

MARSHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MARSHFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Remote Participation Meeting
August 6, 2020
7:00 p.m.

In response to Governor Baker's declaration of a public health emergency and the related Emergency Executive Order dated March 12, 2020 as well as the Marshfield Board of Selectmen's Declaration of Emergency on March 17, 2020, the School Committee shall be meeting remotely until further notice. The audioconferencing application Zoom will be used for this purpose. An online link and telephone access number will be provided on all meeting agendas and also on the Board's website. This application will permit the public to access and participate in future Board meetings and hearings. Instructions for joining meetings in this manner will be provided on the School Committee and Town Clerk's websites. In addition, Marshfield Community TV may provide coverage of these meetings. We extend our thanks for your understanding and participation in this manner, which is intended to keep members of the Board and the public safe.

Mr. Costello called meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

Ms. Boyd	Yes
Mrs. Campbell	Yes
Mr. Greer	Yes
Mr. Costello	Yes
Mrs. Brait	Yes

Also present was Supt. Jeffrey Granatino, Director of Special Education/Pupil Personnel, Ms. Amy Scolaro, Asst. Supt. Dr. Ellen Martin, and Asst. Supt. Business & Finance, Mr. Thomas Miller.

Mr. Costello noted under the Open Meeting Law, he was informing the public of this meeting being videotaped by Marshfield Community Television. If anyone in the audience is taping the meeting, either audio or video, please inform us of such at this time.

OPENING / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Costello remarked that he is confident that the team at MPSD has crafted a plan that will move Marshfield Public Schools forward safely and thanked all those who served on the four task forces to formulate the reopening plan. He thanked parents, teachers, and community members who presented questions and reiterated that all input is taken very seriously and hoped that the upcoming presentation is helpful in answering some of the questions presented. He also thanked the students who have handled challenges with grace. Stating that their parents, teachers, and community are proud of them

for maintaining a positive outlook at every grade level. He stated that the goal is to provide the best possible learning experience for every student; the decision holds no easy answers and cannot please everyone. The goal is to serve every student, every day, whatever it takes.

Tonight, Mr. Costello stated that the governor's rule suspending public comment would be waived. Public comment will be accepted with a one minute and 30 second time limit. To sign up to make a comment or ask a question, the individual puts their name in chat or sends an email to sean.costello@mpsd.org. Each commenter will be timed by School Committee Secretary Lara Brait. All comments must pertain to tonight's agenda. The School Committee cannot have an exchange of dialog at tonight's meeting; questions will be answered in a FAQ distributed by MPSD.

The final vote on the reopening plan will be on August 10, 2020.

II. INFORMATIONAL

III. MINUTES

IV. OLD BUSINESS

2020 2021 School Calendar

Supt. Granatino discussed the change to the number of school days by DESE from 180 to 170 and that teachers now have 10 days in school to prepare for students. The revised teacher first day is August 31, 2020 and student first day is now September 16, 2020. Further changes to the calendar will be required at a future meeting. Mr. Greer asked if the School Committee could give Supt Granatino the ability to change the calendar without a vote. Supt Granatino will investigate if that is an option.

MOTION: Mr. Greet moved to adapt the revised calendar.
Mrs. Campbell second. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Opening of Schools

Supt. Granatino presented the reopening plan slide show "Marshfield Moving Forward Safely" highlighting three options: fully remote, hybrid, and in-person. A hybrid 2-1-2 plan is recommended for September. Supt. Granatino recognized that students want to be with teachers and teachers want to be with students and that there is no perfect answer as 351 communities in Massachusetts are facing the same questions.

Following the presentation, questions were asked by School Committee members:

Ms. Boyd thanked the leadership team and staff for their diligence and time to review possible re-opening scenarios.

Ms. Boyd Question: Can families opt in/out based on metrics and what metrics will be used?

Supt Granatino responded that there is not one metric that the state has defined as a standard for hybrid v. remote. DESE is working to create an agreed upon metric. Currently, a number of metrics are reviewed. MPSD will shift to fully remote or in person if metrics indicate.

Families have the right to opt in/out. It is undecided if remote programs will be provided by a state program or MPSD educators. It is expected that students will stay in a model for a set period of time (i.e. term) although the amount of time has not been determined.

Mrs. Campbell echoed gratitude to all who participated in formulating the decision.

Mrs. Campbell Question: Many parents, especially elementary, are wondering what will specials and recess will look like?

Supt Granatino responded that recess will take place and be closely monitored. Thirty-two tents have been ordered for the district. Students will be outside more than they have in past. Specials (PE, band, chorus) will take place when possible. Music and PE will be mostly outside. Asst Supt Martin discussed the possibility of each special being held in three week blocks.

Mrs. Campbell Question: When will parents be informed about special education service timelines?

Mrs. Scolaro responded that all case managers will contact special education families. Each student will also receive an updated notice of FAPE which will capture accommodations and modifications. All services will be provided with some in-person and some remote.

Mrs. Brait also thanked all those involved.

