



Craig City School District

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Chris Reitan, Superintendent
Jackie Hanson, Elem./MS Principal
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Mollie Harings, PACE Principal

SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Tuesday

4/15/2021

High School Commons

Zoom Link

<https://craigschools.zoom.us/j/7289917333?pwd=WkNaWGd4S1IPV0JIWEJITmx3VXd0Zz09>

6:00 PM

1. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 7 PM.
2. Flag Salute
A salute was given to the flag.
3. Roll Call

Present at HS Commons:

Board

Scott Brookshire
Joel Steenstra
Marla Dillman
Daniel Nelson
Tristan Douville

Staff

Chris Reitan
Melinda Bass
Troy Thain
Chuck Hanson

Others

Kara McCoy
Stacy Mank
Colin Rice
Kimberly Rice
Kristi Kuhnert
Gary Mills
Carrie Dawn Durgan
Brian Templin

Present via ZOOM:

Board

Terren Piburn

Staff

Zach Scheidecker
Jackie Hanson
Kim Brand
Deanna Claus
Karen Packer
Myla Horner
Maria Riedel
Sandra Marker
Stacia Schwanke
Courtney Wood
Howie Daggs

Others

Richard McCoy
Alison Taylor
Trish Conatser
Cathy Bolling
Dawn Sheets
Helen McCoy
Jamie Roberts
Shannon Cheney
"JR"

4. Agenda Approval

M/S: Steenstra/Nelson

Motion to approve the agenda.

Scott Brookshire: We have a motion to approve the agenda.

VOICE VOTE: All in favor

MOTION CARRIES: Unanimous

5. Public Comment

Kimberly Rice: Thanked the school Board members and Mr. Reitan. She feels the Wrangell trip for wrestling was not handled properly and the Smart Start Plan needs to be renamed as we are no longer at the start. Significant updates need to happen immediately, and form a committee. The plan needs to reflect sustainability. A committee would offer great assistance to the Board.

5 minute recess to address technical issues with ZOOM.

Troy Thain: Has taught at CCSD 20 years plus, athletic director, coach. He wants to keep kids safe, but believes the Smart Start Plan needs to be revised. Some recommendations are removal of the masks in the school while the community is at low risk and have the ability to travel. Testing is required prior to travel for students. We are at low risk. Wrestling regional is in Ketchikan and we need to let the State know if we will be traveling there. We are also thinking about prom, graduation, and activities for next year. If we don't change the plan, we will be in limbo of how these activities will take place. The three summer activities are swimming, volleyball, and cross country. He recommends removing the mask mandate. Have a standing committee including the superintendent, building AD's, a public health person. It has been shown a mitigation plan is a very safe way to do these activities.

Discussion about if the mitigation plan would need to be approved by the Board, or if there would be a Board member on the committee, or if the Board trusted the committee's decisions. The AD would create the mitigation plan and take it to the committee. Mitigation plans from this year have been very successful and they are currently following the NFHS guidelines.

Richard McCoy: After reading the attachment in the email for this meeting, he is wondering if we will be following the AASA guidelines for athletics and he is wondering if the committee that will be formed will be following the AASA guidelines. His concern is if our students will be able to travel.

Gary Mills: Supports Mr. Thain's changes to the Smart Start Plan. He actually would not even have a plan in place until the number of cases justifies itself. The kids have given up a lot in the last year and he feels this is unfair. He hopes this will be changed.

Deanna Claus: Feels that our decisions should be based on the advice of medical professionals.

Kristi Kuhnert: Parent and community member. Wants to follow up with Mr. Thain's and Ms. Rice's idea of having a mitigation committee. It is a fabulous idea. She feels the committee will have to react very quickly when there are changes and feels that the committee should be able to make the decisions without having Board approval. Testing should not be cost-prohibitive. There are options out there we need to look at and explore in order to get our kids back to some kind of normal and get these events going forward again. She made a phone call today and was told there are ten Craig students who have been vaccinated and overall, 54% of the residents on POW have been vaccinated.

