

MEETING WITH HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS FOCUS GROUP

A POTENTIAL PLAN FOR RE-ENTRY IN SEPTEMBER

BY JULY 31ST WE NEED A PLAN PUT IN PLACE WITH THREE OPTION:

1. REMOTE
2. HYBRID COMBO
3. FACE TO FACE LEARNING

PRELIMINARY CALCULATIONS HAS INDICATED THAT ONLY A THREE FOOT DISTANCE MODEL WITHIN BUILDING IS FEASIBLE. STUDENTS AND STAFF SAFETY COME FIRST.

THE POWERPOINT WAS REVIEWED WITH REGARD TO STATE GUIDANCE.

GOAL: SAFELY BRING STUDENTS BACK AS SAFELY AS POSSIBLE. WE NEED TO PUT TOGETHER A COUPLE OF DIFFERENT PLANS. ALTHOUGH WE MAY NOT GO WITH ONE OR ALL WE NEED TO SUBMIT.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS/CONCERNS ON FACE TO FACE MODEL:

QUESTION: WHEN YOU CREATE A PLAN WILL YOU WRITE IN THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO HAVE 3 FT OR WILL YOU SAY THAT IT ISN'T POSSIBLE?

ANSWER: ALTHOUGH WE HAVE TO SUBMIT PLAN FOR IN-PERSON WE ALSO HAVE TO SUBMIT HEALTH AND SAFETY CERTIFICATION WITH THAT PLAN WHICH WOULD ALERT THE STATE OF THAT - THAT PLAN IS NOT DOABLE. A 3 FOOT DISTANCE DOESN'T MEET SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.

QUESTION: IF STUDENTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO WEAR A MASK WHAT HAPPENS WHEN STUDENTS REFUSE TO WEAR MASKS? WHAT RIGHTS DO TEACHERS HAVE AND HOW DO WE DEAL WITH STUDENTS WHO DECIDE AGAINST MASK?

ANSWER: WE WILL HAVE TO TAKE EVERY SITUATION ON A CASE TO CASE BASIS.....WE WOULD PROCEED LIKE WE WOULD IN ANY DISCIPLINARY ROUTE. NOTIFY PARENTS ETC. AGAIN, CASE BY CASE.

COMMENT: WHEN IT COMES TO LOOK AT ALTERNATIVE SPACES THE FOOTBALL FIELDS IS A GOOD OPTION.

ANSWER: WE DO HAVE OTHER ALTERNATIVES TO USE. OUTSIDE WILL POSE A CHALLENGE AND THE LENGTH OF TIME WE WILL NEED THESE OPTIONS IS UNKNOWN. COLDER WEATHER WILL BE PROBLEMATIC. WE WOULD LIKE TO KEEP KIDS IN SECURE SCHOOL SETTING FOR SECURITY REASONS AS WELL. EVERYTHING IS ON TABLE AS OF NOW. WE ARE WORKING WITH CITY HALL AS WELL. HEALTH AND SAFETY FOR STAFF AND STUDENTS IS THE NUMBER ONE PRIORITY.

QUESTION: WILL IT BE POSSIBLE TO DO A PHASED OPENING?

ANSWER: REMOTE AND HYBRID APPROACH WILL BE NEEDED FOR SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS, EL STUDENTS ETC. WE WILL PRIORITIZE HIGH NEED STUDENTS AND POTENTIALLY DOING REMOTE FOR EVERYONE ELSE. VACCINES AND OTHER FACTORS THAT COME IN TO PLAY WE WILL ADDRESS AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE. THERE WILL BE NO SURPRISES. IF WE HAVE TO DO PHASES WE WILL LOOK INTO IT.

QUESTION: IN REGARDS TO TRAVELING STAFF; WILL THEY STILL BE REQUIRED TO DO SO?

ANSWER: WE ARE GOING TO DO OUR BEST TO ELIMINATE TRAVELING STAFF. PRIORITY IS SAFETY. WE ARE TAKING A SERIOUS LOOK AT IT.

QUESTION: ACCOMMODATIONS FOR TEACHERS IN HIGH RISK CATEGORIES? WILL THERE BE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR THEM?

ANSWER: HIGH RISK STAFF MEMBERS WOULD BE MOST LIKELY ASKED TO PARTICIPATE IN A REMOTE GROUP. ASSUMING WE HAVE A HYBRID PLAN TEACHERS WHO COULD COME IN WE WOULD ASK THAT HIGH RISK STUDENTS AND TEACHERS WILL REMAIN REMOTE. THOSE TEACHERS WOULD BE ASSIGNED TO REMOTE DUTIES.

