Not all of the specifics have been worked out yet regarding small groups at this time.

Middle and high school hybrid schedules would be the same as the elementary school. Students with last names A-K would attend Monday and Thursday. Students with last names L-Z would attend Tuesday and Friday and both would alternate every other Wednesday.

How many hours of contact time are required by the district?

The district is required to have 1080 hours of contact time for students during a school year. In terms of distance learning, this does not mean a full 6 hours of screen time each day. Student work time and zoom time represents contact time. The district has turned in a schedule to OSPI.

Has the district addressed the lack of security on Chromebooks and informed parents about the security?

The district has changed the restrictions on Chromebooks which include locking down YouTube to only view teacher-approved sites. Social media sites like Facebook and Instagram have been disabled. Media streaming for sites like Netflix and Hulu has been disabled. Go

Guardian will be offered to parents so that they can monitor what sites students are on. Parents will be informed when this is available.

Mr. Jones commented that parents have the ultimate responsibility for their children's education. He thanked everyone for their questions and added that if anyone has additional questions or comments for the board to please call or email them. Their contact information is on the district website.

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

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Board Secretary

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Board Chair

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Board Member

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Board Member

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