

Leicester Public Schools

School Committee Retreat

August 4, 2020 @ 4:30 p.m.

Location: Per Governor Baker's order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. C. 30A sec 20, the meeting was held online.

1. Call to order: 4:33 pm

Roll Call:

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|-----------------|---------|
| Nathan Hagglund | Present |
| Scott Francis | Present |
| Tom Lauder | Present |
| Stella Richard | Present |
| Donna McCance | Present |

Also, in attendance were Dr. Marilyn Tencza, Superintendent of Schools
Cady Maynard, Director of Finance and Operations

2. Reopening Plan

Dr. Tencza presented a Re-Opening plan for the School Committee's discussion. The presentation discussed what a return to school might look like in the fall. The plan showed the following formats: a) full return to school, b) a hybrid approach (in-person and remote learning), and c) full remote learning. Substantially separate/El students would return 4 days a week. The plans were developed with guidance from the Open School Task Force, a group of administrators, school staff, nurses, a representative from the Fire Dept, and parents. The Taskforce reviewed DESE and CDC guidelines.

The three formats were discussed. School Committee members asked many questions and raised concerns about each plan. The Chairman then opened the discussion to the public.

3. Public Comment

Mr. Hagglund allowed comments from those who wished to speak, then Mr. Hagglund acted as the facilitator as people submitted questions through the chat feature. Questions were related to the model of learning in general, how the model/choice related to the needs of their student, transportation, lunch, cleaning, physical distancing, etc.

Committee member McCance made a motion to begin the 2020-2021 school year with a full remote model. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hagglund.

Roll call vote: Hagglund-NO, Lauder-NO, Francis-NO, Richards-NO, McCance-Yes
The motion failed to pass.

Committee member Francis made a motion to begin the 2020-2021 school year with all students in the building. Member Richard seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Hagglund-NO, Lauder-NO, Francis-YES, McCance-NO, Richard-NO

The motion failed to pass.

Committee member Richard made a motion to begin the 2020-2021 school year with a hybrid model. Member Lauder seconded the motion.

Roll call vote- Hagglund-YES, Lauder-YES, Francis- NO, McCance- NO, Richard- YES

The motion passed 3-2

4. SY20-21 School Calendar

Dr. Tencza stated that DESE has allowed 10 professional days to be added to the school calendar prior to students returning to school. Committee members discussed moving the start date for students to September 8th or the 14th. Teacher/Staff start date will remain the same at 8/24/2020.

Committee member Richard motioned to amend the 2020-2021 school year calendar as presented

Teacher/Staff's first day: August 24, 2020

Student's first day: September 8, 2020

Last day of school: June 11, 2021

Roll call vote- Hagglund-YES, Lauder-YES, Francis- YES, McCance- YES, Richard- YES

The motion passed unanimously.

5. Review of Policies

6. Reading of Policies

Policies will be discussed at the next workshop meeting

- AC – Nondiscrimination
- ACA – Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex
- ACAB – Sexual Harassment
- JB – Equal Educational Opportunities
- JICFB –Anti-Bullying Policy

6.2 Second Reading

- JQ – Student Fees, Fines, and Charges

Committee member Francis made a motion to approve the Fee Policy JQ. Seconded by member Lauder.

Roll call vote- Hagglund-YES, Lauder-YES, Francis- YES, McCance- YES, Richard- YES

The motion passed unanimously.

7. District Report Review

Dr. Tencza reported that the DESE has completed the District Review Report. DESE members were in the district on February 3-6, 2020. The report is public on the DESE and Leicester Public Schools websites.

8. Digital Portfolios

Dr. Matthew Joseph presented using digital portfolios as a more efficient way to learn. The discussion will be brought to the Leadership team. The School Committee will look at this at their next meeting.

9. Graduation Debrief

Graduation was very successful. Dr. Tencza thanked the community and the High School staff for their hard work.

10. Communication Among Administrative Team, Superintendent and School Committee

Chairperson Hagglund stated that he would like to continue weekly updates from the Superintendent. The committee discussed social media. Member Lauder reminded the committee that posting on social media must represent personal opinions and not those of the committee.

11. Upcoming Meeting(s)-Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- Digital Portfolios
- Title IX Policies
- Data

12. Convene in Executive Session

M.G.L. Chapter 30 (A) Section 21 (a) (2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union (Assistant Superintendent)

Committee member Lauder made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Seconded by member McCance.. Roll call vote- Hagglund-YES, Lauder-YES, Francis- YES, McCance- YES, Richard- YES
The motion passed unanimously.

13. Adjournment

List of Documents and Material used during this meeting which are on file at the Leicester Public Schools Central Office.

- JQ Policy
- IX Title Policies
- SY20-21 School Calendar