

# The Board Report

*Monday, December 7, 2020*



**Disclaimer:** The Board Report is a synopsis of the Hampton Township School Board meetings and is not intended as a replacement for any official Board minutes.

# *~ A Tradition of Excellence ~*

## ***The Hampton Township Board of School Directors***

**Bryant Wesley II, Esq.**

**Mrs. Jill Hamlin**

**Ms. Denise Balason**

**Mr. Matt Jarrell**

**Mrs. Joy Midgley**

**Mr. Larry Vasko**

**Mr. Robert Shages Board**

**Mr. Greg Stein**

**Mrs. Trisha Webb**

**Board President**

**Board Vice President**

**Board Secretary/Facilities Chair**

**Transportation Chair**

**Personnel Chair**

**Finance Chair**

**Treasurer/Policy & Legislative Affairs Chair**

**Technology Chair**

**Student Affairs Chair**

*This Hampton Township Board of School Directors meeting was held at the Hampton Middle School Auditorium.*

## ***Members of Administration in Attendance***

**Dr. Michael Loughead**

**Dr. Rebecca Cunningham**

**Mr. Jeff Kline**

**Dr. Edward McKaveney**

**Mr. Rick Farino**

**Superintendent of Schools**

**Assistant Superintendent of Schools**

**Director of Administrative Services**

**Director of Technology**

**Buildings and Grounds**

## Monday, December 7, 2020 Reorganization Meeting

A video recording of the meeting can be viewed [here](#). The time within the video at which each item begins is indicated below.

### Opening

00:00

Mr. Wesley called the meeting to order.

### Student Awards

1:03

Mrs. Webb recognized members of the Girls' Soccer and Girls' Volleyball teams for their performances throughout the recently concluded seasons.

The Girls' Varsity Volleyball team had an outstanding season, and the team finished the season as WPIAL AAA Section 5 Champions. Several members of the team were selected to play on the All-Section Team, the All-Section Second team, the All-WPIAL Third Team, and the All-WPIAL Second team.

The Girls' Soccer team was recognized for its outstanding season and winning the WPIAL AAA Section 1 Championships. Several members of the team were selected to play on the All-Section Team and the All-WPIAL team.

Dr. Loughead added that there are additional awards coming for student athletes which will be presented at future meetings. The District also won the WPIAL Sportsmanship Award again this year.

### Reorganizational Meeting

6:50

#### **Nomination and Election of a Temporary Chairperson**

Board members voted unanimously 9-0 to have Denise Balason act as the temporary chairperson during the reorganizational meeting.

#### **Nomination and Election of a President**

Bryant Wesley was nominated to act as president of the Board and confirmed in a 9-0 vote. The temporary chair then yielded meeting control to the new president.

## **Nomination and Election of Vice President**

Jill Hamlin was nominated to act as vice president of the Board and was confirmed in a 9-0 vote.

## **Establishing Meeting Times and Places**

9:54

The Board voted 9-0 for upcoming Board meetings to continue to be the first and second Mondays of the month. Meetings may be moved to Tuesdays in the event of a public holiday on the Monday. The last Monday of the month will continue to be reserved for special meetings, as needed. Meetings will continue to be the Hampton Middle School Auditorium during the pandemic as social distancing is needed. Should that change, meetings will return to the Hampton Middle School Library.

## **Public Comment Announcement**

11:22

### **Community Member**

11:58

A member of the community asked if there was any concern or feedback from the teachers about the hybrid reopening schedule. The community member also asked if District employees had posed specific recommendations.

Dr. Loughead responded that the safety of District teachers and employees is of great concern, and some staff members are more concerned than others about the appropriate steps to take with the return to in-person classes. However, teachers will do what is right for students. It is not accurate to say that no one has concerns. Those concerns that have been shared have been considered, and the District has looked for ways to address those issues as it moves forward.

At the secondary level, the idea of hybrid reopening with as much social distancing as possible are things that both the faculty and the District want and that will be in place. There will continue to be an extensive cleaning of buildings going forward.

The District also is asking families to be as honest as possible so it can take appropriate actions. There needs to be transparency within the District as the whole system of reopening is based on trust, people being honorable, and sharing information. The District needs families to continue working collaboratively for the safety of everyone.

