

Special Meeting of Board of Education - Conducted Telephonically 5:30 p.m. (Monday, July 27, 2020)

Generated by Isela Preciado on Thursday, July 30, 2020

Meeting called to order at 5:34 PM

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was led by Ryan Smith, Assistant Superintendent-Secondary Educational Services

1.3 Roll Call

Members present

Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta, Sonia De Leon, Carmen Gomez

Members absent

Linda Garcia

1.4 Special Meeting Agenda July 27, 2020

Approve the Special Meeting Agenda July 27, 2020.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Yesenia Cuarenta.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta, Sonia De Leon, Carmen Gomez

3. Public Hearing - The following public comments were received and included as submitted. Three (3) minute time limit for public hearing applied.

April O'Connor TAP President - Good Evening Board President Hansen, PUSD board members, executive cabinet and guest. There is so much to focus on but the current top three issues are; where will Distance Learning (DL) take place, training, and curriculum ready for digital learning. We hope with the rise in COVID cases and the risk of exposure for staff that PUSD will support educators with the option of working from home or from site. This would allow staff to make the best decision for their safety, and their families. We continue to participate in the BTS task force, working for collaborative solutions for the best possible Distance Learning implementation. We need to develop a training plan that will adequately prepare teachers for the start of school, while refining curriculum that will support the distance learning model. Training and preparation in curriculum are essential to the success of our Distance Learning program, and we only have three weeks. I would also like to announce that Heather VanEdee will be our Political Action Chair. We are partnering with CSEA and will be pulling filed candidates this Friday to start the process of interviewing for endorsement of PUSD School Board candidates. I would also like to state that CSEA represents our partners in Paramount and many of essential workers during the pandemic (besides being our co-workers, friends and parents). They still have not come to an agreement with the district for the 2019-2020 school year. We support them in their negotiation for fair contract.

Nancy Ramirez - I want to share a concern regarding difficulty in enrolling in the Paramount District. I grew up in Paramount and graduated from PHS. I recently had to relocate back to Paramount with my daughter to live with my parents due to a job loss. I found how to enroll on your website, but since I only have internet access on my phone it was difficult to complete all the forms online. The website does give a phone number for student services but I had trouble reaching anyone there. I called multiple times at different times of the day but no one answered. Being frustrated, I drove the main district office only to find the main entrance locked due to COVID. I saw some cars in the parking lot so I drove to the back to see if I could find student services. I did find the office but the door was also locked without anyone there. I knew there had to be someone around because of the cars so I knocked on different department doors until I found someone. That person was very helpful and they found the right employee to call me. It should not be this difficult to enroll in school! I understand wanting to have registration process online, but you need to have a place with computers set up for parents that don't have a computer. My other bigger concern is where is everyone at the district? When I went to check out from the district we just moved from, they had people in the office to talk to parents directly. The office did not look like it was full, but there was someone to greet me at the main door and the two departments I had to visit had one or two people in each office. As a taxpayer and now being unemployed, I want to know are these people being paid to stay home? Are they able

to do their job from home? Who is answering phones if no one is in the office? My experience feels like they are not. I understand the need to be safe but it seems like the district may be doing a disservice to the community. It makes me sad that this was my first experience back in Paramount.

Angelica Bonilla - I am a parent and currently working from home since March, I have a 7 year old daughter, I know that this pandemic has affected us all physically, mentally, emotionally, and financially, I know we are thinking about our children's safety as well as the teachers and parents and it will be a challenge for all of us. As a concern parent I will not have my child attend school, but at the same time I can't give my child 100% on her academics, but I will do anything for her safety, I don't know what is plan for the school year, but just hoping for everyone's safety.

3. Superintendent's Report

Back to School in the Fall

Dr. Myrna Morales, Assistant Superintendent-Human Resources shared with the Board that the purpose of the presentation is to share latest information about school reopening guidelines and District preparations for full-time Distance Learning. Dr. Morales shared that the daily reported percent of COVID-19 Diagnostic tests that are positive is 7-day daily average of 8.4%. The number of daily hospitalized confirmed COVID-19 patients is past 3 day average current hospitalizations on July 23, 2020 is 2,210.

Age group (Los Angeles County Cases Only – excludes LB and Pas)

0 to 17	-	12,910
18 to 40	-	70,870
41 to 65	-	55,397
Over 65	-	17,899

CDC Guidance (source CDC website)

Guiding Principles - The more people a student or staff member interacts with, and the longer that interaction, the higher the risk of COVID-19 spread. The risk of COVID-19 spread increases in school settings as follows:

- Lowest Risk: Students and teachers engage in virtual-only classes, activities, and events.
- More Risk: Small, in-person classes, activities, and events. Groups of students stay together and with the same teacher throughout/across school days and groups do not mix. Students remain at least 6 feet apart and do not share objects (e.g., hybrid virtual and in-person class structures, or staggered/rotated scheduling to accommodate smaller class sizes).
- Highest Risk: Full sized, in-person classes, activities, and events. Students are not spaced apart, share classroom materials or supplies, and mix between classes and activities.

