



MEETING NOTES

Meeting Notes are not official until voted on by the Board of Education at its following Regular Meeting.

- A1 President called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
- A2 Members present: Mark Abate, Paul Lambert, Nadia Long, Brian Perry, and Lisa Whiting
- A3 Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Abate welcomed all attendees. Thank you to the community for your emails and engagement over the past several days. We know that our students' education is essential. The current situation is personal for all of us.

B PROGRAMS / PRESENTATIONS

- B1 Responsible Restart Hilliard City Schools
 1. Online Academy Update
 2. A/B Hybrid Student Update
 3. Data Analysis and Future Planning

Dr. Marschhausen started by agreeing with Mr. Abate that education is an essential service. In my conversations over the past several weeks, days, and even hours, with local, county, and state health officials, my message has been that we want to get our students safely back into schools. We have some parents with very passionate opinions that we should be "all-in," and some believe we should be "all eLearning" to begin the coming school year. We want our community to know that education in HCSD is an essential service. Our teachers need to be in front of our students as soon as possible. We want our kids back in school. With that being said, we are in an unprecedented time.

My recommendations are based on the information and guidance given to us by Franklin County Public Health (FCPH). As already established, our instructional modes for the coming school year are:

- All-In Plan: Fully in-person education
- Hybrid Plan: A combination of in-person and online education
- eLearning 2.0: Online education
- Online Academy: Fully online education

We have nearly 3,000 students (*18% of our student population*) registered for the Hilliard Online Academy. The remaining students in our school district will move between the other three instructional modes (*All-In, Hybrid, & eLearning 2.0*) as permitted by the FCPH.

There is a change in my recommendation to you, as directed by FCPH, regarding our alignment with the Public Health Advisory Alert System. If the county is in Level 1 (*yellow*), our students will be All-In. In Level 2 (*orange*), our students will be on the Hybrid Plan. In Levels 3 (*red*) and 4 (*purple*), our students will be in eLearning 2.0.

Just this week, Dr. Deborah Birx was in Columbus to meet with our health officials. The White House has identified Columbus as one of eleven hot spots in our country. The White House has worked with health officials in the City of Columbus and Franklin County to identify steps to try to slow the spread of COVID-19. Dr. Mysheika Roberts, Columbus Public Health Commissioner, said she does not believe schools should be back in session until we are in Level 2 (*orange*) and see four weeks of declining cases in the area. Joe Mazzola, Franklin County Public Health Commissioner, also says that we shouldn't consider shifting from online until we are in Level 2 (*orange*) and have sustained reductions in cases within the county.

Dr. Marschhausen spoke with Mary Kennedy, Hilliard Education Association President, and they support this plan. However, our teachers are adamant about being back in school as soon as it is safe.

We polled our parents about whether they wanted to switch between A and B groups for when we are in Hybrid. We had a relatively equal number wishing to make that switch. To all of the parents who put in a request to switch groups, your requests are granted. You will get an official notification soon.

Registration for the Online Academy (HOLA) closed at 11:59 p.m. on Friday, July 24. Today (Monday, July 27), we started looking at how many and which teachers will need to be assigned to HOLA. We had over 1,400 elementary students register for HOLA, making this the largest "elementary school" (*double the size of each elementary building*). We now have to reassign some "classroom" teachers to HOLA. More students in HOLA means fewer students in the building, but it does not change our staffing levels or our teacher/student ratios.

We will be accommodating the reassignment of staff by those who have an underlying condition and those who have a family member with an underlying condition. These are our first and second priorities to be our online teachers. Dr. Marschhausen thanks Mary Kennedy, for working with Mr. Walker, Executive Director of Human Resources, to prioritize those teacher needs as we work to meet our student needs.