QUESTION: WHAT ABOUT SPOUSES IN HIGH RISK GROUPS?

ANSWER: AGAIN THIS WOULD BE A CASE BY CASE CONSIDERATION BUT WE WOULD CERTAINLY LOOK AT THAT. THERE WILL MOST LIKELY BE A HIGH NUMBER OF REMOTE.

QUESTION: IF SOMEONE TESTS POSITIVE HOW WOULD EVERYONE BE NOTIFIED?

ANSWER: IF A STAFF MEMBER BECOMES POSITIVE THERE IS A 14 DAY QUARANTINE FOR THAT PERSON AND CLASS. THERE WAS AN OVERVIEW OF CLOSE CONTACT PROVIDED WHICH INCLUDED WOULD BE LESS THAN SIX FOOT DISTANCE WITHOUT A MASK FOR MORE THAN 15 MINUTES. 10 DAY QUARANTINE AND LAST THREE DAYS WOULD NEED TO BE SYMPTOM FREE. AGAIN IT DEPENDS HOW CLOSE CONTACT WAS. IF SOMEONE TESTS POSITIVE WE WILL NOTIFY THE ENTIRE BUILDING TO MAKE SURE THAT EVERYONE IS AWARE. WE WOULD NOT IDENTIFY DUE TO HIPPA BUT SPEAK TO YOU ABOUT WHO YOU HAD CONTACT WITH.

QUESTION: SAFETY PRECAUTIONS...ABOUT PLEXIGLASS AROUND TEACHER'S DESKS?

ANSWER: WE BROUGHT THAT TO COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS, COMM OF PUBLIC HEALTH WE ARE IN TALKS WITH THEM REGARDING PLEXIGLASS AND OTHER THINGS THAT MAY BE NEEDED OR NECESSARY FOR IN PERSON LEARNING. IF IT IS RECOMMENDED, WE WOULD DO REMOTE DUE TO AMOUNT THAT WOULD BE NEEDED.

QUESTION: TESTING FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION...WHAT PRECAUTIONS WILL BE TAKEN TO PROTECT STAFF & STUDENTS?

ANSWER: WE WOULD DEFINITELY HAVE PEOPLE TESTING SIX FEET APART, WITH A SHIELD AND WOULD TAKE ALL SAFETY PRECAUTIONS TO MAINTAIN SAFE ENVIRONMENT.

QUESTION: WILL THEY NEED TO USE SICK OR PERSONAL TIME IF EXPOSED TO COVID IN BUILDING? IN ADDITION IF ITS IS OUTSIDE OF BUILDING WHAT LEAVE WOULD BE REQUIRED?

ANSWER: FEDERAL COVID FMLA AMENDMENT PROVIDES FOR ANY LEAVE AND WOULD NOT COUNT AGAINST YOUR SICK TIME. IT WOULD BE A PAID LEAVE BECAUSE IT'S RELATED TO COVID 19.

COMMENT: BECAUSE THERE ISN'T SCREENING AND TEMPS AND WOULD BE UP TO TEACHERS THAT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT TO BE IN CHARGE OF MONITORING THAT.

ANSWER: IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT WE NOT TAKE TEMPERATURE CHECKS DUE TO LIABILITY...WE AGREE THIS WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT AND WE WOULD WORK CLOSELY. EVEN IF WE DID ATTEMPT TO CHECK TEMPERATURES, TYLENOL COULD MASK SYMPTOMS.. THERE COULD BE LOTS OF FACTORS. WE WILL BE REACHING OUT TO PARENTS .. THEY KNOW THEIR CHILDREN BETTER THAN ANYBODY AND THEY COULD CALL SCHOOL NURSE TO DETERMINE NEXT STEPS. FOR STAFF MEMBERS; IF THERE ARE SYMPTOMS, THEY SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO NURSE AND SHE WILL HANDLE IT FROM THERE. IF A CHILD IS SENT HOME THE NURSE WILL FOLLOW UP WITH PARENT.

QUESTION: WOULD TEACHERS HAVE THE OPTION TO TEACH REMOTE? IF THEY HAD HEALTH OR CHILD CARE ISSUES?

ANSWER: YES, THAT IS A POSSIBILITY.

QUESTION: IN THE EVENT OF HYBRID MODEL WILL ALL TEACHERS BE REQUIRED TO WORK IN THE BUILDING? HOW WILL IT BE DETERMINED? WILL TEACHERS BE TEACHING REMOTELY IN THEIR CLASS OR FROM HOME?

