

**HADLEY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
HADLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HADLEY, MASSACHUSETTS 01035
Minutes August 11, 2020**

5:00 PM Executive Session- Zoom Meeting (Closed to Public)

A member of the school committee may move to go into Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining if s/he determines that an open meeting will have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and to reconvene in open session.

6:00 PM – Regular Zoom Meeting

Present: Klesch, Phifer, Fasihuddin, Brugger, Percy, McKenzie

1. Call to Order

Klesch asked for a motion to call the meeting to order. Fasihuddin moved, Brugger seconded and the vote was 5-0-0.

2. Adjustments to the Agenda- None

3. Public Comment

Klesch reviewed the policy regarding public comment
No public comment at this time

4. Presentations/Discussion Items

HA Remote Learning Plan

Camuso reviewed the schedule for all students attending remotely if all students were learning remotely and for any students from special populations participating in in-person learning. She reviewed the attendance policies- Attendance will be taken daily and by each class in accordance with DESE requirements. She explained the procedures of reporting absences and attendance and said that the policies are the same for remote and in-person learning. All grading and assessments for remote and in-person are the same. Curriculum and standards are applied. Google classroom is the platform to be used by all teachers. Code of Conduct is relative and will be followed in remote learning. Extracurricular activities are being planned both remotely and in-person. She said that Athletics plans were not determined yet. Camuso also addressed how students would access support services remotely. She provided sample remote lessons to give an idea what a daily lesson might look like. Phifer asked how the special population students would be served in-person while the other students are participating in remote learning. She said that both student populations would receive instruction at the same time with options of being in class at the same time, but in-person students would be in cohorts.

Klesch informed that the committee had not finalized what special populations would be prioritized for in-person learning. Brugger asked if students at HA could be provided a weekly plan for what is expected on remote learning. Camuso said that would be addressed in the teacher guidelines. McKenzie spoke to the remote learning last year and informed the public that DESE had placed restrictions on remote learning to address inequities. Instruction time was limited to 3 hours, homework was limited, and no grades were given. McKenzie said that educators wanted to provide

more but were limited and are planning to provide a more robust remote learning experience this year.

HES Remote Learning Plan

Dowd said that a strong remote learning plan is being developed and she plans to keep families informed. She reviewed the plans with a shared screen. She said that students would be following a schedule with morning meetings. Attendance will be taken. Students will have access to services. Absences should be called in. Google classroom is the platform. Some teachers in the lower grades are researching new platforms for the younger children. Dowd said she had every confidence that educators would do everything they can to meet the needs of their students. Grading and Assessments will adhere to the standard procedures. She provided a summary of expectations for students and families. Each grade level will have one “special” per day, art, music, or PE. Phifer asked for a comparison between a second grader in person as opposed to remotely. Dowd said the goal is for the students to follow the same schedule of instruction. She said it would need additional staff for support. Phifer asked about the amount of synchronous time learning. Dowd responded that it would vary depending on the content of the lesson. McKenzie said that some of these things are being discussed with HEA. When teachers are together during the first 2 weeks of school, they may get together as teams and identify the needs, scope and sequence and plan from there. She gave an example of 2 teachers teaching a lesson- one in person and one remotely. Dowd said it requires staff resource coordination. Phifer asked how students would have questions answered during independent remote learning. Dowd responded that they were working on providing a “help time” for students. Phifer asked what the School Committee could do to help the Learning Plan be successful. McKenzie thanked everyone for their support. She acknowledged that this uncertainty disconcerting to everyone. She said everyone can help each other by asking questions, providing feedback, and trusting our educators. McKenzie referred to sharing DESE guidance with the community. Klesch stated that DESE guidance says that student populations designated by DESE must be given access to in-person learning. McKenzie noted that the guidelines can be accessed through and are within the Reopening Plan. The SC will determine the population that will return to in-person learning including safety protocols. Phifer asked about the metric for the special population. Klesch said that some students were identifiable through IEPs. She added that the SC would continue discussion about the special population in-person learning. Fasihuddin thanked those who worked to make the Remote Learning Plans more detailed.

5. **Public Comment**

Bob Wade- asked if there were guidelines for minimum or maximum number of students who could attend special population in-person attendance. Klesch said the SC would be reviewing those numbers by school.

Lindsey- concern about students required log in time when parents are not able to be present to log in their child.

Maureen Tumenas

Mentioned that students can put in a comment in google classroom asking questions and there are several staff who will respond.

Christine Kelley- Will consideration be given for students who may not be considered eligible for in-person learning at the beginning of the year but later show signs of struggling and may need to be moved into in-person learning.

Steve-encourages SC to look at other schools and how they are orientating 9th graders and said that the DESE guidelines do not address the difference in levels of difficulty for kindergarteners and older students when remote learning.

Meg Cain- We need to make sure students have plenty of time for question asking. Encourages teachers to remember that for many students reaching out for help in itself is a challenge. Teachers need to reach out to students as well.

Paul Jekanowski- Idea of kicking off the start of school with an in-person orientation, possible outside, with teachers there to explain to students how the learning plan will work and what the expectations are.

With no other public comments, Klesch mentioned that the SC will not be voting on any action items at this meeting.

Klesch recapped the upcoming meeting dates.

6. Next Meeting Dates

- a. August 13, 2020 @ 5:30 pm- Executive Session/ Remote Learning Plan/ Special Populations
- b. August 24, 2020 @ 6:00 pm– Review and revision of district strategy document and superintendent goals
- c. August 31, 2020 @ 6:00 pm– Regular School Committee Meeting August

7. Fasihuddin moved to adjourn. Phifer seconded and the vote to adjourn was unanimous.

The Committee went back into Executive Session at approximately 7:05 pm