### **Community Member**

15:30

A community member asked about the possibility of the District having all classes online for the first two weeks following the winter break as it is anticipated that families in the District will travel and gather to celebrate the end of the year. She encouraged the District to consider planning for remote instruction during that period of time to improve safety and help mitigate spread.

Dr. Loughead explained that an additional two weeks of remote instruction is not currently part of the District’s reopening plan. However, the District is aware that recommendations and guidance are changing rapidly. The District continues to pay attention to what is going on in the community. It will follow what is put forward by authorities, including the recently changed travel guidelines that have increased flexibility. The preference is to offer in-person education when possible and when safe. After the holidays, the District will provide access to remote instruction to support families that are self-quarantining because of travel.

## Facilities Report

20:22

### Renovation Project

Ms. Balason introduced the proposal from PJ Dick for Construction Management Services for Phase I of the Hampton High School Renovation Project, pending final review and approval by the District Solicitor’s office, which was approved 9-0.



Exhibit "A"

**HAMPTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PROPOSAL FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES - PHASE I**

**Fee Proposal**

<b>A. Lump Sum Fee Proposal:</b>	
P. J. Dick Incorporated proposes to provide construction management services to the Hampton Township School District for Phase One Projects, as described in VEBH presentation dated 10/12/20, for a fixed fee of:	
<b><u>\$536,177</u></b>	<b><u>Lump Sum Amount</u></b>

**B. Provide a breakdown of the Lump Sum Fee Proposal by functions, hours, and costs in the following format:**

**1. Pre-Construction Phase:** (Perform two additional estimates, constructability and VE studies. One at 50% CD and one at 95% CD)

Function	TOTAL HOURS		TOTAL COST	
Project Executive	56		\$9,741	
Project Coordinator	56		\$6,960	
Estimating - General	200		\$25,904	
Estimating - MEP	130		\$16,838	
Subtotals	442		\$59,444	

**2. Bidding Phase:**

Function	TOTAL HOURS		TOTAL COST	
Project Executive	28		\$4,824	
Project Coordinator	173		\$21,544	
Project Administrator	80		\$4,182	
Accounting	0		\$0	
Subtotals	281		\$30,550	

<b>3. Construction/Closeout Phase:</b>				
<b>Function</b>	<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>		<b>TOTAL COST</b>	
Project Executive	222		\$38,594	
Project Coordinator	2773		\$344,710	
Project Administrator	640		\$33,453	
Safety Engineer	128		\$11,226	
Accounting	0		\$0	
Misc. Expenses			\$18,200	
<b>Subtotals</b>	<b>3763</b>		<b>\$446,183</b>	

<b>4. Fee Proposal Summary:</b>				
<b>Function</b>	<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>		<b>TOTAL COST</b>	
Project Executive	306		\$53,160	
Project Coordinator	3003		\$373,214	
Project Administrator	720		\$37,635	
Estimating - General	200		\$25,904	
Estimating - MEP	130		\$16,838	
Safety Engineer	128		\$11,226	
Accounting	0		\$0	
Misc. Expenses			\$18,200	
<b>Subtotals</b>	<b>4486</b>		<b>\$536,177</b>	

**C. Fee Schedule of hourly rates for additional Services for each function that may be required on the project:**

<b>Function</b>	<b>Hourly Rate</b>
Project Executive	\$174.00
Project Estimating	\$130.00
MEP Estimator/Coordinator	\$130.00
Project Manager	\$124.00
Project Superintendent/Coordinator	\$124.00
Project Scheduler	\$119.00
Safety Engineer	\$88.00
Administrative Assistant	\$52.00

**D. Reimbursable Expenses**

The Fee Proposal does not include any reimbursable expenses and is for staff only. The Construction Manager will be reimbursed for the following, or it will be provided by others:

- \* Office Space included all utilities costs
- \* Telecommunications
- \* Postage
- \* Transportation
- \* Parking
- \* Photocopying
- \* Waste Removal
- \* Office Furniture
- \* Office Supplies
- \* Miscellaneous Supplies

**ASSUMPTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS** - This fee includes two additional estimates during the preconstruction phase: one at 50% CD completion and one at 95% CD completion. It also includes one full time on site Project Coordinator for the anticipated construction phase durations of work as follows: Bidding Phase (part time staff) - approx 2 months (May 2021 - June 2021), Construction Phase (full time on site) - approximately 15 months (July 2021 - Sept 2022), and Close-Out Phase for one month (Oct 2022). This also assumes that a mutually acceptable contract form of the AIA Document C132-2009 will be issued.

