

STOCKBRIDGE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
100 Price Avenue
Stockbridge, Michigan 49285

Board of Education Meeting

Special Meeting #2 – August 30, 2021
Junior/Senior High School Media Center - 6:30pm

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by President Graham at 6:30pm

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Members Present: President, Graham; Secretary, Heeneey,
Trustee, Ogden; Trustee, Numinen;
Treasurer, Lance; Trustee, Rochow

Members Absent: Vice President, Gee

Others in Attendance: Superintendent, Brian Friddle; Principal,
Jeff Trapp; Director, Michelle Hilla;
Principal, Mark LaLonde; Director, Suzi
Meyer

IV. Public Comments

Erin Gancer expressed concerns with mask inefficiency. She is not in favor of masks to reduce transmission.

Christina Starr expressed the importance of treating all students equally regardless of vaccination status.

Ed Zick expressed concerns with mask inefficiency and mask wearing.

Liz McCarthy expressed opposition to mask wearing for children.

Erin Clifton expressed an interest in the board and superintendent discussing how many students that are currently in quarantine have tested positive.

Kelly Luckhardt expressed opposition to mask wearing in school.

Lori Zick expressed concerns about when the meeting was posted.

Myranda Fairbotham expressed concerns with mask mandates and opposes masks in school.

Mr. Friddle addressed the public noting he values face to face instruction and social emotional learning. He recognizes that students receive better education in person. Quarantine, ventilation, cleaning measures, physical distancing and cohorting are all mitigation strategies that are in place to keep students in person. He acknowledges that there is not a lot of community spread in schools, it is primarily coming from outside. He then added that the meeting was originally scheduled as a goal setting session and had been posted for quite some time. He ended by saying that attendance rates have been between 92%-96%, there were a total of 110 quarantined, 8 positive students, 4 positive staff members and again reiterated that the goal is to keep kids in school through mitigation strategies.

V. Board of Education Comments

Treasurer Lance recognizes this is a stressful time for everyone. Whatever is decided the top priority is for students being able to learn in a safe environment. The boards goal is to protect all students and the mask decision is very difficult to make. She acknowledged that the board hears the concerns and will make the best decision they can based on the information they have.

1. Action Items

1. Resignations – Mr. Friddle

Motion made by Lance and seconded by Heeney to approve the resignation of Jason Ladd, Secondary Physical Education Teacher, effective 08/17/2021. Passed 6-0

Motion made by Lance and seconded by Heeney to approve the resignation of Jennifer Leuneberg, Secondary Social Studies Teacher, effective 8/17/2021. Passed 6-0

Motion made by Lance and seconded by Heeney to approve the resignation of Shelby Platt, First Grade Teacher, effective 8/27/2021. Passed 6-0

2. New Hires – Mr. Friddle

Motion made by Rochow and seconded by Ogden to hire David Rowse to fill the position of Part-Time Elementary Physical Education Teacher, effective 08/17/2021, as presented. Passed 6-0

Motion made by Rochow and seconded by Ogden to hire Carter Mauter to fill the position of Secondary Social Studies Teacher, effective 08/23/2021, as presented. Passed 6-0

Motion made by Rochow and seconded by Ogden to hire Melissa Marcum to fill the position of 6th Grade ELA Teacher, effective 08/27/2021, as presented. Passed 6-0

VI. Board Discussion Items

1. Masks – Mr. Friddle

Members of the board had an open discussion regarding masks and touched on these key points; quarantine numbers, mitigation strategies, transmission, instructional alternatives for spacing, sub pool and staffing, data from all four counties, mental health initiatives and how frequently to review if masks are mandated.

Motion made by Rochow and seconded by Lance to require masks to be worn by all people and students K-12 while in the buildings of Stockbridge Community Schools, while in the presence of others, written medical exemptions will be honored. Administration will revisit policy on a regular basis and make recommendations based on district positive Covid rates. Motion passed 4-2.

Roll Call Vote:

Lance - Y

Numinen - N

Ogden - N

Heeney - Y

Rochow - Y

Graham – Y

2. Goal Setting

Mrs. Hilla and Mr. Friddle led members of the board through a discussion about the district strategic plan and implementation of current goals. Board members provided input and next steps were discussed.

VII. Adjournment

Motion made by Heeney and seconded by Numinen that special meeting #2 of the Stockbridge Community School District Board of Education be adjourned at 8:18pm. Passed 6-0