PUSD Goals

- To keep students and staff as safe as possible
- To continue to provide rigorous instruction to our students
- Prepare teaching and support staff to maximize the instruction in an on-line setting
- Ensure high level of engagement and participation for and from our students
- To provide intervention for targeted groups including English Learning , Special Education, Foster Youth and Homeless students

Governor's Regulations for Full-time Distance Learning Program

Set requirements to ensure schools provide rigorous and grade-appropriate instruction. Under newly enacted state law, school districts are required to provide:

- Devices and connectivity so that every child can participate in distance learning.
- Daily live interaction for every child with teachers and other students.
- Class assignments that are challenging and equivalent to in-person instruction.
- Targeted supports and interventions for English learners and special education students.

Back To School Task Force

- In light of current situation, we reconvened the academic specialty groups of the BTS Task Force to plan for full distance learning for the new school year.
- Building on the Back to School Task Force's work, they will plan common implementation expectations for distance learning for each instructional level.
- BTS specialty groups will meet over the next few weeks to collect input on aspects that are vital to a rigorous full-time distance learning that has a high level of accountability.

The BTS Task Force Academic Specialty Group will focus on:

- Establishing expectations for daily on-line instruction and daily instructional schedule
- Establishing higher expectations for students engagement/participation during distance learning, including a reengagement plan for students who miss classes for 3 consecutive days
- Discussing student assessment and grading
- Reviewing Professional Development needs

Supplemental and related services will continue to be offered in Distance Learning format including:

- Counseling
- Speech and Language
- Adaptive Physical Education
- Occupational Therapy
- Resource services
- Any other related services listed in an IEP or 504 plan

Planned Staff Development for Teachers

A plethora of staff development will be provided for teachers that will cover:

- Integrating content using digital tools (including Schoology).
- Addressing learning loss in the curriculum guides and previewing revised curriculum guides for distance learning format.
- Engaging students in meaningful instruction provided remotely.

Planned Technology Support for Parents

- K-3 students and parents will receive basic training on log-in procedures and device navigation. Including supportive apps. (applications) to support students
- Parents will also receive resources that they can access from home that will help them support their children.
- Weekly webinars for the first 8 weeks will be provided for parents to assist their children at home. They will be recorded for later availability for parents. Translation services will be provided on-line.
- A parent website link will be established that will provide resources and support related to educational technology, including recorded instructional videos.

Next Steps

A recommendation that we follow the school opening safety guidelines and begin the school year in a full-time distance learning model and

- Collect information on full-time distance learning from BTS Task Force specialty groups
- Plan additional professional development specifically for full-time distance learning support
- Work with associations
- Communicate school opening design with parents and community

There were questions/discussion on the following: of the 0-17 age group, how many of those were ages zero to 8 years of age (Gomez), what type of resources are we looking at (Gomez), where it says translation services will be provided online, is that with subtitles or is that actual translation (Gomez), are we looking into in person for training for parents that do not know how to use a computer or know the software (Gomez) K-3 rollout - do you know when the rollouts are going to be (Gomez), will they still be providing the packets like we have been doing in the past (Hansen), K-2 technology - what type are we looking at ipads or chromebooks (De Leon), page 10 - re-engagement plan, what does that consist of, do the teachers know who is going to be held responsible for the re-engagement of students who are missing or not logging on (De Leon), who will be responsible, administrators or will be burden teachers (De Leon), what does re-engaging look like (De Leon), will someone send an email, drive to their home (De Leon), are we going to send surveys to teachers that might need support for technology (De Leon), how do we hold those teachers accountable or support them when they're not in meetings teaching live (De Leon), is there a way to purchase headphones sets for students so that way they are not hearing everyone's background noise (De Leon), where could we purchase or could you find a grant (De Leon)

4. Action Items

4.1 Full Distance Learning Beginning the 2020-21 School Year

Adopt a full distance learning model for the opening of the 2020-21 school year that follows the Governors guidance and California Department of Public Health Framework and Guidance published July 17, 2020.

There was a question/discussion on the following: if in three weeks the governor comes back and says, we need to open a hybrid model, we would come back to the Board for another vote, is that correct (Gomez)

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Yesenia Cuarenta.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta, Sonia De Leon, Carmen Gomez

5. Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 6:34 p.m. to discuss:

Conference with Labor Negotiator per Govt. Code 54957.6

6. Open Session

The Board of Education reconvened at 7:14 p.m. and President Hansen announced there was no action taken.

7. Adjournment

The Board of Education adjourned the July 27, 2020 Special meeting at 7:14p.m.

Motion by Carmen Gomez, second by Yesenia Cuarenta.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Vivian Hansen, Yesenia Cuarenta, Sonia De Leon, Carmen Gomez