Prior to approval, Board members asked about the details of a lump sum payment in the proposal to ensure the District does not face unexpected costs.

### **Bipolar Ionization HVAC Update**

Ms. Balason introduced Mr. Farino to provide an update on the installation of the bipolar ionization units being added to school buildings.

Mr. Farino stated that all but two of the new ionization units have been installed. The total process took 13 days. The installation crew was hesitant to allow the school District to install the remaining devices because of warranty considerations, so a meeting has been set to plan the installation of the remaining units. Overall, the project is ahead of schedule.

Mr. Farino said that it is possible to reduce the amount of outside air intake to protect students and staff from cold temperatures. The District has not started using that process as of yet. The units are running as programmed for three hours before and after school and everything is working well.

Board members asked if there is any way to test the units to demonstrate how they function while in use, or if there was any type of validation test that could be used.

Mr. Farino said that there is a video available demonstrating how the units function. However, the real indication will be when air filters are changed in a few months as they should be noticeably cleaner than they were previously. It also might be possible to call PSI and do an air quality test, but it is unclear if the organization can test for something like viruses. Mr. Farino was also going to follow up with the installation company.

### **Hampton Middle School AHU Replacement and Through-Wall Flashing Replacement**

Mr. Farino reported that AHU 6 & 7 are installed and operational. The project engineer from Tower Engineering was onsite to complete the punch list. Items noted on the list are minor. Tower Engineering will be forwarding the list to Hranec. Mr. Farino stated that Carrier Corporation was in the District two weeks ago to commission the units.

Mr. Farino stated that the through-wall flashing project is under review by the architect and owner regarding surface staining and discoloration to the stainless steel flashing. Mr. Farino reported that a sample has been sent to a metallurgist for inspection of the components in the stainless steel.

Board members expressed their appreciation to the custodial staff for their hard work in keeping the buildings clean for students and staff.

## **President's Report**

33:15

Mr. Wesley said that the Board has had one executive session since the previous Board meeting for the purpose of discussing legal and personnel matters.

## **Solicitor's Report**

33:29

There was no report.

## **Superintendent's Report**

33:33

### **Academics**

Dr. Loughead highlighted that the District moved to fully remote learning in a synchronous manner, which provided students with a much more robust remote learning experience than the previous asynchronous remote learning set-up. He praised the teachers, stating that the teachers are the hardest working faculty he has experienced during his career. Given the current challenging conditions, they have been willing to step up and their work is recognized and appreciated by families in the District. Dr. Loughead said Hampton teachers make a difference, and the District wants to thank them for all that they do.

### **The Arts**

Dr. Loughead recognized the teachers who work in the Arts for their creativity and dedication to continuing to provide a high level of instruction even when students are remote. He also updated the Board on upcoming performances and Watch Parties to enable audiences to view the performances remotely. Earlier in the fall there had been hope that some of the concerts could have in-person attendees, but that is now unlikely.

### **Athletics**

The District has received some questions about the start of winter sports, Dr. Loughead said. Practice and training for those activities is underway and competitions are set to start this weekend. Universal masking is required at all times, whether students are indoors or outdoors. The goal of the precautions being taken is to ensure that student athletes have the same opportunities students did in the fall, as athletics and the arts remain important. Academics are the District's primary goal, but if the District can provide students with extracurricular opportunities in a safe way, it will continue to do so.

## **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

37:34

Board members approved the minutes of the November 9, 2020 meeting 9-0.



## Personnel Report

37:50

Mrs. Midgley introduced the following personnel items and made a series of motions. Board members voted 9-0 for all items below:

### Resignations

1. It is recommended that the Board accepts the resignation of Ms. Jodi Sloboda effective November 24, 2020. (Ms. Sloboda was a Building Substitute at Hampton High School.)
2. It is recommended that the Board accepts the resignation of Mr. Calvin Chmura effective December 11, 2020. (Mr. Chmura is a Building Substitute at Hampton Middle School.)