Also, for your consideration tonight, there is an agenda item to insert language into the student handbooks for the 2020-2021 school year regarding face coverings. You also will have the first reading of a new Board policy that will make face coverings a requirement. There are no changes to our face-covering expectations from what has been laid out in previous meetings. These expectations are:

- All teachers and staff will wear cloth face masks or face shields.
- Students in grades K-2 will wear face masks on buses and in hallways. They are not required to wear a mask while seated in their classroom.
- Students in grades 3-6 will wear face masks on buses, in hallways, and classrooms with mask breaks scheduled when being outside is practical.
- Students in grades 7-12 will wear face masks on buses and while inside all buildings.

The health appeal process for face coverings with district nurses:

- Appeal process available through an online form at https://www.hilliardschools.org/20-21/wp-content/uploads/sites/61/2020/07/Face_Protection_Exemption_Form7-14-2020.pdf. **Form deadline is August 17, 2020.**
- Face shields and other measures will be approved through the appeal process.
- The district will work with health care professionals and Franklin County Public Health.

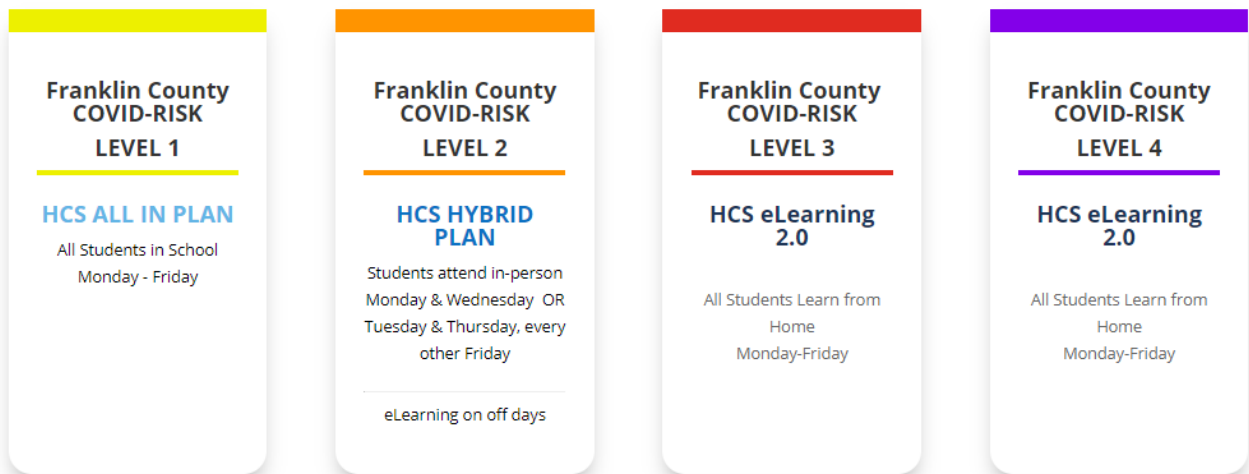
When we can bring students back to school in the Hybrid plan, there will be desk shields for every student. This will provide additional protection to both students and teachers. We are also fashioning shields for the cafeterias to offer additional safety for students while they eat lunch.

My third recommendation to you tonight is to add two workdays for our teachers during the week of August 17 – 21, 2020. These additional workdays will also allow us to distribute student iPads before the first day of school. This calendar change will move the first day of school from Thursday, August 20, 2020, to Monday, August 24, 2020. The reason we collected all student iPads in May was to update them, install new filters, and install a new management system on every iPad.

<u>Restart Dates</u>	
August 17-21	Teacher Workdays
August 17-21	iPad pick-up based on school
August 10	Announcement of which instructional mode the District will start in
August 24	First day of School (any mode)

Parent Notification

Except when ordered by FCPH, parents will be notified three calendar days before a change in instructional mode, in accordance with the current risk condition. For example, if the risk condition change is announced on a Thursday, we could change instructional modes on the following Monday.



The Ohio Department of Health stated that the way the risk level system is set up, they do not anticipate “yo-yo-ing” quickly between the different risk levels.

