

BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

March 30, 2021

Live Virtual Online Meeting using ZOOM Audio/Video Conference Software

**** Due to the COVID-19 Crisis, this meeting was live-streamed over the internet using ZOOM video/audio conferencing software in order to adhere with social distancing measures put in place by Governor Baker. This meeting was open to the public for live chat during Public Comment.**

1. Call to Order

At 7:01 pm, Mr. Brosgol called to order the meeting of the Bedford School Committee. Other members present included Ms. Guay, Mr. Morrison, Ms. Santiago, Ms. Scoville and student representative Ryan Doucette.

2. Comments from Public

Public comment is available through the webinar feature of Zoom™.

Participants are instructed to use the "raise hand" function in the software and add their name using the "chat" function. Mr. Conrad will invite the panelist into the webinar and each person is allowed three minutes to comment.

No public comments

3. School HVAC Update

Mr. Taissir Alani presented the school committee with and HVAC update on all schools starting with Davis. Mr. Alani said that the entire school had recently gone through testing not just classrooms. Mr. Alani stated that MERV 13 filters allow for a little less air flow but they are much better to help fight the virus than the older filters that were being used. The filters are meeting or are just below design value. At Lane numbers are good after cleaning that just took place. Mr. Alani said he is happy with the numbers from the report. JGMS/BHS report was received late and he will need to go through it before presenting the finds to the committee. Halo filtration units are installed in all science labs.

4. Five Day a Week Re-Opening School Plans

Principals from all schools presented re-opening plans to the school committee for the five day in-person transition that will take place as early as 4-5-2021.

- **Davis**

- **Davis is ready for students to return to five-day in person learning. Some changes to scheduling was necessary but we are ready and excited to have students in person for a full week.**

- **Lane**

- **Lane is ready to go. Not much switching was necessary to accommodate for five-day in person learning.**

- Six new classrooms- minor bumps but going very well. All positive feedback. Some students had a hard time first few days but all is going well now.
- Teachers are sacrificing prep time but everything is being done to align with teachers' contract.
- Traffic has increased. Bus ridership did pick up after plea went out to families that were willing and able to put students on the bus. Encouraging families to car pool to lessen traffic.
- JGMS
 - Counselors are critical piece to welcoming students back
 - Traffic issues
 - No lockers will be used
 - No bells to control movement of students
 - Students will be outside as much as possible (weather permitting)
- BHS
 - April 26, 2021 will be welcoming students back for five day in-person learning
 - 182 students will remain fully remote
 - Three lunch periods- eating in tents, LGI, two cafes will be utilized.
 - Mental health a concern for those students that haven't been in school in a year. Counselors will be on hand
 - Will conduct tours on April 7th and during vacation for students that need it.

5. District Calendar 2021-2022

Mr. Conrad presented the committee with two district calendar choices for the 2021-2022 school year. One would have students returning to school before Labor Day and the other would have them return after Labor Day. The committee decided to select the calendar that would have school begin before Labor Day to avoid conflict with a religious holiday. Also the committee asked that the Juneteenth Day be corrected to reflect Juneteenth and that calendar also reflect either Columbus Day or Indigenous Peoples Day based on the upcoming vote at the Town Meeting on that matter. Other minor changes need to be made to correct date in May.

Ms. Santiago made the following motion:

MOVED: Motion to approve the Bedford Public School District calendar with Indigenous People's Day listed, which is subject to be changed based on Town vote on May 15, 2021

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Scoville

MOTION APPROVED 3-1-1

Ms. Santiago	Yes
Ms. Guay	Abstain
Ms. Scoville	Yes
Mr. Brosgol	No
Mr. Morrison	Yes

6. District Criminal Offender Report Inquiry (CORI) Policy-First Read

Mr. Conrad presented the Criminal Offender Report Inquiry (CORI) Policy to the school committee. The current policy needed to be updated as it is out dated. This new policy is now in compliance

with the School Committee Association Policy ABDA with the assistance of our HR Department and legal counsel. Mr. Conrad went over what/why a CORI is necessary for volunteers and new staff. No information obtain for a CORI is used for any other purpose of retained for any purpose. CORI checks only apply to Massachusetts and no other states.

7. Superintendent Report

Mr. Conrad started off his presentation to the school committee recognizing the passing of former teacher John Fichera who taught at Lane from 1973 until his retirement in 2009. Mr. Conrad also acknowledged the tragic news that affected the Pattelena family over the weekend. And noted that counselors are working to support the students, friends and family member that were affected by tragic events that took place. Mr. Conrad provided some follow-up information about the number of teachers that started out the year remote and how many will remain remote after this next transition takes place. 37 teachers started out the school year in remote. Now the number is at 19. Concerns about the rise in COVID numbers. Mr. Conrad and nursing staff are working on letter to encourage families to participate in the pool testing program. The program currently only has 25% participation and the number needs to be closer to 75%. Town testing is still on-going. Pool testing will continue until the end of June and the state will cover all cost. PD day tomorrow at JGMS, Lane and BHS. JGMS /BHS will have one more PD day on April 7th. As of April 7th, 2021 all PD days will be used. We had 10 to use and all 10 have been used. All students will have completed 170 school days this year barring any further weather or other necessary closures.

8. Adjournment

Mr. Morrison made the following motion:

MOVED: Motion to adjourn at 9:05 p.m., not to reopen.

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Scoville

MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0

Ms. Santiago	Yes
Ms. Guay	Yes
Ms. Scoville	Yes
Mr. Brosgol	Yes
Mr. Morrison	Yes

Exhibits/Documents

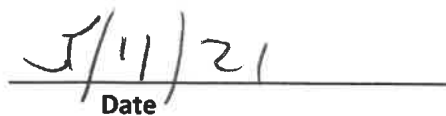
2021-2022 District calendar

HVAC Update

District CORI Policy



School Committee Secretary



Date

