

Reopening Task Force Committee Notes

September 15, 2020: 10:00am – 10:30am

Attendees: Rick Harris, Paul LaMarca, Adam Searcy, Ann Silver, Denise Paxton, Joe Maez, Mathew Ochs, Tom Stauss, David Hartshorn, Megan Downs, Denise Dufrene, Natha Anderson, Leslie Allfree, Prim Walters, Irene Payne, David White, Virginia Doran, Mark Mathers, Jeana Miller, Rick Martin, Emily Ellison, Jennifer Hodges, Katherine Loudon, Jim Verdi, Tiffany Young, Laurel Iiunma, Adam Shoda, Jason Trevino, Veronica Thompson, Melissa Gillis, Laura Hutchinson, Scott Lee, Tami Goulden, Kindra Fox, Tracy Moore, Chris Turner, Ruby Burnley, Sara Healy and Roy Anderson

Notetaker: Jen Caldwell

Welcome and Agenda Review:

There were no suggested changes to the agenda.

TMRPA Risk Meter & other data sources:

Paul LaMarca discussed the data triggers that would result in a 100% shift to full distance learning. He spoke about Mayor Shieve's COVID task force and its collaboration with a subcommittee that has been working on a threat/risk meter which will be displayed to the community and the importance of WCSD being aligned with these and other community organizations. Paul then shared the 5 separate indicators that are used in determining a point/score used to determine risk. The indicators are: risk assessments, test positivity rate, new daily cases, medical interventions due to COVID and hospital capacity. Each is scored on a point scale.

Paul stated that the threat/risk meter is a standing agenda item on future WCSD board meetings, in the event that we move to very high or severe numbers/cases for multiple consecutive days and need to move to full distance learning.

Current time data information update:

Paul LaMarca and Megan Downs shared a draft version of a COVID data dashboard that will be displayed on the WCSD website. The information will include Washoe County community-wide measures, broken down into school-age children data, and WCSD-specific information. The information will be updated a few times weekly. Paul suggested that we provide additional family-friendly information, such as reasoning behind why we are doing what we are doing, etc.

Dr. David White suggested that we also include more detailed information – for example, if we mention “high risk” groups to specify where (regions/schools) and who (elderly/adults/UNR students) is included in that category. He also recommended that when we report on school-age children ages 5-10 years, adding the total number of students this represents in WCSD.

Joe Maez asked if specific students/schools would be added to the threat metric or would it be a community as a whole? Paul stated that specific outbreak status determinations still need to be made, but there could be a variety of issues that would lead to smaller (individual school) shutdowns vs. entire district closures.

Tom Stauss asked if we would be providing a more comprehensive report, such as the one being used in Corpus Christi, TX, which he emailed to the group for review. He thought that a report such as that one would help with transparency issues with staff.

Paul LaMarca agreed that it would be helpful to include notes with our data to help with interpretation.

Other Issues:

Denise Paxton asked for clarification on a rumor she had heard about bus drivers losing pay with all of the distance learning days/school cancellations. Rick Martin confirmed that bus drivers are still being paid, even when schools move to full distance learning days.

Denise Paxton, Denise Dufrene and Prim Walters shared positive experiences with how things are running so far this year, and how hard teachers are working to make the best of every situation.

Joe Maez asked about exclusions – he wanted to know that if a student is excluded, if their sibling would automatically be excluded as well. The answer is no, unless they develop symptoms.

The next Reopening Meeting will be on **Tuesday, September 29, 2020 at 4:00pm**. If you have items for the agenda, please send them to Rick Harris or Paul LaMarca. We want these meetings to be a good use of everyone’s time, so your thoughts/ideas are strongly encouraged! Thank you.