### Teachers

3. It is recommended that the Board approves a change in status for Mrs. Patricia Pozza, Special Education Teacher at Wyland Elementary School, from .60 FTE to .80 FTE effective December 1, 2020. (This is due to the increased enrollment in the special education program at Wyland.)
4. It is recommended that the Board approves Mrs. Kelly Emmett to continue on an unpaid leave of absence for the second semester of the 2020-2021 School Year. (Mrs. Emmett is an English Teacher at Hampton High School.)
5. It is recommended that the Board approves Ms. Hannah Dunlap to continue as a Long-Term Substitute English Teacher at Hampton High School through the second semester of the 2020-2021 School Year. Salary remains \$33,500, pro-rated. (Ms. Dunlap will continue as a substitute for Mrs. Kelly Emmett.)
6. It is recommended that the Board approves Ms. Erin Lankes to continue as a Long-Term Substitute English Language Arts Academic Support Teacher at Hampton High School through the second semester of the 2020-2021 School Year. Salary remains \$29,500, pro-rated. (Ms. Lankes will continue as a substitute for Ms. Hannah Dunlap.)
7. It is recommended that the Board approves Ms. Brittany Wanamaker to continue as a .50 Long-Term Substitute Teacher on Special Assignment for the Hampton Online Academy (HOA) through the second semester of the 2020-2021 School Year. Salary remains \$33,500, pro-rated. (This is in addition to her Long-Term Substitute .50 Kindergarten Teacher assignment at Central Elementary School.)
8. It is recommended that the Board approves Mrs. Emily Milbert to continue as a Long-Term Substitute Elementary Enrichment Teacher at Central Elementary School through the second semester of the 2020-2021 School Year. Salary remains \$33,500, pro-rated. (Mrs. Milbert will continue as a substitute for Mrs. Mary Fitzpatrick who is a TOSA.)

9. It is recommended that the Board approves Mr. Charles (Max) Weiss to continue as a Long-Term Substitute Grade 2 Teacher at Central Elementary School through the second semester of the 2020-2021 School Year. Salary remains \$33,500, pro-rated. (Mr. Weiss will continue as a substitute for Mr. Zachary Rice who is a TOSA.)

10. It is recommended that the Board approves Ms. Lynsey Norman to continue as a Long-Term Substitute Hampton Online Academy (HOA) teacher (based at Central Elementary School) through the second semester of the 2020-2021 School Year. Salary remains \$33,500, pro-rated. (This continues to be a class-size reduction teacher with HOA.)

11. It is recommended that the Board approves Mrs. Taryn Haluszczak to continue as a Long-Term Substitute Library-Media Specialist at Poff Elementary School through the second semester of the 2020-2021 School Year. Salary remains \$33,500, pro-rated. (Mrs. Haluszczak will continue as a substitute for Mrs. Erin Prosser who is a TOSA.)

12. It is recommended that the Board approves Ms. Caitlin Wismer to continue as a Long-Term Substitute Art Teacher at Wyland Elementary School and Hampton Middle School through the second semester of the 2020-2021 School Year. Salary remains \$33,500, pro-rated. (Ms. Wismer will continue as a substitute for Mrs. Elizabeth Howe who is a TOSA.)

13. It is recommended that the Board approves Mrs. Deborah Hogan to continue as a Long-Term Substitute Grade 5 Teacher at Wyland Elementary School through the second semester of the 2020-2021 School Year. Salary remains \$33,500, pro-rated. (Mrs. Hogan will continue as a substitute for Mrs. Lauren Marshall who is a TOSA.)

14. It is recommended that the Board approves Ms. Sydney Funtal to continue as a Long-Term Substitute Grade 4 Teacher at Wyland Elementary School through the second semester of the 2020-2021 School Year. Salary remains \$33,500, pro-rated. (Ms. Funtal will continue as a substitute for Mr. Ray Raible who is a TOSA.)

15. It is recommended that the Board approves Mrs. Lauren Casselberry to continue as a Long-Term Substitute Special Education Instruction in the Home Teacher for the second semester of the 2020-2021 School Year. Salary remains \$33,500, pro-rated.

