

Reopening Task Force Committee Notes

June 16, 2020: 10:00am – 11:00am

Attendees: Rick Harris, Paul LaMarca, Roy Anderson, Natha Anderson, Tom Stauss, Jason Trevino, Mari Hartmann, Lianka Soliz, Veronica Thompson, Jeff Brasel, Scott Lee, Mark Mathers, Pete Etchart, Leslie Allfree, Samantha Fredrickson, David Hartshorn, Matthew Ochs, Ruby Burnley, Denise Paxton, Katherine Loudon, Laura Hutchinson, Jim Verdi, Prim Walters, Lana Ball, Dina Ciaramella, Adam Searcy, Rick Martin, Christopher Pilat, Joseph Maez, Maureen Wander, Adam Shoda, Laura Inuma, Kindra Fox, Serena Robb, Sara Montalvo, Trish Shaffer, Troy Parks, Tracy Moore, Tiffany Young, Kiemmy Boc, Irene Payne, Tami Goulden-Bosco, Susan Kettler, Ray Hirschman, David White, Sharon Kennedy, Laurel Kerr, Virginia Doran, Jeff Foss, Sara Montalvo, Kellie Carney, and Vickie Campbell.

Notetaker: Jen Caldwell

Welcome and Agenda Review:

Rick Harris began the meeting by notifying the committee that an additional agenda item has been added, "Survey Update" with Ben Hayes.

CCSD Reopening Plans Document:

Rick Harris asked if everyone had received and had time to review the Clark County School District Phased Reopening Plan document that was emailed out on Monday 6/15. Only one comment was made regarding the document, from Tiffany Young – she stated that she liked how it is an "all-in-one" document broken down into phases. She was also impressed by how much information was available in multiple languages. No other comments were provided.

Board Level Action Items:

Rick Harris shared and went over the Learning Models document, specifically the high and medium priority items. He expressed the importance of using the language "average," when referring to a number or range of numbers. (I.e.: an average of 20 students per class)

The group was given a few minutes to look over the document and ask any questions. Joe Maez asked if we would be facing teacher shortages if we do a 20 student per class model. Rick Harris stated that we do not have the answer to that question yet. Tiffany Young asked if we have substitute teachers in place or the capacity for them if those numbers have been

accounted for as well, with either the Brick & Mortar model or online. Rick replied that the district already struggles with having a sufficient amount of substitute teachers and referred to Emily Ellison. Emily stated that HR has not diverted any attention to substitutes yet but will execute that plan once more information is available. She added that there is a queue of interested candidates for substitute teaching in place.

Discussion took place around online options for students and families. Natha Anderson asked about NorthStar, Rick Harris stated that NorthStar used to have a cap on the amount of students that could be enrolled; however, that number could change. Sharon Kennedy asked about the application process and eligibility requirements and Rick stated that both Jeana Curtis and Katy Hadley (Area Superintendent and Principal for NorthStar) are working on all the dynamics.

Jim Verdi spoke in favor of keeping the students who choose online learning in their zoned schools/building in case they do decide to return to the Brick & Mortar model later.

Dr. Max Coopes suggested to the committee to keep their two major objectives at the forefront of messaging: safety and education. He stated that just as primary care has been reinvented and processes changed due to COVID, the school district has the choice to do things as they always have, or the opportunity for change.

The different online platforms were brought up (Microsoft Teams and Zoom) – Denise Paxton stated that it will be very important for the district to keep our students on the roster, even if that is via distance learning options. Maureen Wander asked if the district is looking into MS Teams, as Zoom accounts will eventually increase in cost. Denise stated that they are already using MS Teams and will share more information at the meeting on June 19. Dina Ciaramella added that MS Teams is currently working to improve their platform. In the near future, you will be able to view 49 faces on a MS Teams meeting on one screen!

Additional group conversation took place concerning staffing, use of substitute teacher, student interns etc. Virginia Doran, Denise Paxton and Serena Robb took part in this conversation, all offering ideas and suggestions. Tom Stauss asked if individual schools would be putting in plans or if there would be a district-wide approach. Rick Harris answered that all schools will look different and have different needs and that we will need to be flexible and creative when developing plans. Trish Shaffer revisited an idea that was shared earlier in the school year where central staff would volunteer their time in classrooms. She stated that she has a plan already and will share it with Rick Harris and Paul LaMarca.

Natha Anderson brought up concerns around teachers being required to do additional cleaning. Adam Searcy stated that their approach right now is just to make sure that the adequate type and amount of cleaning supplies are available. Tiffany Young wanted to make sure that “all staff” are included in messaging language, not only “teachers.” Dr. David White made comment about collaborative efforts being needed, stated that with the proper training all staff can efficiently assist with additional cleaning needs.

Report out by subcommittees:

Jim Verdi spoke on behalf of the **Screening subcommittee**. He stated that they have not met again since the Friday 6/12 meeting. Leslie Allfree confirmed that there are no additional updates at this time.

Laura Hutchinson spoke on behalf of the **Vulnerable Populations subcommittee**. She stated that their group is still working on their document and plan to have it updated and ready to share with the large group by June 26.

Roy Anderson update the committee in regards to **PPE**. He stated that orders are starting to arrive, which is causing space issues but they are working with the Warehouse and will get everything figured out. They recently received 26 pallets of equipment!

Prim Walters spoke on behalf of the Models Pros/Cons subcommittee. She stated that in trying to establish an efficient model with 20-student class sizes, they are starting to look into plexi glass options and asked the group for thoughts around that. Adam Searcy stated that currently on the list of possible supplies are: thermometers, face coverings, sanitizer, paper towels, in-class surface disinfectant, and equipment needed for the improvement of indoor air quality. Plexi glass is not on the current list being considered. It is a very expensive option as well. It may be cheaper than exchanging tables for individual desks but plexi glass really isn't an option they are exploring at this time.

Leslie Allfree stated that instead of plexi glass, that face shield may be a better option. Benefits of face shields (not coverings) were discussed: prevents spread of droplets, can be worn by the hearing impaired, 6-foot distancing would not be required, easy to wipe down, etc. Both Dr. White and Prim Walters took part in this discussion. Dr. Coppes suggested to the group that we don't make so many options available – that the district needs to set a standard (make a solid decision) and stick with it when it comes to PPE.

Emily Ellison notified the committee that the **Contract Considerations subcommittee** does not have any updates at this time.

Tom Stauss asked when the tentative Reopening survey results would be available. Rick Harris stated that the group should receive the tentative results today via email, and reminded everyone that the results are confidential and not to be shared outside of the group.

Lianka Soliz from Nutrition Services offered to pilot a group of her staff for the self-screening procedures so that the group could have real-time feedback on the process prior to trying it this Fall with a larger number of staff.

Maureen Wander asked if face shields offer a higher level of safety than the N95 masks – and if so, if teachers could use the face shields rather than the masks. She suggested that they might provide more peace of mind for teachers that the district is doing everything possible to make

them feel as protected as possible. Dr. Coppes stated that he would research/compare the two further and report back to the group at our next meeting.

The next Reopening Meeting will be on **Friday, June 19, 2020 at 10:00am**. If you have items for the agenda, please send them to Rick Harris or Paul LaMarca. Thank you.