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BOARD OF EDUCATION

Special Meeting - Monday, August 23, 2021 - 4:30 PM
Central Middle School
305 Vicksburg Lane North
Plymouth, MN 55447

Minutes of Special Meeting Meeting

A Special Meeting Meeting of the Board of Education of Wayzata Public Schools was held Monday, August 23, 2021, beginning at 4:30 PM in the Central Middle School 305 Vicksburg Lane North Plymouth, MN 55447.

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Board of Education
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AGENDA SECTION: Call to Order

ITEM: Roll Call Attendance

COMMENTS BY: Andrea Cuene, Board Chair

	PRESENT	ABSENT
Linda Cohen	_____	_____
Seanne Falconer	_____	_____
Sarah Johansen	_____	_____
Chris McCullough	_____	_____
Cheryl Polzin	_____	_____
Bonita Lucky	_____	_____
Andrea Cuene	_____	_____
Chace Anderson, ex-officio	_____	_____



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AGENDA SECTION: Administrative Reports and Recommendations

ITEM: Health and Safety Measures

COMMENTS BY: Chace B. Anderson, Superintendent

Background Information

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the American Association of Pediatrics (AAP), the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE), and the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) are all supportive of and strongly encourage school districts to have students return to classrooms for full time in-person learning for the 2021-2022 school year. Wayzata Public Schools is placing its focus on preparing for the upcoming school year with the following goals: 1) ensure the health and safety of students and staff, and 2) taking steps to help ensure students can stay in school for in-person learning.

Recommended Action: Approve the Health and Safety Measures resolution for the 2021-2022 school year, and authorize the Superintendent and designees to adapt these expectations as deemed appropriate in an effort to help ensure the health and safety of students and staff and to best meet the needs of students, families, and staff in an ever-changing pandemic climate.

Motion by: _____

ROLL CALL

Passed: _____

Second by: _____

Failed: _____

Abstentions: _____ 3 _____

Resolution

8-23-21

Health and Safety Measures for the 2021-2022 School Year

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes Section 123B.09 vests the care, management, and control of independent districts in the school board; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent, Dr. Chace B. Anderson, of Independent School District #284 (Wayzata) [hereinafter the “Superintendent”] is responsible for the management of the schools, the administration of all School District policies, and is directly accountable to the School Board; and

WHEREAS, when responsibilities are not specifically prescribed nor School District policy applicable, the Superintendent shall use personal and professional judgment, subject to review by the School Board, pursuant to School District Policy 302, *Superintendent*; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) and the Minnesota Department of Health (“MDH”) have determined that the COVID-19 pandemic is currently ongoing and may remain ongoing for an unknown time; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Education (“MDE”) has issued and may continue to issue written guidance for Minnesota schools on educational issues related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Health (“MDH”) has issued and may continue to issue written guidance for Minnesota schools on public health issues related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the introduction of new variants of COVID-19 have led to a rise in infections for fully vaccinated individuals and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states that “the delta variant is more contagious;” and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Health states, “children under 12 years of age are not yet eligible to be vaccinated and children age 12 to 15 are only recently eligible, there is an increased risk of COVID-19 transmission in school settings;” and

WHEREAS, children 16 years and older have been eligible for vaccinations for several months; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), in addition to other medical professional organizations, recommend universal indoor masking for all people in the school setting (ages 2 years and older), including teachers, staff, students, and visitors to schools, regardless of vaccination status; and

WHEREAS, all people are required by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as per federal law, to wear face coverings while in public transportation hubs and on all public transportation conveyances (airplanes, public buses, etc.), including school buses (both public and private) (MDH Best Practice Recommendations, 072821); and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent and the administration of the School District have conferred with the School Board regarding COVID-19 health and safety measures, the current CDC, MDE, and MDH requirements for each, legal considerations and other relevant information;

WHEREAS, the social and emotional health of students are factors the School Board has considered in determining whether masks should be worn in school settings; and

WHEREAS, the primary goals of the district’s masking and other mitigation strategies are 1) to ensure the health and safety of students and staff, and 2) taking steps to help ensure students can stay in school for in-person learning.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District #284 as follows:

Section 1: The Superintendent is hereby directed to implement the following health and safety measures to open the 2021-2022 school year, effective August 30, 2021:

Prevention Strategies:

All staff, students, and visitors within Independent School District #284 buildings, regardless of vaccination status, must follow the district established strategies of physical distancing, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, cleaning and disinfection, contact tracing, screening testing, and staying home when sick as defined in and based upon the “[CDC Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools.](#)”

Masking Expectations:

Pre-K – Grade 8: That students in pre-K (age 2 or older) through grade 8 and all staff, volunteers and visitors working in these schools, as well as Adult Basic Education students and staff located at the Early Learning School, be required to wear masks inside the building on school days between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Wearing of masks in buildings outside of these hours is still recommended but not required unless otherwise communicated. For students in pre-K through grade 8, the possibility of moving from “required masking” to “strongly recommended masking” will be considered after an appropriate amount of time elapses from when vaccinations become available for all students in these age groups; perhaps monthly and assuming local conditions are conducive to such a change. (Note: Pre-K through age 11 students are currently not eligible to be vaccinated.)