16. It is recommended that the Board approves a change in status for Mrs. Donna Wanner, moving from a .66 Long-Term Substitute Math Academic Support Teacher and a .33 Long-Term Substitute Math Teacher at Hampton High School to a full-time Long-Term Substitute Math Teacher at Hampton High School effective November 19, 2020 through a date to be determined. Salary is \$33,500, pro-rated. (Mrs. Wanner is a substitute for Mrs. Kathy Dickensheets.)

17. It is recommended that the Board approves Ms. Haylie Rupnow to continue as a Building Substitute at Wyland Elementary School through the second semester of the 2020-2021 School Year. Salary remains \$22,000, pro-rated.

18. It is recommended that the Board approves Ms. Daniella Zenone to continue as a Building Substitute at Hampton Middle School through the end of the first semester of the 2020-2021 School Year. Salary remains \$22,000, pro-rated.

19. It is recommended that the Board approves a change in status for Ms. Elizabeth Morris, moving from a Long-Term Substitute Library Media Specialist at Hampton Middle School to a Building Substitute at Hampton Middle School for the second semester of the 2020-2021 School Year. There is no change in salary. (Ms. Morris is replacing Ms. Daniella Zenone.)

20. It is recommended that the Board approves Ms. Erin Cover to continue as a Building Substitute at Hampton Middle School for the second semester of the 2020-2021 School Year. There is no change in salary.

21. It is recommended that the Board approves Mr. Justin Vasil as a Building Substitute at Hampton High School from December 7, 2020 through the remainder of the 2020-2021 School Year. Salary is \$22,000, pro-rated. (Mr. Vasil is replacing Ms. Jodi Sloboda.)

22. It is recommended that the Board approves the following as Guest Substitutes for the Hampton Township School District, effective December 8, 2020. Salary is \$90 per day for day 1-20 and then \$100 per day thereafter. (These substitutes will be utilized on an as-needed basis.)

Mrs. Melissa Elstner	Mrs. Erin Stroud
Mr. Charles Premick	Mrs. Katie Sullivan
Ms. Andrea SanFilippo	Mr. Luke Swanson
Ms. Caterina Santucci	Mrs. Michelle Ulrich

### **Custodial**

23. It is recommended that the Board approves Mr. Jerrod Cumberland as a custodial substitute for the District effective November 16, 2020.

24. It is recommended that the Board approves Mr. Lawrence Van Buren as a custodial substitute for the District effective November 18, 2020.

### **Supplementals**

25. The Administration recommends approval of the following conditional appointments for 2020-2021, each at a rate of \$139 per point, with each such appointment being conditioned on the District making a subsequent determination that the supplementary position and work associated with such position is needed and approved and will continue during the coronavirus pandemic following future guidance from the Commonwealth. Each appointment shall be effective only where the position is approved and operational and where the work associated with such position is actually being performed. This conditional appointment does not obligate the District to approve some, all or any of the supplementary positions for 2020-2021 and does not guarantee any of the persons listed below that his or her supplementary position will be needed and in place, or that it will continue uninterrupted, in 2020-2021:

NAME	POSITION	BUILDING	POINTS	RANGE	TOTAL STIPEND
Keith Hart	Assistant Swimming Coach (Diving)	HS	29	23/29	\$4,031
Jenna Lafko	Volunteer Boys' Basketball Coach	HS			

## Educational Programs Report

46:25

Ms. Hamlin said that she had one agenda item for the evening and invited Dr. Loughead to speak regarding the enhanced hybrid plan for in-person instruction for secondary students prior to the Board's vote.

Dr. Loughead thanked Ms. Hamlin for the opportunity, and stated that he would be presenting two documents: (1) [the informational letter which was shared with the community](#), and (2) [Frequently Asked Questions](#) which are available on the District's webpage.

Dr. Loughead stated that the decision to return to remote learning was based on unknown conditions surrounding the Thanksgiving break and travel plans, and that the District sought to be proactive in its approach in order to monitor the situation.

The District also has moved to using synchronous learning so that students have classes in a timeframe similar to what they would experience during in-person instruction. Synchronous learning has been in place for about a week and results have been positive. However, there are limitations to what is possible with remote learning, which is why the District has considered options to return to in-person instruction if it could be done safely and while following guidelines from the Department of Education and the state and country health departments. The dual responsibility is to provide the best possible educational opportunity to students while keeping students, faculty and staff safe. The District looked at how students might be able to return safely, effectively, and sustainably.