COVID-19 Monitoring Pilot Project

We have been asked to participate in a COVID-19 monitoring project along with the Ohio Department of Health, The Ohio State University, Franklin County Public Health, and Columbus Public Health. In this project, we will be looking at COVID-19 cases within the Hilliard City School District and also within each attendance area. The OSU College of Public Health and Translational Data Analytics Institute will help to develop an early detection system for outbreaks in our schools and neighborhoods.

We are working every day to do what is best for our students.

C ROUTINES

- C1 The agenda is correct, as submitted.
- C2 The Board of Education adopted the agenda.

D PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Board of Education of the Hilliard City School District encourages and appreciates citizen interest in meetings of the board. This place on the agenda is especially set aside to hear comments from visitors. Persons wishing to address the board should make written requests in advance of the meeting or complete the Visitor Form found where the agenda materials are located. When called, each speaker is asked to address the board at the microphone so that remarks may be clearly heard and recorded. The speaker should give his or her name and address and limit comments to three minutes.

Board members may ask questions of the speaker for information or clarification and may or may not make comments in response to a speaker's remarks. It should be noted that this section of the agenda is to hear the views of citizens about their schools. No board member has the power or authority to act for the board; therefore, no response from an individual board member should be interpreted as an official action of the board. Portions of the board meeting are being audiotaped.

Note: Letters are printed in this document as the author wrote it.

Denise Regenbogen, 4750 Coolbrook Drive, Hilliard, Ohio 43026

I want to thank you so much for your dedication and hard work during this difficult time in regards to schools re-opening.

I am so pleased that there is a plan in place for the start of the 2020-2021 school year. I am a dedicated watcher of Governor DeWine's weekly briefings and I also follow the Ohio Public Health Advisory System.

However, I really wonder why Level 2 would be considered "All In"? Level 2 says "Increased exposure and spread. Exercise high degree of caution. Follow all current health orders." We all know that children and kids (all ages K-12) will be "pushing the buttons" to keep their mask on/off, and will have difficulty with physical distancing and touching. Then Level 3 says "Very high exposure and spread. Limit activities as much as possible. Follow all current health orders."

Would it be possible to take another look at the delivery scenarios? I would feel so much more comfortable being "all in" at Level 1, hybrid at Level 2 and e-learning at Level 3 and 4. Since Level 3 and 4 have a very high/severe exposure and spread, I would feel so much better for the kids and teachers to be teaching at a distance.

Yes, I would love to have my son back in school, five days a week, but I want him to be back in school with a safe environment. I want it to be safe for him, his fellow students, the teachers and administration of each building.

Last week we all heard that Nationwide Insurance is sending all employees back home to work remotely until October. Other companies have either done this or have not brought employees back to their buildings at all.

Another concern is how long it will take the Franklin County Department of Health to communicate to the school systems and then out to families of any infection or contact with infected Covid patients. As all the schools reopen, with contact tracing, so much more information will need to be communicated to parents which will delay communication time. This concerns me greatly.

I know you will take into account all ideas. Again, thank you for your hard work, it is greatly appreciated by my family.

Melissa Shaffer, 6960 Rings Road, Dublin, OH 43016

My question for the school board zoom meeting is, if our kids return to school whether it be the hybrid plan or full time when our elementary children are outside at recess or during the day during "mask breaks" how can the teachers the school all accountable for my children's safety guarantee that kids are not going to be putting there hands on each other, touching each other, cough on each other ect.

Second those who complete the appeal to not have there children wear mask(s) will all those kids be in one class to minimize the risk to my children who are whole heartedly and strictly required to wear a mask whenever outside the home????