Mrs. Brait Question: What is the difference between remote learning this fall and what was offered in the spring?

Supt Granatino stated that remote learning in the spring was spur the moment. This fall will include grading, attendance, and will follow standards. Asst Supt Martin added that asynchronous learning allows

teachers to teach mini lessons. Coaching support will also be offered with writing and math labs. Over the summer the staff completed PD with EdTechTeacher. The spring was reactive. For the fall, teachers have completed PD and had time to develop lessons which are more engaging and interactive.

Mrs. Brait Question: Can you elaborate on how the hybrid schedule was determined?

Supt Granatino responded that a number of options were considered and the chance to deep clean on Wednesdays between cohorts was selected. Asst Supt Martin added that 12 hybrid models were reviewed. The option selected provides more consistent student /teacher contact. Every grade level has new digital coaches to model content for colleagues.

Mrs. Brait Question: How will students (K, 6, 9, transfers) be acclimated to new buildings?

Supt Granatino responded that orientation will take place but how it looks is still being determined.

Mrs. Brait Question: When will parents notify the district which option they will select?

Supt Granatino responded that a survey is forthcoming as well as a firm letter of commitment.

Mr. Greer thanked the public for their participation.

Mr. Greer Question: Will protocols be in place to handle different health situations?

Supt Granatino urged families to observe their children and keep them home if they are exhibiting symptoms. Protocols for many instances of student/staff illness are outlined in the report. Isolation rooms have been created near the nurses' offices at each school.

Ms. Boyd Question: How can you be confident that the content will be consistent as it would be for in person learning?

Asst Supt Martin answered that teachers can collaborate and that all classes will have access to common lessons. Teachers are expected to teach standards and identify power standards.

Ms. Boyd Question: Is there flexibility for parents to request different days?

Supt Granatino answered that it would be difficult from a scheduling standpoint to make changes.

Mrs. Campbell Question: Will chrome books be available to elementary students?

Supt Granatino answered that grades 6-12 will be 1:1. Devices will be provided to elementary students who need them.

Mrs. Campbell Question: Will students have materials at home?

Asst Supt Martin answered that workbooks will be purchased for home use along with possibly white boards and manipulatives.

Mrs. Campbell Question: What video platform will be used?

Asst Supt Martin answered that Zoom, Google Meet, and Canvas are being evaluated and the platform to be used has yet to be decided.

Mrs. Campbell Question: What will transportation look like?

Supt Granatino stated that it is recommended that parents walk/drive students to school. Also it is requested that parents monitor the bus stop. The transportation plan is still being developed.

Mrs. Campbell Question: How will lunch be handled for children with food allergies?

Nurse Leader Jane Landry answered that prior years' policies will be replicated at a 6 foot distance.

Mrs. Brait Question: How will breakfast/lunch be handled for food insecure families on remote days?

Supt Granatino answered that MPSD is working with the Boys & Girls Club to coordinate meal pickup on remote days.

Mrs. Brait Question: Will teachers be tested for COVID-19?

Supt Granatino answered that teacher testing is not recommended by the state.

Mr. Greer Question: Will athletic and after school activities such as drama, clubs, and marching band be offered?

Supt Granatino stated that MPSD is awaiting state guidance regarding after school activities.

Mr. Greer Question: What is the effectiveness of the MPSD HVAC systems to minimize the spread of COVID-19?

Supt Granatino stated that air circulation is critical and all HVAC systems have undergone preventative maintenance this summer. Fans will be used where needed and windows will be open as much as possible.

Mr. Greer Question: Will tardiness and absences be tracked?

Supt Granatino answered that they will be recorded (unlike the spring).

Mrs. Campbell Question: What if a kindergarten parent chooses not to send their child?

Supt Granatino responded that kindergarten is not mandatory and the child can be enrolled in 1st grade next year. There will be an orientation for incoming kindergarten students.

V. NEW BUSINESS

MOTION: Mrs. Campbell moved to continue meeting beyond 10:00 p.m., if needed. Mrs. Brait second. VOTE: 5-0-0.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Questions were recorded and will be answered in a Frequently Asked Questions Document that will be shared. ‘

Alene LaRosa: Can students opt in/out after starting remote/hybrid? How?

Alterra Milone, Delano Circle: How will you track and report the number of positive cases in the school so that families can know the direction of numbers? What metrics are required to return to full time learning in school with appropriate safety measures? How is that standard defined? What are the agreed upon health metrics referred to in the presentation?

Lauren Carey, Woodlawn Circle: How do fully remote students stay connected to their home school if an out of district teacher is providing remote instruction? How will recess, specials, socialization work? What about mask breaks during inclement weather?

Mary Swigart, 250 Hampstead Way: This will be a confusing start to school for students re: schedules and daily routines. Has it been considered that the initial start of school be fully outdoors in tents and on fields to build relationships needed for learning in classrooms?

David Peckham, 41 Oakleaf Drive: Was a slower reintegration of students considered (starting fully remote and moving to hybrid)? What metrics will parents have access to in real time to guide decisions? Concern for remote learning not with the student's teacher. Option for students to remotely view the classroom with other students in school.