He provided a presentation on the proposed hybrid model, which would bring a few changes for middle and high school students.

### Opening, Considering the Pandemic

Dr. Loughead said that looking at the infection numbers, Allegheny County is not doing well, and there are also continued concerns for what is happening in Pennsylvania and in the county. However, in conversations with the Allegheny County Health Department, it appears that spread is not occurring in the School District. Students have had to quarantine, but no students that the District knows of have contracted the virus at school.

District officials had to weigh reopening with the guidelines in place from the Pennsylvania Department of Education and Pennsylvania Department of Health. If districts want to consider in-person instruction they have to follow very stringent prevention and closure guidelines including the following:

- Social distancing - especially during meals
- Universal masking
- Handwashing
- Staying home when ill

When the District looked at the guidance it found that many of the measures were already in place at Hampton, so administrators felt comfortable in agreeing to continue those practices.

Dr. Loughhead said that the provision that will require the most adaptation is the stringent face covering guideline – if students remove their mask, even to eat or drink, there must be 6 feet of social distance – it is not negotiable.

### **Reopening the Elementary Schools**

Dr. Loughhead said that it is being proposed that the elementary schools return to full in-person instruction. Schools had been in person for about a month before the District went remote and had been effectively providing instruction and managing cases. Teachers for those grade levels say that the quality of in-person instruction is superior to remote learning. There may be challenges with desk shields, masking, and now being cautious at lunch, but the District is recommending a full in-person return.

### **Reopening Secondary Schools**

Dr. Loughhead told the Board that at the high school and middle school students will be able to return using a 50% A/B pod plan. Agreeing to these new, strict guidelines including the 6 feet of social distance even at lunch really restricts the District's ability to bring a larger percentage of the student body back into buildings at the same time. The concept the District had proposed a month ago is now no longer possible.

The new proposed model will have one pod in school on Monday and Thursday and the other pod will be in school on Tuesday and Friday. Pods will alternate attendance on Wednesdays so both pods would benefit from instructional days. (*see schedule on next page*)

The previous hybrid program contained some issues from an educational standpoint, said Dr. Loughhead. As a result, the District tried to find a system that would be more equitable as, previously, the number of days that students were not in front of faculty were problematic. The Wednesdays in which no one was in the building also did not work as well as anticipated. The new model is intended to provide more consistency and be in place for a longer period of time. Cleaning would continue to be a top priority and would happen each day.

## Enhanced Secondary Hybrid Instructional Model December 2020 - January 2021

December 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	<b>A</b> 10	<b>B</b> 11	12
13	<b>A</b> 14	<b>B</b> 15	<b>A</b> 16	<b>A</b> 17	<b>B</b> 18	19
20	<b>A</b> 21	<b>B</b> 22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	<b>A</b> 4	<b>B</b> 5	<b>B</b> 6	<b>A</b> 7	<b>B</b> 8	9
10	<b>A</b> 11	<b>B</b> 12	<b>A</b> 13	<b>A</b> 14	<b>B</b> 15	16
17	18	<b>A</b> 19	<b>B</b> 20	<b>A</b> 21	<b>B</b> 22	23
24	<b>A</b> 25	<b>B</b> 26	<b>B</b> 27	<b>A</b> 28	<b>B</b> 29	30
31						

**A** - 14 in person instructional days  
**B** - 14 in person instructional days

Red blocks indicates No School day

The letters “A”, “B” represent the in person instructional days that students will be attending school. Students will remain in the same pods, A or B, as in the previous hybrid schedule.

The administration recognizes that this is an adjustment and will take planning. However, the new model should provide a better instructional experience. Going forward, instruction would proceed in a synchronous manner and there would be online live contact every day. The District will move away from the asynchronous work that had been in place previously. If the hybrid model needs to be extended, then in-school days will be balanced out for February while maintaining the pod structure. Building principals and teachers have had the chance to analyze the new system to help ensure a balance of in-person instructional days.

### Updated Safety Guidelines

Dr. Loughead also shared information about the updated safety guidelines that the schools have to follow.