Grades 9-12: That students in grades 9-12 and all staff, volunteers and visitors working within WHS be required to wear masks inside the building on school days between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. (exception made for indoor physical education classes engaged in physical activity where greater distancing can occur and for designated MSHSL after-school activities). Wearing of masks in the building outside of these hours and during indoor physical education classes is still recommended but not required unless otherwise communicated. Careful monitoring will occur at WHS during the early weeks of the school year as consideration is given to the possibility of moving from “required masking” to “strongly recommended masking” if viral spread at school is minimal and local conditions are conducive to making such a change. Beginning the school year with “required masking” is being recommended to help ensure a good start at WHS that will contribute to the sustainability of in-person learning. It is important that WHS and the

district do everything possible to minimize viral spread and quarantining of students and staff.

Wayzata Transition: That students in the WPS Transition program and all staff, volunteers and visitors working at the school, be required to wear masks inside the Wayzata Transition School. Consideration will be given to moving from “required masking” to “strongly recommended masking” if viral spread is minimal and local conditions are conducive to making such a change.

Outdoors: Students in pre-K through grade 12, and the school staff are not required to wear masks outdoors for recess, physical education classes, athletic practices/contests and/or any other outdoor instructional or recreational activities.

School Buses: Students riding on school buses to and from school, to special events, field trips, athletic events or any other activity, are required to wear a mask as per federal law.

Implementation: The Superintendent shall develop procedures for the implementation of the above masking requirements. These procedures are to include, but not be limited to, applicable definitions and circumstances when wearing a mask is not practical, such as when eating, and when legal grounds exist for not wearing a mask, such as for certain medical conditions.

Section 2: The Superintendent is hereby authorized, after consultation with the School Board Chair and notification to the School Board, to select and implement different health and safety measures for the School District or any specific school buildings without School Board action if the Superintendent reasonably believes that prompt implementation of different health and safety measures is necessary, and that constraints of time and public health considerations render it impractical to hold a School Board meeting to approve the implementation. The health and safety measures selected and implemented by the Superintendent shall continue in effect unless and until the School Board, in consultation with the Superintendent and appropriate school district staff and public health officials, deems it in the best interest of the School District and its students to implement different health and safety measures.

Section 3: The Superintendent will provide regular updates to the School Board at school board meetings regarding the School District’s efforts to implement COVID-19 related educational and public health guidance issued by the MDE and the MDH, respectively.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2021.

Roll Call Vote

Ms. Andrea Cuene
School Board Chair

Ms. Bonita Lucky
School Board Clerk



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AGENDA SECTION: Administrative Reports and Recommendations

ITEM: Finance and Business Services Recommendations

COMMENTS BY: DeeDee Kahring, Executive Director, Finance and Operations

Acknowledgement of Contributions

Per Minnesota Statutes § 465.03, Gifts to Municipalities, "Any city, county, school district or town may accept a grant or devise of real or personal property and maintain such property for the benefit of its citizens in accordance with the terms prescribed by the donor. Nothing herein shall authorize such acceptance or use for religious or sectarian purposes. Every such acceptance shall be by resolution of the governing body adopted by a two-thirds majority of its members, expressing such terms in full."

During the month of August, the Wayzata Athletic Boosters made a contribution to the District in amount of \$39,123 for the purposes of updating locker room facilities used by District student-athletes at the Plymouth Ice Arena.

Recommended Action: Accept with appreciation the donation from the Wayzata Athletic Boosters, which complies with current state and local policies and guidelines.

Motion by: _____

ROLL CALL

Passed: _____

Second by: _____

Failed: _____

Abstentions: _____



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AGENDA SECTION: Adjourn

ITEM: Adjourn

COMMENTS BY: Andrea Cuene, Board Chair

This agenda item brings closure to the School Board meeting.

Recommended Action: Call the meeting to a close.

Motion by: _____ **Yes:** _____ **Passed:** _____

Second by: _____ **No:** _____ **Failed:** _____

Time of Adjournment: _____ 8 _____