

August 4, 2020  
Reopening Committee Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Dr. Charles Britton, Dawn Davis, Kate Lawson, Ryan Walstrom, Chris Serra, Dave Opuszinski, Sharon Peters, Carl Johnson, Linda Martin, Patti Toller, Marlene McKinley, Sue McDougall, Michele Iannello, Liz Davidson, Vanessa Aquino, Clem Wiekrykas, Grace Darby, Ralph Zampano

Call to order 9:04AM

Dr. Britton gave a quick update regarding the town hall meeting last week for the high school, with 125 people in attendance. Brownstone Intermediate School held their town hall meeting last evening. Gildersleeve School will not hold their town hall meeting tonight, but will join Valley View Elementary School on Wednesday evening. Portland Middle School will hold their town hall meeting on Thursday, August 6, 2020, as planned.

A survey was sent to teachers recently, and so far 35% are in favor of a full reopen, and 64% are in favor of the hybrid plan. This is not complete, as the survey is due back August 5, 2020. A survey will go out this week to paraprofessionals and administrative assistants, due back on Friday.

Charles is offering a 3 day professional development plan for next week to discuss and plan hybrid and distance learning models, as guided by the leadership team.

Discussion regarding the Addendums from the CSDE in the Adapt, Advance, Achieve document were discussed.

#### **Addendum #1**

##### Temporarily Opting into Voluntary Remote Learning Due to COVID-19

One of the basic questions discussed were; if a student does not attend in person learning, can they attend in person after school activities, clubs and sports? After committee discussion, the consensus seemed to offer a clause that may allow some leeway.

#### **Addendum #2**

##### COVID Guidance and Considerations for Preschool Located in Public Schools

Jessica Bruenn, principal at Valley View Schools is confident that they can attend, based on following proper procedures and protocols. Dawn Davis informed the committee that the preschool students are not required to wear face coverings.

#### **Addendum #3**

##### Fall Reopening Resource Document for Students with High Needs

Dawn Davis, the Director of Student Services spoke to the committee regarding our small percentage of students in this category, and the attendance of in person learning still has details to be ironed out. More to come.

#### **Addendum #4**

Interim Guidance for Decision-Making Regarding the Use of In-Person, Hybrid (Blended), or Remote Learning Models in Connecticut Schools during COVID-19

Dr. Britton brought Liz Davidson in from the Chatham Health District, to discuss transmission guidelines and thresholds. Ms. Davidson did mention that if a district does decide to go with a full Distance Learning Model, and their district or county is considered in the “low” or “moderate” threshold, then they may have to provide special data or reporting to support that decision.

CIAC Update-

Chris Serra spoke on many topics such as cohorts and practices, start dates for practices/conditioning and games, what conditioning may look like, fans vs no fans, no night games, locker rooms, bathrooms, busing, and limiting team conferences. Chris intends to formulate a COVID-19 Athletic Advisory Committee to discuss all of these topics, along with the administrative leadership team.

In conclusion, Dr. Britton remarks that the processes are unfolding and we are reaching our final phases of decision making.

No meeting Thursday, but we will reconvene Tuesday, August 11, 2020, at 9:00AM with survey data and recommendations from the Reopening Committee and the Administrative Leadership team. Then Dr. Britton will present this plan to the Board of Education members at the August 11, 2020 BOE meeting.

Adjourn 10:21AM