

Portland Public Schools Reopening Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday July 9<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 – 11:00 am

Google Meet

Members present: Charles Britton, Kate Lawson, Dawn Davis, Ryan Walstrom, Linda Martin, Michelle Iannello, Dave Opuszynski, Ralph Z, Chris Serra, Grace Darby, Liz Davidson, Marlene McKinney, Clem W, Patti Toller, Sharon Peters, Debbie Johnson, Carl Johnson and Sue McDougall

9:02AM

**Update on Family, Faculty and Staff Survey Data**

Charles presented a sneak peek into the surveys that just went out-

Families- 600+ responses

71% yes- in favor of sending kids to school

21% uncertain, and 40+ are not intending to send their child to school

**General Updates from Leadership Team Meeting**

**PPE Purchase**

**Facility Tours to Determine Social Distancing Needs**

Charles briefed the committee on the emerging results from the survey and updated the committee on the leadership team's discussion this past Tuesday. The administrative team has had some robust discussions. PPE purchases- the intention is 5 sets to include masks, face shields, gowns, gloves and N95 masks. All staff, students and faculty are to wear face coverings, unless medically deemed not possible. 88% of parents surveyed said they would provide masks for their students. After speaking with Stephanie Fragola, the breakdown of costs are as such: 360 boxes of masks= \$8,000.00, 100 face shields= \$475.00, 100 gowns= \$450.00, gloves= \$1948.00, and N95 masks= \$1,500.00. Dave O mentioned the nurses will be fitted for N95

masks at 3PM today. Charles discussed the \$70,000.00 emergency federal funding to assist in purchasing these items.

Back to the survey, 7 administrative assistance responded, and of the 7, one indicated they are in the high risk category.

Are the facilities able to accommodate the 6 foot distancing guidelines? On Friday 7/10/20 and Monday, 7/13/20, the administrative teams will tour their buildings with Charles, Carl Johnson and Dave O to make some decisions on the set ups of classrooms and offices, as well as discussing the limited passing through the hallways, etc. Discussion of volunteers in the community to assist in providing safety measures, to network for ideas and assistance. Clem W discussed a thermos-scan type machine his business has to screen temperatures of people instead of taking temps at 2 inches from the forehead. The unit is about \$4,000.00. Kate Lawson has discussed the middle school has 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades separate from each other, as well as being grouped into teams, which may assist in cohorting. The high school may be tougher, as they may need to adjust class length and fewer periods in order to slow the amount of passing through the hallways. Kate is a part of the Shoreline Principals group with tremendous networking of ideas and perspective in aiding re-opening.

### **Update on Request from Athletic Department to Begin Summer Conditioning**

Chris Serra shared a few items of what area districts are doing as far as conditioning goes, and if/when they plan to start that. Chris is thinking to start Portland athletic conditioning on July 27, 2020 pending data on COVID-19 concerns. His proposal will be brought to the Board of Education meeting on July 14, 2020 for discussion and possible approval. The proposal also includes schedule of conditioning, map of the facilities being considered for use, as well as a Summer Conditioning waiver required for all participants.

Carl Johnson mentioned that the Parks and Rec suggested port-o-lets at ball fields. Carl does not suggest we encourage having them for our athletic use.

### **Review of Questions, Concerns and Expectations from Stakeholders**

Charles opened up the floor for feedback from committee members regarding re-opening of school in the fall.

Debbie Johnson, M&J representative voiced the following concerns after polling her drivers; ~according to DMV, there can NOT be any barrier around the bus driver ~who will provide the drivers with masks ~too many students and no monitors ~ drivers' eye glasses fogging up due to wearing a mask ~mini bus with special needs students ~ proper ventilation. Additional questions/suggestions she had; keep the first 2 rows empty of students, what if students show up without a mask- who will provide them with one-are they refused entry-is this a disciplinary write up, the sanitizing between bus routes/groups of student riders, lastly, she would need class lists and alternate bus routes. Charles asked if providing N95 masks to the drivers will eliminate fogging up. Dave O stated they would not fog up the glasses and each driver should be fitted for

one. These masks would need to be discarded every 2 days of use. Sharon Peters mentioned contractual concerns and this discussion will be handled by a smaller group. Lastly, if parents are considering transporting their kids to school, this could alleviate the number of riders on the buses.

Marlene McKinney, the voice for the paraprofessionals, discussed concerns of the paraprofessionals. The concerns are ~getting the students off and back on the bus ~ breakfast, lunch and recess ~ how are we addressing open choice/out of town students ~ how are the paraprofessionals able to address the needs of students with hearing, visual and physical disabilities ~ are the younger kids keeping their personal belongings with them throughout the day or within lockers ~ what are the plans for lunch, recess, gym and specials. Ryan Walstrom reassured Marlene that we are still putting the pieces together and all of her concerns were valid and will be addressed.

Patti Toller surveyed the administrative assistants, and came up with the following concerns; ~ small office sizes, not allowing social distancing ~ barriers are needed ~ administrative assistants are willing to be part of designing their work spaces ~ ill students traveling through the main office into the nurse's office ~ proper outside ventilation ~ alternate bus route forms and class lists have not been issued/addressed yet for the coming school year ~ if an administrative assistant is considered in the high risk category and cannot return to work, are there other employment opportunities ~ if an admin assistant falls ill, can we get a sub, and is this sub prescreened prior to entry ~ are we amending sick time for staff and students ~ how to handle visitors, deliveries, parents ~ when a building nurse is out and a student falls ill, who steps in to assist the sick student (many times- in the past- the secretaries have assisted). Lastly, Patti would like us to be mindful of anxiety and depression of returning staff and students. Do we have enough coverage to handle these concerns?

Sharon Peters mentioned that these concerns are on "our" radar.

We will continue with 2 more Re-Opening Committee meetings from 9AM-11Am on July 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>.

Adjourn 10:59AM