Rachel Parrish, 3347 Ridgewood Drive, Hilliard, 43026

1. Many parents and studies have expressed concerns about children not being able to see the expressions on teacher's faces with a mask, and how that will affect their ability to effectively communicate to their students. Would the leadership instead consider providing a clear face shield instead of a mask for teachers? It seems this would not only be easier to hear what the instructor is saying as it is difficult to project your voice for a classroom of children, but also allow the them to see his/her face and expression and understand the full meaning of the message while still protecting the teacher.
2. Several organizations are speaking up in support of children returning to school in person full time. Among these are the CDC, AAP and the Surgeon General are all on record showing their support for this. Significant examples of data from a large number of sources (other countries returning to school, daycares who have taken care of children of essential workers, the YMCA, etc). All of the results of the data show the virus does not pose a significant threat to our children. The curve has been flattened, there is plenty of room in the hospital ICU's and deaths from covid continue to trend down. Hilliard has done a great job planning and preparing an online academy for those who do not feel comfortable with in person learning yet, or those high at risk. While the covid risk is low for children, the suicide rates, anxiety and depression have continued to increase. Why are we ignoring the data and not allowing our children to return to full time in person learning for those that feel comfortable?
3. If the governor changes the level to 1 or 2 and masks become a recommendation and not mandate, will the school follow that as well?

Josh Winkler, 3109 Hyde Park Court, Hilliard, OH 43026

Why is there a plan and intent to have all students in school all day while the virus is still spreading? We require vaccines for so many other diseases, why do we not think it's important to be more cautious with COVID-19? The FAQ even says, for example, on the bus there will be no distancing. Going all in while the virus is still out there killing people, including children, is irresponsible and dangerous. Please, I urge you to only go all in with school once there is enough immunity.

Sam Moody, 2264 Salbuck Avenue, Hilliard, OH 43026

As a Hilliard tax payer, I'm writing to you to voice my concern with the current plan of re-opening schools this fall. I don't have any kids of my own, but I do have concern for my neighbor's and friend's children who will soon be going back to school.

I think it's great that Hilliard has a tiered plan in which they can flex between in-person, Hybrid, and virtual "eLearning" given the risk level guidelines for the general public of Franklin County. This is far superior to other districts that are currently planning on only one or the other; in-person or virtual. However, I believe it's still pushing too much in-person learning relative to the public health guidelines. Level 3 guidelines state to "limit activities as much as possible" which, to me, does NOT correlate to ANY in-person teaching in which you will have hundreds, if not thousands of students and staff under one roof.

Hilliard schools have always been proud, if not boastful, of the technology available to their students. Right now, it's important to use this technology to our advantage and keep our students and school staff safe and healthy. Let's boast about that! With this, I would encourage you to tweak the tiered plan to the following:

Level 1: All-In

Level 2: Hybrid:

Levels 3 and 4: eLearning

Dr. John Marschhausen stated that one of his four guiding principles on how students will learn this year is "prioritizing coronavirus safety concerns over educational issues". Let's hold ourselves to that and have inperson learning only when safe to do so. When in-person learning is not safe, let's utilize our technological capabilities to still provide excellent education via a virtual platform.

Lisa Breedlove Chaffee, 5981 Lakefront Avenue, Hilliard, 43026

My son is on the plan and needs to be in school every single day. What is being done to ensure students like my son are being taken care of? And if the American Academy of Pediatrics and the CDC are recommending schools re-open why are we not?

Lindsey Bohrer, 8283 Scioto Darby Creek Road, Hilliard, Ohio 43026

I was hoping to get these questions/comments answered at tonight's Board meeting.

According to Franklin County Board of Health, Hilliard is ranked number 4 out of 26 cities with Covid19 cases. Additionally, according to Dr. Bix, Columbus could become the next Covid19 hotspot. Due to this information, why not start out the year virtually and then ease back into Hybrid and/or classroom learning? Or at the very least, push back the opening dates, like other neighboring districts have done?

Why was the deadline to register for the online academy in July? I would think that with the numbers constantly changing, this would have been left open longer.

Have the school building circulation filters been updated to comply with Covid19 requirements? The CDC recommends opening classroom windows. Are you planning on allow for this to occur all year long?