Chuck Hanson: 20 years educator, parent, and coach for 19 years. Advocating for students to get back to somewhat normal. He appreciates the Board meeting tonight. He likes Mr. Thain's idea to have a mitigation committee. He is looking at all activities including prom and graduation. He is worried about the kids next year with the limitations of travel around the state. When things go bad, we switch very quickly. However, with the strict guidelines we can prevent and try to get back to activities. Vaccinations and testing are available. To not update the plan for students and teachers to go places, and hold people back, we are doing an injustice for everyone. If we don't start thinking about next year, it will be terrible for kids. We need to look at what other districts are doing. Klawock went to state last week, a red zone. This is not just about wrestling, it's about all activities for kids.

Shannon Cheney: Would the Board consider changing the 10-day rule for being out sick with just one symptom?

Stacy Mank: Parent and public health nurse. There are no barriers for testing at SEARHC. There is no cost. It has been this way for four to six weeks. She agrees with a lot of things in Mr. Thain's plan, but there are things she does not agree with. There is scientific evidence of the effectiveness of masks, especially when not social distancing six feet apart. Vaccinations are offered to anyone aged 16 and over on Prince of Wales Island. 30% of the island population has been vaccinated. We can do all kinds of things with a good mitigation plan. There needs to be a work group or committee for the Smart Start Plan. The information changes quickly, so it is good to be able to review that plan on a regular basis. She loves the idea of a committee for the plan, a mitigation committee for activities. The mitigation plan for Wrangell wrestling was awesome, but she noted that we have to be flexible and listen to the community you are going to. One

of the biggest problems with Wrangell was the school said they were good, but the City said they were not doing good. A big factor in this was they had a lot of people at home who were sick and awaiting testing results. It can be frustrating looking at risk. Everyone has a different metric. CDC encourages everyone to be on the same page when looking at the metrics between schools.

Trish Conatser: Saddened and surprised that the Wrangell wrestling trip was canceled last week. The plan is outdated. Alaska leads the country with immunized citizens. With the way things are going, she recommends updating the plan to keep kids in school and activities rather than keeping them out. Youth suicide is increasing every day. This is disastrous and unacceptable. Our kids are extremely vulnerable. Taking something away when it is so close is unacceptable.

6. New Business

a. CCSD Smart Start to School Guidelines – Staff and Student Travel Guidelines

M/S: Steenstra/Nelson

Motion to discuss the CCSD Smart Start to School Guidelines for Staff and Student Travel Guidelines

Discussion about the mitigation plan for wrestling going to Ketchikan. Wrestlers will all be tested as well as coaches and refs. Travel will be by the ferry, and they will stay in a hotel. The students will not be traveling around town. Food will be brought to them at the hotel or the coaches will cook for the athletes in the schools. Another part of the plan is to stop the tournament a day early. The mitigation plan does not allow for testing when they return to Craig. There are 16 students in Craig who would be traveling. If allowed to travel to the state tournament, there would possibly be six to eight athletes traveling. The current Smart Start Plan prevents Craig from traveling to state as Anchorage is at a higher risk.

Joel Steenstra made a motion to remove from the Smart Start Plan, on page 6, *Staff travel in yellow/low risk to other low risk communities/schools on approval*. Daniel Nelson seconded the motion.

Discussion about whether this change by itself is enough to allow, for example, wrestlers to travel to Anchorage. There is still language in the plan to authorize the Superintendent to not sign off on the travel.

Mr. Reitan cautioned the Board that if everything stays as it is, the wrestlers will travel to Ketchikan. He agrees the plan needs updated, but to try to adjust the plan just because we didn't go to Wrangell will put the Board and district in harm's way. If there is specific language to add prior to the State tournament, then he recommends the Board do that. He cautions to be careful about making a change just to make a change and time should be given to think about appropriate language.