ANSWER: EVERYTHING IS IN DISCUSSION NOW ABOUT STAFF REQUIREMENTS FOR THOSE STAFF MEMBERS NOT IN HIGH RISK CATEGORY. IT IS A WORK IN PROGRESS

QUESTION: HOW WILL TEACHERS MONITOR STUDENTS ONLINE WHILE TEACHING REMOTELY?

ANSWER: WE ARE WORKING TO HIRE A LARGER AMOUNT OF SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS THAT ARE CERTIFIED AND QUALIFIED. WE ARE LOOKING TO OFFER BENEFITS ETC.

QUESTION: IF SCHOOL IS IN SESSION WHAT WILL PROCEDURE BE FOR CENTRAL REGISTRATION AT QHS? WILL PUBLIC STILL BE ABLE TO COME IN? WHAT WILL PROCEDURE BE?

ANSWER: ONLINE FOR CENTRAL REGISTRATION HAS BEEN GOING VERY WELL AND WE ACTUALLY LIKE HOW IT HAS BEEN GOING. WE WANT TO KEEP THAT ONLINE. WE WOULD CUT DOWN ON OUTSIDE PERSONS COMING INTO THE HIGH SCHOOL.

QUESTION: IS STAFF GETTING TESTING FOR COVID BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS?

ANSWER: NO TESTING IS REQUIRED OF STAFF AT THIS TIME. TESTING IS ONLY RECOMMENDED FOR STAFF IF THEY HAVE SYMPTOMS. ONCE STAFF IS TESTED YOU CANNOT COME BACK TO WORK WITHOUT RESULTS.

QUESTION: IF REMOTE WOULD STAFF BE ABLE TO HAVE ACCESS BUILDING?

ANSWER: I WOULD SAY YES IF MAINTAINING ALL SAFETY MEASURES.

QUESTION: WILL THERE BE 24 HOUR TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS TEACHING REMOTELY?

ANSWER: YES WE WILL HAVE SUPPORT BUT 24 HOUR ACCESS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE BUT CERTAINLY THROUGHOUT WORKDAY MON-FRIDAY. OUR INTERNET SERVICE IS BEING WORKED ON CURRENTLY TO HAVE BETTER SERVICE.

QUESTION: ON THE HYBRID MODEL; WOULD ADDITIONAL PREP TIME BE PROVIDED TO PREPARE BOTH IN CLASS AND REMOTE LEARNING MATERIALS?

ANSWER: THIS WILL BE A CONSIDERATION.

QUESTION: WILL QPS BE OPEN TO PURCHASING ONLINE CURRICULUM FOR TEACHERS SINCE MANY OF US DON'T HAVE ENOUGH BOOKS TO GIVE TO EVERYONE TO TAKE HOME?

ANSWER: ABSOLUTELY, IF WE ARE REMOTE, WE NEED TO LOOK AT CURRICULUM AND HELP SUPPORT STAFF.

QUESTION: IF WE END UP IN BUILDINGS WITH A HYBRID MODEL, COULD YOU ADDRESS AND ACKNOWLEDGE THE INEVITABLE REDUCTION OF CONTENT AND RIGOR WHILE THE CURRICULUM DUE TO REDUCED TIME IN THE CLASSROOM AND STUDENTS BEING WORRIED ABOUT GETTING COVID AND NOT BEING ABLE TO FOCUS ON WORK?

ANSWER: WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE CURRENT CRISIS WILL CHALLENGE ALL OF US AND IT WON'T BE AS USUAL AND WE WILL DO BEST FOR STUDENTS. WE ARE CONCERNED FOR THE SOCIAL EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING OF STUDENTS.

QUESTION: REGARDING SANITATION; WILL TEACHERS AND STAFF BE REQUIRED TO SANITIZE DESKS AND OFFICES AFTER EACH CLASS PERIOD? LABS, ETC

ANSWER: MY HOPE IS TO HAVE CUSTODIAL STAFF DO IT. IT WILL BE CHALLENGING. THAT IS WHY WE WILL REDUCE MOVING FROM CLASS TO CLASS TO LIMIT CROSS CONTAMINATION.

QUESTION: ARE WE MODIFYING OF ATTENDANCE POLICY FOR STUDENTS?