Amanda Powers, 5633 Maple Dell Court, Hilliard, OH 43026

I have compiled a list of questions from parents represented in our group. They will be listening to the meeting this evening. Thank you for addressing our concerns

1. Back in the spring, John made a promise at the board meeting that a survey would be sent to each family to gauge how they feel about restarting school this fall. It seems many decisions have been made by the board without parent involvement. When should we be expecting our survey that was guaranteed to us?
2. The CDC, the White House, the AAP, and other professional organizations have made statements supporting kids being back in school this fall for in-person learning. They also state that children are not vectors for the virus. And school may actually be the safest place for teachers. Will your decision about how school will look this fall reflect the recommendations of these respected organizations?
3. We understand that case numbers have increased. But that only make sense due to an increase in testing. However, many of the positives are asymptomatic, or receiving false positive results. The hospital capacity and death percentage has not increased in relation to the number of 2 cases. The CDC says the death percentage is below the threshold needed for this virus to even be considered a epidemic anymore. Is this data being taken into account?
4. Kids have been in group settings all summer. Sports has begun as well. Yet, we have not seen a single child death from covid in the state of Ohio. Is this being taken into account?
5. Many Hilliard Students are on IEP's/ 504 plans. They have legal rights that entitle them to receive specialized learning for their disability. Is the school prepared to deal with the legal ramifications online learning may produce when these students are not provided the resources they are entitled to?
6. If and when students do return to school, what will the rules be on masks? In the state of Ohio, no child under 10 must wear a mask. Will the school follow this mandate made by the governor?
7. We are aware of the statement made by the FDH. It is obvious their statement about kids returning to school is based on fear, not fact. There was a letter signed by 50 physicians in that county asking the FDH to rescind their statement because studies show kids need to be IN school. If we are able to get that type of support from physicians in Franklin County, would you listen to their recommendations?
8. We understand that the implementation of online, hybrid, or full in person learning is being left to the discretion of the district. The FCDH has made recommendations, but not mandates. No laws have been passed. As parents, we would like to see the exact data you are using to sway your decision making process. Are you acting in fear or listening to facts? Are you willing to sacrifice the mental health of these students due to the domino effect online and hybrid learning will cause? Are you decisions being made based on fear that a parent will sue if their child gets ill? We, as parents, do not feel that is a responsible way to make decisions about the future of our children.

9. What would the student to teacher ratio be now that parents have signed up for the online academy if we return to in-person instruction?
10. Private schools are opening- 5 days a week for in-person learning. What is preventing Hilliard from making this decision? If you say you are basing your decisions on data and facts, then who do we need to fight to make this happen for our district?
11. As stated in a previous board meeting, there is no data to assess where our student are academically. How can you guarantee that my child will be ready for ACT and SAT tests; college prep exams; proficiency exams? More than the normal amount of loss that occurs over the summer has to be retaught, as well as teaching new material.
12. How do you expect working parents to deal with the logistics of online learning? Daycares are accepting less than half the amount of students they usually would accept. What will SACC look like? Parents that would not need to pay for daycare now have that financial burden placed on them. Or we are having to ask our aging parents to watch our kids? The number one killer of children is accidents. And in a hybrid or online model, more kids will be left home alone for long periods of time. How will you guarantee their safety? How do you expect families to work out the logistics of at home learning?
13. If we are online or hybrid, how will you handle the rule of absenteeism and sports?
14. If kids can congregate and play sports, then why can they not congregate and learn?

Kim Hartman, 5563 Rubble Lane, Hilliard, OH 43026

Nobody is talking about the mental issues many of our kids are suffering from all this negativity and these restrictions to school and sports. The anxiety and long-term effects is worse than COVID would be for many.

While we are hyper-focused on one virus with 99% survival rate, we are ignoring EVERY OTHER SINGLE ASPECT of health.

CDC now calls for 100% in person school as of July 23, 2020.