- The masking order has become more stringent, cloth masks are considered best practice and students are asked to comply with that requirement. There have been some questions about face shields, which are permissible under certain circumstances. Students have been very compliant with this requirement – even kindergartners and first grade students. Schools also will continue to use desk shields.
- Masking is required for all physical activity, so student athletes are wearing them at all times. The only exception is swimmers when they are in the water. Any adults coming into facilities are required to wear them at all times – it is non negotiable.

- The travel guidance also has changed – some provisions no longer apply to children younger than 11.
- When applicable, students who travel for other than medical reasons will need either a negative COVID test 72 hours before returning to the state, to quarantine for 10 days following their return without a test, or seven days with a negative test taken on or after day 5 of quarantine.
- If families are traveling to see grandparents and are concerned about the travel, please contact the schools. Schools want families to work with the nurses to manage out-of-school time. The District needs to ensure that everything is properly reported and recorded, including why students may be in quarantine.

### **Required Closures**

Dr. Loughhead reported that the new regulations include stipulations as to what could cause schools to close temporarily. The guidance is different for the elementary and secondary schools. The purpose of the closure is to allow for contact tracing and deep cleaning. The District is prepared to do this work and will assist the Allegheny County Health Department.

*The guidance for temporary COVID-related closings can be viewed on the following page.*

**Recommendation for Central, Poff and Wyland Elementary (<500 Students)  
Following Identification of a Case(s) of COVID-19**

Level of Community Transmission in the County	Number of Cases of COVID-19 Within a Rolling 14-Day Period:	Number of Cases of COVID-19 Within a Rolling 14-Day Period:	Number of Cases of COVID-19 Within a Rolling 14-Day Period:
	1 student or 1 staff	2-4 students/staff in the same school building	5+ students/staff in same school building
<b>Substantial†</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School should consider altering schedule to significantly decrease number of students on site</li> <li>Clean area(s) where case spent time</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School should consider altering schedule to significantly decrease number of students on site</li> <li>Close school(s) for 3-7 days*</li> <li>Clean area(s) where cases spent time</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School should consider altering schedule to significantly decrease number of students on site</li> <li>Close school(s) for 14 days*</li> <li>Clean entire school</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul>

**Recommendation Hampton Middle School (500-900 Students)  
Following Identification of a Case(s) of COVID-19**

Level of Community Transmission in the County	Number of Cases of COVID-19 Within a Rolling 14-Day Period:	Number of Cases of COVID-19 Within a Rolling 14-Day Period:	Number of Cases of COVID-19 Within a Rolling 14-Day Period:
	1-3 students or staff	4-6 students/staff in the same school building	7+ students/staff in same school building
<b>Substantial†</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School should consider altering schedule to significantly decrease number of students on site</li> <li>Clean area(s) where case spent time</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School should consider altering schedule to significantly decrease number of students on site</li> <li>Close school(s) for 3-7 days*</li> <li>Clean area(s) where cases spent time</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School should consider altering schedule to significantly decrease number of students on site</li> <li>Close school(s) for 14 days*</li> <li>Clean entire school</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul>

**Recommendation for Hampton High School (>900 Students)  
Following Identification of a Case(s) of COVID-19**

Level of Community Transmission in the County	Number of Cases of COVID-19 Within a Rolling 14-Day Period:	Number of Cases of COVID-19 Within a Rolling 14-Day Period:	Number of Cases of COVID-19 Within a Rolling 14-Day Period:
	1-5 students or staff	6-10 students/staff in the same school building	11+ students/staff in same school building
<b>Substantial†</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School should consider altering schedule to significantly decrease number of students on site</li> <li>Clean area(s) where case spent time</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School should consider altering schedule to significantly decrease number of students on site</li> <li>Close school(s) for 3-7 days*</li> <li>Clean area(s) where cases spent time</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School should consider altering schedule to significantly decrease number of students on site</li> <li>Close school(s) for 14 days*</li> <li>Clean entire school</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul>

\*If case investigations, contact tracing, and cleaning and disinfecting can be accomplished in a faster time frame, the length of closure time may be shortened.

†DOH and PDE recommend a Full Remote Learning Model for all schools in counties with substantial level of community transmission. Schools that choose to pursue in-person instruction and other models in which school buildings are utilized by students and/or staff should follow the recommendations here.