ANSWER: YES, WE WILL HAVE TO LOOK AT THAT DUE TO QUARANTINE AND TO AVOID STUDENTS COMING TO SCHOOL SICK ETC. PART OF PLANNING PROCESS.

QUESTION: IS THERE A CHANGE PROTOCOL IN EVENT OF EVACUATION OR LOCKDOWN TO KEEP KIDS PHYSICALLY DISTANT?

ANSWER: STUDENTS WOULD STAY IN LOCATION WITH STAFF. EVACUATION WOULD BE A PROBLEM AND A CHALLENGE. WE HAVE TO MAINTAIN HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARDS. THAT WILL BE FACTORED INTO AN IN-PERSON LEARNING. WE CAN'T PUT STUDENTS OR STAFF AT RISK. A FIRE ALARM DRILL WOULD BE A GOOD EXAMPLE.

QUESTION: ARE OTHER AREA/TOWNS CONSULTING ON THEIR PLANS?

ANSWER: WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH AND ARE IN SAME BOAT AS WE ARE AND STRUGGLING TO DETERMINE BEST AND SAFEST PLAN. WE ARE IN SIMILAR SITUATIONS AS OTHER DISTRICTS.

COMMENT: WILL THE DISTRICT CONSIDER ADDED GMAIL TO CLASSROOM SUITE FROM GOOGLE?

ANSWER: WE ARE DEFINITELY LOOKING INTO IT TO MAKE SURE ALL STAFF IS PROTECTED AND WILL TAKE A LOOK AT GETTING IT MONITORED.

QUESTION: BANDWIDTH WILL THAT GET EXTENDED TO REDUCE NEED OF PAPER SHARED MATERIALS IN CLASSROOM?

ANSWER: BANDWIDTH WITHIN SCHOOL AND DISTRICT IS BEING DISCUSSED BY THE CITY AND THE POSSIBILITY THAT IT WILL BE EXPANDED. HOPEFULLY WE WILL BE ABLE TO ACCOMMODATE EVERYONE. THE PLAN IS TO BE READY BY SEPTEMBER WE WILL BE IN GOOD SHAPE.

QUESTION: POINT OF CLARIFICATION OF LOCKDOWNS? IN CASE THAT KIDS ARE ASKED TO GO IN CORNERS? HOW WILL WE HANDLE THAT?

ANSWER: THIS IS A CHALLENGING ISSUE FOR SURE. IT WILL BE A MATTER OF CONFLICTING REQUIREMENTS...KIDS HIDING AND GOING TO CORNERS AND THAT PROCEDURE CONFLICTING WITH DISTANCE REQUIREMENTS.

QUESTION: WILL THE REMOTE AND HYBRID VARY BY LEVEL?

ANSWER: YES, NEEDS WILL DIFFER BETWEEN ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL. THEY ALL MAY LOOK SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT. BOTH HIGH SCHOOLS WILL BE SAME.

QUESTION: IF WE ARE IN BUILDING ARE WE PLANNING ON MAKING WAY FOR PEOPLE TO GO ABOVE AND BEYOND FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE IN UNSAFE HOMES AND USE OUR SCHOOLS AS THEIR SAFE SPACE?

ANSWER: STUDENT WELL-BEING IS A HUGE CONCERN. PEOPLE ARE STRUGGLING WITH LOTS OF DIFFERENT THINGS. COVID AND OTHER ISSUES THAT KIDS ARE STRUGGLING WITH. I WORRY ABOUT HIGH RISK KIDS. I DON'T THINK ANYTHING IS OFF TABLE AND IT'S AN ONGOING CONVERSATION SO KIDS DON'T FALL THROUGH THE CRACKS.

QUESTION: WILL TEACHERS HAVE OPTION FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCES?

ANSWER; THESE REQUESTS WILL BE CONSIDERED ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS. THE LEAVES WOULD MOST LIKELY BE MEDICAL AND FAMILY RELATED. IF YOU ARE IN NEED SHOOT ME AN EMAIL AND WILL EVALUATE YOUR SITUATION.

QUESTION: SWITCHING CLASSES...HOW WILL SAFELY SWITCH THROUGHOUT DAY SO THERE ISN'T A LARGE AMOUNT OF STUDENTS SWITCHING AT ONCE?

ANSWER: IT WILL BE A CHALLENGE AND THE STATE WOULD LIKE TO KEEP STUDENTS IN COHORTS AND IT WILL BE VERY CHALLENGING FOR HIGH SCHOOL PARTICULARLY 11 AND 12 TH GRADES. THE SAME CASE FOR FOOD SERVICE AND DELIVERY. FOOD WOULD HAVE TO BE PREPARED AND BROUGHT TO CLASSROOMS. ALL OF THE FOOD WILL BE EATEN IN CLASS.