The CDC is saying the flu is more dangerous to kids than Covid. We never had district wide school closures during flu season. And the negative emotional impact is overwhelming! They also call out obesity rates have increased since schools were closed. Schools have been open through every flu season, which is 11.6 TIMES DEADLIER to kids than covid, and they never closed or needed masks. Suicide is 22.8 TIMES DEADLIER to kids than covid, but there has yet to be a worry from "experts" or state leaders about mental health.

There has yet to be ONE documented case of a child giving covid to an adult or teacher. Why are children being assaulted? Why are we crippling our younger generation when they are our future? Why are they being deprived of everything that promotes positive well-being (sports, peers, education, routine schedules, consistency, etc)?

Schools are essential. They need to be open. Schools are the safest place for our children to be during this time. Teachers are essential and they can do their jobs safely with the proper precautions just like other essential employees have since day 1 of this pandemic.

Douglas Whitley, 2056 Tuckaway Court, Columbus, Ohio 43228

Why were we forced to make a decision on whether to use the Online Academy with only 3 days notice, and not knowing which option the schools were going to select, and 3 days later you're making that choice?

E CONSENT AGENDA

The Board of Education approved item E1 through E2, consisting of certified and classified personnel matters. You can find the complete list of personnel matters as an attachment to the *Minutes*.

F ACTION AGENDA

F1 The Board of Education approved the district's Responsible Restart Hilliard Plan including:

1. Align the district's instructional modes (All-In, Hybrid, and eLearning 2.0) with the Ohio Department of Health Risk Levels as presented in the district's Responsible Restart Hilliard Plan. Yellow – All In, Orange – Hybrid, Red & Purple –eLearning 2.0.
2. Authorize the Superintendent to change movement between instructional modes and procedures related to safety consistent with orders and guidance issued by federal, state, and local governments and agencies in response to the COVID-19 crisis with notification to the Board of Education and Community as additional data becomes available. Any changes that deviate from FCPH and/or ODH recommendations must be approved by the Board of Education prior to implementation.
3. Notify the Board of Education and Community of any changes in the instructional mode at least three (3) calendar days prior to changing the school calendar unless shorter time period is necessary to be consistent with orders and guidance issued by federal, state, and local governments and agencies in response to the COVID-19 crisis.
4. Updates to the Board at each Business Meeting and Work Session on the data being used, student and staff attendance, and measurements of progress.

Discussion

Mr. Lambert remarked that the first point addresses some of the comments in tonight's public participation about the alignment of HCSD's instructional modes with the county risk levels. Dr. Marschhausen stated that the conversation with FCPH and the decision to make this change in his recommendation took place during the day yesterday and today. FCPH made it clear today they no longer approve of the Hybrid Plan at Level 3 (*red condition*). The CDC has also announced that schools in hot spots should not have in-person school. As mentioned earlier, the White House has identified us as one of eleven hot spots in the country.

Mrs. Whiting thanked Dr. Marschhausen and the entire administration for all of their work on this plan. These are not easy choices for any of us to make. I know many in our community would like to have our students in school full-time, but we are not able to that right now. The conditions are constantly changing and we need to be as fluid as possible. As a nurse at Nationwide Children's Hospital, we know that children are asymptomatic carriers. We need to try to make the best decisions possible for the safety of everyone – staff and students.

Mr. Perry echoed Mrs. Whiting's thanking of the administrative team and fellow Board members for their work to bring students back in the safest way possible with the data we have. The information is changing

rapidly, and we have the flexibility to switch between instructional modes if needed. President Trump recently said that we want our children back in school as soon as it is safe, but schools should consider starting online in areas that are a hot spot. President Trump's coronavirus task force has named Columbus as one of those hot spots. We are following recommendations from the White House, and our local, county, and state health departments. Since we will be criticized for whatever decision we make, we need to make the right decision for the safety of our community. Everyone needs to wear a mask in public, stay socially distant, and follow all of the orders to get the spread of this virus down. Once we do that, we can get back as soon as possible in a safe way.

