

Yuma School District-1
August 6, 2020 Special Meeting
Board of Education

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Dan Ross, President

Duane Brown, Vice President

Kim Langley, Secretary/Treasurer

Thomas Holtorf, Director

Lindsey Galles, Director

Dianna Chrisman, Superintendent

Sherry Dennis-Murphy, Business Manager

Rhonda Metcalfe, Executive Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

- None

1.0 CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board President, Dan Ross called the special meeting of the Board of Education to order at 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 6, 2020 in the Yuma School District Board Room.

2.0 AGENDA-ADDITIONS/DELETIONS-APPROVAL

- None

3.0 DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

3.1 Reopening of Schools

- ❖ Superintendent Chrisman directed the boards attention to the proposed plan for school reopening. She reported that this has been a very large undertaking but that through the collaboration with the health department, the county, and the hospitals that this is a good plan with good options for families depending upon their choices and needs at this time. Chrisman states the group developing the plan has tried to be very conscientious of having layers of options, layers of protection, and making sure all health components are in place. She states that she believes for the foreseeable future because this is such an adaptive time right now and things are changing so much that more than likely the district will need to keep as an ongoing agenda item on the board meetings the maintaining reopening plans. Chrisman stated that the regular meeting of the board is coming up on August 17th and also a special meeting on August 31st. She states she anticipates having this on both agendas and anticipates there will be some small changes as continued guidance keeps coming and must be responded to. Chrisman then read through and gave explanation of the plan.

- Chrisman started by pointing out that on page 4 of the plan, regarding students and staff who are demonstrating symptoms of COVID, essentially, it has to be assumed that any illness is COVID

district will still social distance, still have the mask requirement as long as that stays in play by the state, and general “new normal” heightened level of cleaning and disinfecting. The trigger to move to the yellow level is if the district were to have 10 positive or active cases in the school community. The district will be meeting weekly with the county superintendents, hospitals and health department to monitor what is happening county wide. Based on these meetings the district could possibly move into the yellow level sooner than later. Director Galles asked what is considered an active case. Chrisman responded that it is a positive test at this point. Galles then asked when does it move out of an active case, at the ten days? Chrisman responded yes. She stated there is a difference between the 10 day isolation and the 14 day quarantine. If symptomatic there are 10 days before return to school is allowed. If there is an exposure then there is a 14 day requirement as it takes a few days for symptoms to show. Director Holtorf asked if it is just a positive COVID test or for a symptom such as a headache. Chrisman states that at this point it is a positive COVID. Discussion on this followed. In YSD-1 this is defined by school population, therefore for Wray and Yuma it is 10 or more positive students or staff within a 10 day period. President Ross asked for clarification regarding Wray would have their own numbers and Yuma would have their own numbers rather than combining the two. Chrisman stated that no, they are not combined unless there is a county outbreak at which time in the county weekly meetings it could trigger moving up a level. The two districts are working collaboratively together but working in systems of their own. Chrisman continued that in the yellow level there are increased layers of protection including but not limited to increased social distancing, limiting cohorts – defined as a group kept together. Right now the general level of cohorting is grade levels K-8. The high school is a completely different piece as students are not in the same classes. However, if yellow level is in place cohorting could be looked at differently. The biggest piece of being at yellow level is screening. If the district is at the yellow level students will be screened with general health screens within an hour of their arrival. In the yellow level students will not eat in the cafeteria but in their classrooms. There are significant conversations happening right now with administration, staff and meal providers. Chrisman stated that there is conversation currently around starting school at the yellow level regarding serving lunches in the classrooms. Galles asked for clarification as to why the district would start in the yellow level regarding lunch service. Chrisman stated that it is to reduce the level of change that would be put before the students. Especially younger students do better with routine and it does help with the cohorting. Galles asked when the students would move out of the yellow level if school is started there.

district has HIPAA requirements that are followed.

- Chrisman reported on the Food Services portion of the Returning to School Learning Plan. There is still planning in place for if students choose the CDLS Option or at home Synchronous Option that the district will provide an opportunity for the parent to come pick up a breakfast and a lunch.
- Superintendent Chrisman went over the Transportation portion of the plan.
- Chrisman explained the Technology section of the plan. Everyone will be required to sign the instructional use of technology if they take a Chromebook home. Families will need to understand that the district will still have access to these. The district can remote in and check histories. Same thing with the hotspots. When district hotspots are being used, the district get notification if someone is searching for something inappropriate. It needs to be clear that these should only be used for school purposes and that there is an electronic trail that goes with all these devices.
- President Ross asked to go back to the Transportation piece as he had a question. He asked if the district is going to have a nurse on each bus and expressed concern that the drivers would be diagnosing students as they get on the bus. Chrisman responded that if the district gets to the yellow level then the district has to look at how screenings will be done as they get on the bus. If the district is at the green level and a student is coughing as they get on the bus the driver would need to say the student has a symptom at which point the student would not be allowed to board the bus. Options are still being discussed as to how to handle screenings on the bus if the district is in the yellow level. Chrisman stated that it is important to remember that transportation is a benefit that the district wants to provide and there are families that do depend on it. Everyone will need to do their part and if a parent knows that a student is not well they need to be keep the student home.
- Chrisman concluded by asking for thoughts and questions on the plan. Director Galles asked if a student is kept home and did not have COVID symptoms does there have to be a note from the doctor for them to return the following day. Chrisman responded, not necessarily but prefaced it with saying this is still being developed related to these pieces. She stated that there are certain requirements that have always been in place that the district has had a difficult time having parents comply with. It has always been the case that if a student has had a fever or something like strep there is a time frame in which they should not be at school. It has been very difficult for the district to enforce this. There are certain times when the student is sick that they may need to be out 3 days. Galles asked do they have to have a note to return. Chrisman states no, not in certain cases. Chrisman states that in all of this the district is going

discussing how logistically they can implement the plan in their buildings. The building administrators have all reviewed the plan multiple times.

- Brown asked if the district has any teachers or personnel who are concerned about the reopening or saying they are not coming back. Superintendent Chrisman responded that nothing of this sort has been directed to her. She will be meeting with the principals after their building meetings and will be following up with any concerns that have not been addressed. No one has directly spoken to her stating they are not comfortable and do not want to come back.

Motion by Brown, seconded by Galles to approve the 2020-2021 Yuma School District-1 Returning to School Learning Plan.

Voting aye: Brown, Galles, Holtorf, Langley, Ross. Motion Carried.

4.0 ADJOURNMENT

The Board Meeting was adjourned at 1:06 p.m. by Dan Ross.


Motion by Langley, seconded by Holtorf to adjourn the meeting.

Voting Aye: Brown, Galles, Holtorf, Langley, Ross. Motion Carried.

Sincerely,



Kim Langley, Secretary/Treasurer
Yuma School District-1
Board of Education



Dan Ross, President
Yuma School District-1
Board of Education