

**Unofficial Minutes
Morrow County School District
Board of Directors Work Session
January 11, 2021**

These are minutes of the Morrow County School District Board of Directors work session on Monday, January 11, 2021, via Zoom at 7:00 pm.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Becky Kindle, Richard Cole, Andy Fletcher, Mary Killion, Brian Kollman, Barney Lindsay, Marcie Rodelo

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dirk Dirksen, Cheryl Costello, Erin Stocker, Marie Shimer

OTHERS PRESENT:

Call to Order:

The work session was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Becky Kindle via Zoom.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

COVID-19 Update

- MCSD was able to open schools October 28th. We were fortunate to have had a 3-week window to open up for hybrid learning and in January were considered to be in safe harbor.
- We have to continue to follow the Ready Schools, Safe Learners model and will be working with our local health department with regard to the next steps. Morrow County is still in the hazard category.
- The governor made it clear, decisions can be made school by school and community by community. We will take all things into consideration as we move forward. We will receive more information/guidance from ODE January 19th.
- Bussing is a big hurdle. Working with Midco Bus, we are looking for guidance on how to get more kids on a bus, have enough drivers and additional busses in each community.
- We met with the local health department to review where we are at and what changes we can make. They have agreed elementary students can see specialists (PE, music, ELL, Special Ed). We will review what that will look like and possibly will have things in place Monday.
- Secondary principals met and would like students to attend 1st period class (4 hrs. per day) for a week and then move on to 2nd period the following week and so on. This will help engage kids with more of their teachers. Students will still be responsible for all of their classes for the week but would spend the week with one teacher as their focus. Also, primarily for seniors, working in small groups (5) with a teacher on Fridays to work on classes needed for graduation. The local health department has agreed to both requests so we will move forward with these plans for the elementary and secondary.
- High risk students will continue to be offered CDL at home until everyone is comfortable coming back or until we have a small enough number of K-6 kids to manage them through our distance ed model through MEC. The district currently has approximately 170-180 kids/parents who have chosen distance ed only and we want to meet that need.
- Plans to increase bussing is on hold until we receive more direction from the state. We are looking to add a 4th bus in Irrigon and Boardman to meet the need of students not able to get to school.
- Mr. Dirksen reviewed the current grade situation, with the close of the semester. Students are struggling. Skill development over the grades is critical. We will be working on a summer school program.
- Liability issues related to COVID are a concern. We continue to follow all guidelines of the Ready Schools, Safe Learners document to keep within the acceptable guidelines. PACE is working on obtaining clarity related to this issue.

Please contact Mr. Dirksen if you have any questions/concerns. The next board meeting there will be more information from the January 19th meeting related to upcoming changes.

Evaluation of the Superintendent

Mr. Dirksen shared his reflection document for the 2020/21 school year with the board.

Board Chair Kindle reached out to Steve Kelly with OSBA to see what other districts are doing regarding superintendent evaluation during this time of COVID. The board may want to consider options (full evaluation, summary or tabling the evaluation) this year. A decision will have to be made at the February board meeting and vote to decide what the evaluation will look like this year.

Mr. Dirksen reviewed each standard in his reflection document with the board.

- Standard 1 – Leadership and District Culture
- Standard 2 – Policy and Governance
- Standard 3 – Communications and Community Relations
- Standard 4 – Organizational Management
- Standard 5 – Curriculum Planning /Development
- Standard 6 – Instructional Leadership
- Standard 7 – Human Resources Management
- Standard 8 – Values and Ethics of Leadership
- Standard 9 – Labor Relations

Work session adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Cheryl Costello, Board Secretary

Becky Kindle, Board Chair

Date Approved: _____