Mr. Abate asked how our participation in the COVID-19 monitoring project might impact us changing our instructional mode outside of what FCPH is recommending based on the risk level alert system. Dr. Marschhausen responded that FCPH is part of the project and has agreed to meet with us weekly to review the data. The key to this project is early detection and triggers. This district-specific data will allow us to make better decisions in coordination with FCPH.

Mrs. Whiting added that Nationwide Children's Hospital continues to see positive test results in children. She has also read some recent studies regarding antibodies. Some believe that once we have antibodies in enough of the population, we will get the spread of this virus under control. While this will help, we are now seeing the number of antibodies decreasing in as little as six weeks. Some of these people have been re-infected. We also have some people who test positive and then test negative within fourteen days, but we also have some who continue to have long-standing positive screenings. We still don't know the short- and long-term effects of this virus. There are many epidemiologists, physicians, and scientists around this country working to figure out the trends and how to save as many lives as possible. We just don't know enough about this virus at this time.

Mr. Abate asked again what our liability is if we decide on a course of action without the FCPH's approval. Dr. Marschhausen answered that if we reacted in what is perceived as a reckless manner, we would open ourselves up to liability suits. If we follow public health recommendations, we don't see how that could be labeled as reckless. We will continue to follow the advice of public health experts. The straight answer from the district's attorneys is that we should follow the recommendations of the public health experts because you are not a public health expert.

Mr. Perry addressed some of the comments regarding a waiver. He does not believe the signing of a waiver would indemnify us. Legal experts agree that asking for a waiver only works when it is something that is not reasonably unsafe. In skydiving, for example, you cannot ask for a waiver that states there is a 50% chance your parachute won't open and expect to be secured from legal liability.

Mrs. Long asked if the instructional modes would be for the entire district or could different buildings be in different instructional modes during the same period. Dr. Marschhausen answered that he hopes to announce on August 10 what instructional mode the district will open with on August 24. In eLearning 2.0, there would not be different buildings in different modes. If there is an outbreak in a building or grade level once we get to Hybrid (*or All-In*), we could move specific grade levels, classrooms, or schools back to eLearning 2.0 if that was required to keep our students safe.

Mr. Abate asked if we have a threshold for when we would change instructional modes at the building, classroom, or grade level. Dr. Marschhausen responded that in a classroom, as few as two confirmed cases could cause us to have to change that class to eLearning 2.0. Typically, if we see a 2-5% increase in

absenteeism, we may need to make a change. We hope to be able to share those triggers as we start getting data.

Mr. Lambert asked if we had examined the possibility of face shields for teachers. Dr. Marschhausen said that we have two face shields, two masks, and one desk shield for all teachers and students.

Mr. Lambert also asked how many teachers will be needed for the Online Academy. How many of those positions will be filled with teachers with underlying conditions and teachers with family members with underlying conditions? How will teachers for the remaining positions be selected? Dr. Marschhausen answered that we would fill most, if not all, positions with those who have underlying conditions (*or family members with underlying conditions*). We have also retained all of our current online teachers (*those who have been teaching online for the past several years*).

Mr. Lambert asked where we stand regarding athletics, band, and all other extra-curricular activities. All of our activities are in phase two of implementation, and we are waiting on additional guidance. We are proceeding cautiously, as are the other Central Ohio school districts.

Mr. Lambert remarked that he likes the four points in the recommendation, especially number two. He believes this is a very reasonable way to proceed.

Mrs. Whiting added that face shields could not take the place of a face mask. We need to work with the health department on what is safe regarding face shields versus masks.

The Board is very thankful to all of the staff for their willingness to do what is best for students.

Mrs. Long asked if we have been planning with Tolles on their restart plan. Dr. Marschhausen responded that yes, we have been working with Tolles. The Madison County Health department has recommended Tolles follow whatever Franklin County recommends since the majority of their students come from Hilliard and Dublin schools.

At this time (*amid a global pandemic*), we have to plan for all of our instructional modes (*All-In, Hybrid, eLearning 2.0*). We know that it's frustrating, but parents need to prepare for all of these instructional modes as well.