From Department of Education: [https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/emergencyplanning/COVID-19/SchoolReopeningGuidance/ReopeningPreKto12/PublicHealthGuidance/Pages/SchoolClosureRecommendation\\_s.aspx](https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/emergencyplanning/COVID-19/SchoolReopeningGuidance/ReopeningPreKto12/PublicHealthGuidance/Pages/SchoolClosureRecommendation_s.aspx)

Source PDE



## **A.W. Beattie**

Dr. Loughead also confirmed for the Board that Beattie is currently providing its classes through remote instruction. It is anticipated to be remote through mid-January. The District is looking at options there, but there have been challenges to enforcing social distancing and having in-person instruction because of space constraints during certain times of day.

## **Board Discussion**

Board members had several questions and comments about the proposed changes including the following:

- Is it possible for the District to have more stringent requirements than what are in place?
- Would there be an issue with having more students test or self-quarantine following travel?
- Are there other benefits to the secondary hybrid change?
- Will there be new options for students to be completely remote?
- Would it be possible to have heated tents available outside during lunch periods at the secondary level to help with social distancing?
- Is the District following suggestions or recommendations or requirements?

In response to questions from the Board, Dr. Loughead said:

- There could be legal questions involved if the District were to insist on additional restrictions beyond those presented by the state. Also, the District wants families to continue to follow rules and work together with the District. It could be hard to enforce more stringent requirements.
- One of the reasons supporting the change in practices is that when students were assessed they were not where the District expected them to be academically. It was recognized that some aspects of instruction needed to change. Also, the system needed to change to remain equitable to students in different grade levels.
- Teachers are better prepared to provide synchronous instruction for students attending class remotely because they will see students more often in a face-to-face setting. However, there will not be an option for students to attend class remotely in a full-time capacity other than through the HOA.
- The use of tents had not been a consideration to provide student meals, but it would be evaluated.
- The new rules are mandates that the District has to comply with to be able to provide in-person instruction.

Multiple Board members agreed that changing to the new hybrid structure is not perfect, but it is an improvement from remote learning. They also pointed out that this is a challenging situation and all school districts in the country are trying to manage it. Hampton is trying to keep students and staff safe based on information provided by the CDC and state and county health departments.

Dr. Loughead agreed that no plan is 100% safe, as there is risk involved. However, following the set rules and guidelines is intended to reduce risk.

### **New Hybrid Plan Adoption**

2:03:55

Ms. Hamlin introduced the following item, and it was approved 9-0.

It is recommended and I move that the Board approves the Enhanced Hybrid Plan for In-Person Instruction for Secondary Students to be implemented on December 10, 2020.

### **Updated Health and Safety Plan**

The District's Health and Safety Plan has been updated to reflect recent changes issued by the PA Department of Health which include the following:

- The Universal Face Covering Order
- Mitigation Related to Travel

## **Finance Report**

2:05:35

### **Reimbursement Application**

Mr. Vasko recommended the following item which was approved 9-0:

It is recommended and I move that the Board approves the Designation of Agent Resolution for FEMA/PEMA funds, which appoints Mr. Kline the agent. This resolution is to permit the District to apply for reimbursement for eligible COVID-19 expenses through September 14, 2020.

### **Tax Update**

Mr. Kline also provided an update on local tax revenue. He noted the following items:

- Real estate taxes are down compared to last year, which was expected as the District has extended the "face" collection period from October 31st to December 31st, but this is something the District needs to continue to watch.
- The State Gaming Fund distribution is short of budget and the previous year, but the full funding will be arriving this month.
- The earned income tax is down, but that was expected, and the District budgeted for that change.

Mr. Kline reported that the District priced its \$10 million bond issue for Phase 1 of the high school renovation project on November 17th. The closing date for that is December 17, at which point the District will receive funding for the bond issue.

He also noted the following:

- The District maintained its AA- bond rating by Standard and Poors.
- The average interest rate for the bond issue is 2.094%
- The annual debt service, which will need to be added to next year's budget, is \$210,543.

### **Public comment**

2:10:36

There was no additional public comment.

### **Adjournment**

2:11:00

Mr. Wesley adjourned the meeting. There was an executive session to discuss legal and personnel items.