

Elementary Scheduling Work Group

July 1, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Jodi Bongard Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education, Donna Burns OT, Tera Coyle Principal, Evelyn Davies UNS, Callie Greenfield Student Interventions, Kathy Keegan Principal, Trisha Marshall South End Parent, Renata Minotte Corridor Parent, Susan Mundell Executive Director of Elementary Education, Christy Otley Principal, Courtney Teddy Science Tech. Teacher, Dayle Walters Music Teacher, Sandra Vanderzee Plateau Parent, Laura Maloney Administrative Assistant

Jodi and Susan welcomed and thanked everyone for taking time to help with this important work. Everyone introduced themselves.

PURPOSE/GOAL/MISSION OF THE GROUP

Provide ISD Superintendent and ISD School Board with a proposal for an elementary schedule/model for the reopening of school in the fall. One that is consistent and is driven from an education perspective in that all students need to experience quality instruction, regardless of grade level, and in a manner that maintains the best possible academic, social emotional, and physical health.

- Meeting dates: 7/1, 7/2, 7/7, 7/9, 7/14, 7/16
- Deadline to complete our work - July 30th

Susan Mundell indicated that the District has an equity policy and to keep in mind what is best for all students as we move through the process.

Jodi went over the group norms and housekeeping:

- Actively listen
- Assume positive intent
- Be open to, and respectful of, all perspectives and ideas
- Stay engaged—ask clarifying questions
- Consider the entire school system and all stakeholders
- Consider the most vulnerable stakeholders first
- Use mute when not speaking
- Raise hand or use the “raised hand” indicator to speak
- Notes will be shared at the end of meeting
- Notes will be compiled into an end of week report to the steering committee

Jodi went through the documents she had previously sent and shared with the committee

- OSPI- Reopening Washington Schools Page 30 different options from OSPI spring board. OSPI indicated that there is a high priority to provide face to face time with students. Split or rotating schedule. Not just one option.
- OSPI- Summer School
- ISD Reopening
- Survey Results – Jodi went through the results from the employee survey as well as the parent survey.
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Staff Survey:

- 1) 88% of the Employees would be returning to work
- 2) Concern people will not follow safety protocols
- 3) Spreading Covid-19 to family
- 4) Worried about personal health and safety

Parent Survey:

- 1) Very high response rate
- 2) Comfort level
 - 19% not at all comfortable
 - 40% somewhat comfortable
 - 40% comfortable
 - Supportive of students coming every week

There was a question about the parent survey. Could this data be desegregated by Elementary level? **Jodi will be checking on that and getting back to the group.** There was a comment regarding the employee survey that some of the staff indicated they wish there was a third option answer regarding, if they would be returning to work. They ended up saying yes but had lots of concerns. Jodi indicated that some of those concerns were around day care issues. Jodi informed the group that there are several workgroups and they are taking questions and feedback back to these groups. A parent suggested that the staff survey be broken out by Elementary also because it would be interesting to see the data.

Jodi went through the preliminary ISD Springboard of Options and Rationale from Lisa Hechtman

- 1) Options based on priority of learning impact (Pre-K through 6 In-Person, 7-12 Remote)
- 2) Options based on all students receiving in-person (Hybrids)
- 3) Options base on Continuous Learning (Fully Remote)

Options 1) Pre-K through 6 in Person, 7-12 Remote

Pros)

- See their peers
- Going to school every day a big plus
- Making teacher and peer connections
- Child Care would be easier

Cons)

- Transporting between schools
- Furniture
- Costs
- Recess at Middle and High School no play structures
- How would you choose which teachers are to move
- Very hard on Kindergartners
- Logistically a lot for parents
- Social distancing concerns
- Trying to set up master schedule would be very difficult
- Middle and High Schoolers never see teachers or peers

If we have a phased in approach for the Elementary level and the middle and high school groups are not looking at that path how will that fit together? Jodi

indicated that may be the job of steering committee. She indicated they will have to work these issues out and try to make it fit together. Each Friday a report is turned into the steering committee. The steering committee will then task back to one of the workgroups to attend to the issue.

Would there be some teachers that would move between schools? Yes, there will be teacher movement.

If we end up going back and forth between phases the group needs to keep in mind that this could be very confusing to families. Please keep in mind the human aspect of these considerations.

Jodi pointed out that the OSPI document indicated that districts must be ready to pivot and provide different options. What does it look like if we were to change models and go back to remote learning?

Susan shared that we want it to be least impactful when we go out or come back in. We need to keep in mind we will need robust learning plans in place to transition smoothly. Maybe it does not have to be all or nothing maybe a phased in approach.

Option 2) All students receiving in person instruction 5day rotation

Pros)

- Keep families on same schedule
- All come in person MT – TH/FR day off for remote learning
- Special services in person MT and day off and THF in school
- Consistent attendance every week

Cons)

- Splitting and altering schedules
- How to keep social distancing
- No instructional spaces
- Day care challenging
- Need to look at that Equity lens for all students
- What about SPED push in model

The 10 day option with remote learning with a Friday off for cleaning. This option would further stop the threat of COVID. Jodi shared that there is new information out that the younger students based on day cares and schools that have already been back to school is showing very little relationship between students spreading to one another or to adults.

Pros)

- Kids in school not at home with abusive parents
- 5 days more engagement with the teacher
- Easier for teacher to be respective to student needs

Cons)

- Impossible for planning
- Not good for childcare

Is there an option looking at AM or PM 5 days a week? Jodi indicated that the option went to transportation and operation work groups and they determined it was not feasible. We were not able to bring that forward as an option.

Within the current classrooms K-2 will they be able to maintain six foot distancing? Jodi shared that she thinks they can use just one classroom. We think they can put everyone in one classroom. Capital Projects laid out the room using the six foot guidelines for social distancing and with 23 in a classroom. That is with a cleared out classroom. Also, if some decide not to send their students there will be fewer students in classrooms. Susan indicated that we could maybe use other parts of the buildings.

Jodi posed the question to the group. it is sounding like the 10 day rotation option is off the table? The group agreed with a thumbs up to take the 10 day option off.

Options 3) Full time remote learning

Pros)

- Robust child care offered
- Bring in small groups for one on one learning
- Might have to move to this model anyway come October November would it be better to start off with this?

Cons)

- Social and emotional would be challenging
- Equity would be a challenge
- Better to have face to face learning
- If we end up going out after we start thoughtful messaging to families

As we look at all these schedules, how fluid are these schedules going to be? Parents change their minds will they be able to switch back and forth? This is an issue we will have to consider. Jodi indicated that for the 20% that wants remote learning they will only have remote learning. Maybe we have teachers across the district that just teach grade level remote learning.

Would remote students enter the classroom virtually and have other students in the classroom would that be a possibility? Jodi indicated that there is privacy issues and we would have to meet with bargaining groups.

Jodi indicated that once we decide on a model then we can get down into the weeds and iron out details and send some questions and details to other work groups to start problem solving.

Jodi asked if it is fair to say that we have come to consensus on the third option of strictly remote not being preferred by this group for Elementary students. Jodi asked if they needed more conversation and information. The group agreed that starting off the school year strictly remote should be off the table.

It was asked that personal references remain confidential.

Jodi asked that you please email her or Susan if you have any questions or concerns.

She reiterated how much she and Susan appreciate the work group's commitment and time.

We will see everyone tomorrow, July 2^{at} 1:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned 3:20 pm
