



Members Present: C. Brown, K. Denzer, N. Donnay, J. Gottschalk, R. Hajlo, D. Keyes, A. Melendres, S. Mueller

Members Absent:

Board Advisors Present: J. Gutierrez, K. Gutierrez, J. Karetov, A. Kleinboehl, W. Renner, P. Rosell, A. Sachariason

Guests: T. Smith, C. Westlund

Call to Order

S. Mueller called the board meeting to order at 6:15 pm.

Review of Surrounding Schools Current Learning Models

Of the Friends of Education and Ramsey/Washington County Charter Schools contacted in the past 24 hours, the following data was compiled:

	K-4	5-8	9-12
In-person schools	2	1	0
Hybrid schools	10	5	1
Distance schools	4	10	8

Of the traditional districts in Washington County contacted within the past 24 hours, the following data was compiled:

	K-4	5-8	9-12
In-person schools	0	0	0
Hybrid schools	6	2	0
Distance schools	0	4	6

Of the private schools in the area, who have been contacted within the past 24 hours, the following data was compiled:

	K-4	5-8	9-12
In-person schools	5	7	6
Hybrid schools	0	0	1
Distance schools	0	0	0

Statements from Principals, SPED Director and Wanda Renner

From a staffing perspective, there are many challenges. Today there were 20 people out and tomorrow the School is slated to have 19 out.

Upper School - the faculty feel dismissed and unsupported. The special thing about St. Croix Prep is the collaboration between teachers and families; and the teachers feel they

are working hard to make this work for the kids. The teachers feel shocked to hear how some of the parents felt.

Middle School – the faculty echo a lot of what was stated by the Upper School. The team feels like they're not valued, even though they want to partner with parents. 14 teachers signed a letter drafted to the school board.

Lower School – the faculty felt disrespected by the implication by some that teachers don't work efficiently from home, feel isolated from the distance learning discussions that are happening for 5-12 since we are a K-12 school. Teachers feel it would be more beneficial mentally and emotionally if all students were on Zoom and there would be more time to focus on academics.

SPED – the staffing is a challenge, gaps are hard to fill in the hybrid model and the team cannot meet all of the student needs. The hybrid is more desired but cannot be sustained at the current moment. There are legitimate concerns with going to a distance learning model.

W. Renner – the level of staff frustrations is very high and never have they been like this before even when school has gone through other tense situations.

C. Westlund – the rise in quarantines is now, more often than not, due to close contact to a positive case. We cannot determine if our affected employees/students are due to outside community transmission or school community transmission – it is hard to discern.

Review Learning Model Transition Guidelines – K. Denzer/K. Gutierrez

J. Gutierrez stated that we all agree in person learning is what is best for everyone and that the goal is to have everyone back in the building.

Restated the board agreement to give the school community two weeks' notice (if possible) of any changes to the learning model. The question is how long should we stay in the current learning model.

Four (4) different transition guidelines to review:

1. Option 1: essentially follow the case rate data.
2. Option 2: added the scalpel approach with a more aggressive approach
3. Option 3: option 1 with the scalpel approach applied
4. Option 4: developed by SCPA staff

There was a discussion.

Board members agreed in this order that options 4, 1, 3 were the best options. Option 4 would keep the MDE/MDH thresholds noted in the MN Safe Learning Plan.

Open Board Seat – K. Denzer



K. Denzer would like to propose moving forward with filling the open board seat. There is a board process for filling the seat, usually by potential candidates submitting a candidate profile, answering questions and posting this information to the school community for interested candidates.

This was not the purpose of the board working meeting so the subject will be tabled for now.

Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 pm: R. Hajlo
Second: N. Donnay
Approved: All

Submitted by S. Peterson, St. Croix Preparatory Academy