Amy Panasuk, 11 Arrowhead Road: What are cleaning protocols inside school? Will there be specials such as art/music? Will there be increased capacity for parent drop off/pickup?

Gina Toppi, 15 Whitford Circle: How will younger students access asynchronous learning since they cannot self-guide? During remote access to in school learning, will classmates be able to see each other? In the K-5 remote learning schedule, lunch is not indicated.

Jennifer Fielding, 102 Oakleaf Drive: When will teachers have breaks (schedule seems back-to-back)? Will there be flexibility in timing of remote learning?

Bria Sullivan: Will middle/high school students move from class to class? How will that be managed?

Lauren Ciocca, 142 Cornhill Lane: Was the option explored that Cohort B at home sees Cohort A in class? Can students at home be included in synchronous classes (live stream)? How mandatory will synchronous learning opportunities be? How will the rigor of the curriculum be maintained?

Julie Joyce, 18 Woodhaven Street: When will families receive clarification on when IEP services will be scheduled throughout the week?

Tricia Moore: Will school start and end times change due to staggered start?

Jill Johnson: If a student has not been deemed "high risk" on PL3 form of IEP but they floundered with independent learning in the spring, how will we assure that their individualized learning will be fully implemented especially during remote days with no face to face time with special educators? Will SPED service students on remote days?

Lori Campbell: For families who opt in for fully remote, if the state option is chosen, how will IEP, social, and social emotional services be fulfilled?

Laura Turley, 42 Tower Avenue: For students on IEPs and 504s, will parents be able to request more facetime with teachers to address needs that aren't being met in terms of them not being able to teach themselves

Heather Sara (via chat): Can PTOs assist with funding for tents?

Cara McAuley (via chat): How does one opt in or opt out?

Amy Panasuk (via chat): Will all students have Chrome books at home?

Jen Love (via chat): "Notice of FAPE" link please?

Jenna Ellis (via chat): Can you speak to the rationale behind the proposed hybrid schedule? Many other districts are going Monday Fully Remote, T/Th Cohort A, W/F Cohort B.

Gena Toppi (via chat): How will that work for children who cannot read and manage the canvas learning on their own?

Lorraine Trubia (via chat): I'm sure a lot of parents are still unsure on their decision to participate in hybrid or full remote. Once decided- is there opportunity to change throughout the school year?

Jill (via chat): Are synchronous recorded lessons individualized for students who learn in different fashions and need accommodations?

Andrew Walker (via chat): Can you please provide a link to the research or study that shows asynchronous learning is better for an elementary student vs. synchronous or in-person learning?

Anonymous (via chat): What amount of the normal curriculum will the kids get? 40% or do you feel that the kids will get all of the curriculum they would normally get?

Cara McAuley (via chat): If a student were to opt for fully remote at the start of the school year and Marshfield uses a charter curriculum or non-Marshfield teacher to educate this child, what will happen if/when hybrid rolls back to fully remote?

Jenny Coyle (via chat): What time would hybrid in-school classes start for middle/high school?

Brian Meyers (via chat): To the extent that these questions can be grouped into the FAQ that you plan to circulate alongside some of the background research links (both to some of the studies guiding your decisions and also potentially some of the names of the technology you've selected so that people can

familiarize themselves with the tools), I think it would be helpful for parents who are looking to prepare and trying to sift through all the information that is out in the world. I also love the idea of using video to help prepare our kids for what school may look like for them.

Dan (via chat): I think you need to clearly communicate that your expectation is that students are expected to stay in their chosen model for a set period of time and opt in/out isn't that fluid

R.B. (via chat): How effective are the HVAC systems in each school at minimizing COVID risk to everyone in those buildings?

Erin W. (via chat): How will students be assessed when they return to school to evaluate if they met curriculum standards from March- June, to ensure that material was mastered, and/or fill in the gaps so students can move forward and learn new material?

Lauren Ciocca (via chat): Do we know if teachers are going to use Zoom or Google Meet? There were many problems with GM.

Anna Baker (via chat): If there are cases when a grade has a majority of kids in one half of the alphabet, would you allow the cohorts to have greatly uneven numbers?

Lauren Ciocca (via chat): How many lunches will you have to have at the middle and high school to accommodate the 500+ students in the cafe? Or will it still be 3/4 with using classrooms?

Kate Smith (via chat): How will a student being "absent" be addressed with each of the 3 models? How will assessments and evaluations be handled with respect to IEP's since the students have not been in school since March?

Mr. Costello thanked all those who asked questions and appreciated the civility that participants portrayed.

VI. FUTURE MEETINGS

August 10, 2020

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Greer moved to adjourn meeting at 9:59 p.m. Mrs. Campbell second. VOTE: 5-0-0.

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Boyd	Yes
Mrs. Campbell	Yes
Mr. Costello	Yes
Mr. Greer	Yes

Mrs. Brait

Yes

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan M. Pozerski
School Committee Secretary