As the superintendent, I will continue to work with the public health officials and make my recommendations to you (*the Board*) based on their recommendations.

F2 The Board of Education approved the following addition to district handbooks for the 2020-2021 school year:

This policy requiring face coverings complies with state requirements and recommendations to prevent and slow the spread of COVID-19. The current consensus among public health experts is that face coverings are a preventative measure that can reduce the spread of COVID-19, when used along with other preventative measures, including social distancing, frequent handwashing, and cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces.

Mrs. Long asked that if we get to the point where face masks are not required, how we will adjust. Dr. Marschhausen answered that as part of the new Board policy, this could be amended with changes made by public health officials.

- F3 The Board of Education amended the school calendar to allow for iPad Distribution and Staff Professional Development on August 20, 2020, and August 21, 2020. The first day for students, regardless of instructional mode, will be Monday, August 24, 2020.

With all that is new and changing for our staff, Mr. Abate thinks this is a good idea.

Mrs. Long asked if this change affects the number of school days for the year – will we need to make up these two days? Dr. Marschhausen answered that we have a sufficient amount of instructional hours for these two days to be for staff professional development. We will not need to make up any time or days because of this change to the school calendar.

Mrs. Long also asked if we need to make any changes to our Preschool program. Dr. Marschhausen answered that we have to decrease classroom enrollment and will make sure we are meeting the needs of our special needs preschool students first.

G **REPORTS / INFORMATION / EXHIBIT ITEM**

G1 Policies submitted for a first reading

- a) AFC-1 (Also GCN-1) – Evaluation of Certified Staff – Teachers
- b) EBEA – Use of Face Coverings (New Policy)
- c) EGAC-E – Telephone Services

G2 Superintendent’s Update

1) Essential Employees

- a. Administration Deemed Essential in eLearning 2.0 unless ordered otherwise
- b. Administrative Assistants and Support Staff Deemed Essential in eLearning 2.0

If/while we are in eLearning, the above staff positions are deemed essential. As long as we do not have a “shelter-in-place/stay home” order, the adults can come to work. During eLearning, principals and secretaries will be in their building. Other classifications will be in the building for at least part of a week so that we can have team meetings, grade-level meetings, and department meetings. We will work with each building to make sure staff are wearing face masks and maintaining social distance while at work.

2) Communications and Flexibility

- a. Working in a time of fear, frustration, and political tension
- b. Honest, transparent communication with the “what and the why”

I understand people are angry and frustrated. I am also frustrated with the rapidly changing orders, especially when the orders/recommendations change everything we have worked on for three weeks. I want our parents and community to know there is a “why” to the “what” in our decision-making process. For example, why we changed when we will be in Hybrid and when we will be in

eLearning 2.0. The “why” is due to a change from the public health experts. I have scheduled another Zoom meeting for this Thursday to help explain our “why” to our community.

Mr. Perry asked for clarification on what we approved tonight and what will be announced on August 10. Dr. Marschhausen answered that tonight the Board approved the framework, and on August 10, we plan to tell the community in what instructional mode we will open with on August 24. Unfortunately, our plan could be changed any time before August 24, depending on FCPH recommendations.

- 3) Athletics and Extra-Curricular Information
 - a. OCC and OHSAA Guidance
 - b. OMEA Announcements
 - c. Hilliard Planning

Even if we are not able to compete, we are planning to keep our coaches and athletes engaged. We are waiting for clarification on our question about whether outside is different than inside. Our athletic directors and principals are working with other districts in the OCC about the possibility of changing our schedules.

The OMEA has canceled band competitions and festivals for the school year (*this is not an HCSD decision*). Dr. Sholl and our band directors are working with their students. They are also having conversations with neighboring school districts about a possible competition (*if conditions permit*).

As a former coach, athletic director, and high school principal, I know the importance of sports. If we can safely keep them going, that is what we will do.

H EXECUTIVE SESSION / ADJOURNMENT

- H1 The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.