QUESTION: WHEN WILL TEACHERS LIKELY BE NOTIFIED OF PLAN?

ANSWER: FOR US THE SOONER WE CAN GET YOU THE PLAN THE BETTER. SO WE CAN PROVIDE PD OPPORTUNITIES FOR REMOTE LEARNING. WE WILL GET YOU INFORMATION AS SOON AS WE CAN SO WE CAN PROPERLY PREPARE. DR. THERESA WILLS WAS VERY GOOD AND WE WOULD RECOMMEND TO STAFF THAT THEY TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THAT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT. FEEDBACK HAS BEEN EXCELLENT. WE ARE OFFERING ANOTHER SESSION IN AUGUST.

QUESTION: HAVE WE CONSIDERED SHORTER DAY?

ANSWER: YES, WE HAVE TALKED ABOUT HALF DAY SPLIT. AM PM SESSION WITH BREAK FOR CLEANING.

QUESTION: HAS THE SCHOOL CALENDAR BEEN ALTERED FOR 2020-2021?

ANSWER: NOT YET BUT VERY LIKELY WILL BE ONCE PLAN IS ESTABLISHED.

QUESTION: WHEN A CLASS IS MAINLY FOCUSED WORKING ON COMPUTERS BUT THEN IT'S RECOMMENDED THAT THE TEACHER LEAVE THEIR ROOM WITH THE COMPUTERS HOW WILL WE PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH COMPUTERS? CHROMEBOOKS WON'T WORK WITH THOSE?

ANSWER: WE WILL FORWARD THIS CONCERN TO THE IT DEPARTMENT

QUESTION: WILL ALL STUDENTS HAVE CHROMEBOOKS?

ANSWER: YES FOR GRADE 5 AND UP, ALL STUDENTS WILL HAVE CHROMEBOOKS.

QUESTION: WILL QPS BE TAKING A LOOK AT COMMUNITY SERVICE REQUIREMENTS?

ANSWER: WE WILL HAVE TO THINK ABOUT IT AND TALK ABOUT IT. THAT WILL HAVE TO BE MODIFIED.

QUESTION: WILL CHROMEBOOKS BLOCKING YOUTUBE FROM STUDENTS?

ANSWER: YES.

QUESTION: WILL STAFF EVALUATIONS AND BASELINE EDGE REQUIREMENTS BE REQUIRED THIS YEAR?

ANSWER: YES, EVEN IF IT'S REMOTE. THE REMOTE LEARNING WILL BE MORE LIVE AND VIGOROUS THAN IN THE SPRING. IT IS MOST LIKELY THAT THE STATE WILL REQUIRE US TO RETURN TO IT. WE NEED TO TAKE A LOOK AT IT AND DEVELOP PLAN

QUESTION: WILL STAFF MEETINGS FOR ENTIRE BUILDING BE REMOTE?

ANSWER; YES, IF IT NEEDS TO BE IN-PERSON WE WOULD MAKE SURE TO FOLLOW ALL SAFETY GUIDELINES. REMOTE MEETINGS SEEM TO BE EFFECTIVE. MOST LIKELY WE WOULD CONTINUE REMOTE.

QUESTION: WILL THERE BE NEW RULES PUT IN PLACE FOR VIDEO LEARNING?

ANSWER: WE HAVE TO BE CONCERNED WITH CONFIDENTIALITY RIGHTS AND RECORDING VIDEOS FOR STUDENTS TO LOOK AT LATER IS CERTAINLY AN OPTION.

WRAP UP:

PARENT CHOICE SURVEY WILL BE GOING OUT TODAY. WE ARE LOOKING FOR FEEDBACK TO DETERMINE THE BEST PLAN GOING FORWARD. THERE WILL BE TEACHER CHOICE SURVEY GOING OUT AS WELL.

QUESTION: HAS THERE BEEN A DISCUSSION ON ELEMENTARY ART TEACHERS?

ANSWER: YES, WE TALKED ABOUT A COUPLE OF DIFFERENT OPTIONS..TEACHERS WOULD BE STATIONED AT ONE BUILDING AND REMOTE OUT TO OTHER BUILDINGS. SOMEONE IN EACH BUILDING WOULD SUPERVISE. THIS WOULD BE AN OPTION FOR MUSIC AS WELL.