

FINNEYTOWN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Special Meeting, August 11, 2022
Finneytown Secondary Campus Media Center
8916 Fontainebleau Terrace
Cincinnati, OH 45231
5:00pm

The Finneytown Board of Education met in special session on Thursday, August 11, 2022, in the Media Center of the Finneytown Secondary Campus, 8916 Fontainebleau Terrace, Cincinnati, OH 45231. Mr. Gast, Ms. Lee, Ms. McMullen, Mr. Rea and Mr. Reeb were present. The President called the meeting to order at 5:08pm.

111-22 Ms. Lee moved, seconded by Mr. Reeb, that the Board dispense with the opening ceremony and approval of the minutes from the regular meeting of July 18, 2022 and the special meeting of August 3, 2022. The President declared the motion passed.

Discussion – Regarding the 2022-2023 School Year

- The Board discussed activities, events, and initiatives they were excited about as they look forward to the upcoming 2022-23 school year.
- Dr. Banks, Superintendent, provided an update on the communication and planning underway for the Finneytown Elementary Ribbon Cutting event planned for Friday, September 2, 2022.

Discussion – COVID Protocol Recommendations

- Dr. Banks, Superintendent, distributed district COVID recommended protocols for 2022-2023.
- The plan was designed in coordination with the district's nurses and Kate Welling, part-time consultant, who will oversee district nurses and serve as the point of contact for COVID.
- The plan is aligned with the latest CDC guidance released 4pm today, August 11, 2022.
- The updated District protocol includes recommendations that individuals:
 - o Wear masks (but does not make it a requirement)
 - o Stay up-to-date on vaccinations
 - o Get tested if they show symptom of COVID-19 as soon as possible
 - o Seek additional professional guidance if in a high risk category for COVID and test positive, even if symptoms are mild.
 - o Stay home when you are sick
- Communication of positive cases protocols include:
 - o When a positive case is reported for a student or staff member, we will send communication to the staff and families of the building where the case was reported. We will include the grade level of the student in the email communication.
 - o We will email all staff and families each week with building COVID-19 case totals for the week.
 - o We will continue to update our Finneytown Local School District's COVID-19 Dashboard on a weekly basis (every Friday) and individual privacy will continue to be protected at each step in our process.

- Athletic League and Marching Band Protocols:
 - o Mr. Warmack, Athletic Director has reached out to the other school districts in our league. Currently there are no recommendations other than encouraging those with symptoms to stay home, good hygiene and washing of hands, etc.
 - o Similar recommendations are recommended for marching band
- Ongoing evaluation and monitoring:
 - o We will continue to monitor public health guidance, community transmission rates, and our own school-based data, including case counts, student and staff absences, and more. When an adjustment to our mitigation strategies is needed, we will implement and communicate any changes as quickly as possible.
- Other:
 - o Bullying of those that wear masks will not be tolerated and this will be communicated to everyone.
 - o The district does not have a quarantine protocol
 - o The district will not perform contact tracing
 - o Children with symptoms will be evaluated by a nurse, home will be called, and sent home as appropriate
 - o Cluster cases will be addressed by appropriate applications of thresholds consistent with best practices in our area.
 - o As we continue to respond to COVID-19, we remain committed to keeping all students learning in their classrooms and nurturing their academic and social growth.
- Next steps:
 - o The district's COVID Protocol plan document will continue to be reviewed and refined
 - o The Protocol does not require approval of any new or updated policies
 - o The Protocol establishes the Board's masking protocol in school and on school transportation
 - o The Protocol does not contain quarantine or contact tracing requirements and never has; these items, formerly governed by other governmental bodies, are no longer required
 - o The Board will provide active affirmation of the finalized COVID-19 protocol plan at the August regular meeting

Discussion – Review of Proposed Communication Strategy

- Finneytown Local School District Organizational Chart
 - o This document has been recently updated
 - o Reflects the hierarchy, supervision and reporting requirements
- Finneytown Local School District Communication Strategy Draft
 - o Represents our plan for achieving the FLSD strategic plan goal #4
 - o Outlines the source, form of communication, purpose, intended audience, frequency and intended lead for each identified formalized communication channel
 - o Identifies additional resources, media contacts, and social media accounts

- Finneytown Local School District How to Effectively Communicate with School Officials Draft
 - o Presents the recommended chain of command and information flow for matters involving:
 - Instruction/curriculum
 - Athletics
 - Student discipline
 - Facilities/grounds/buildings
 - Transportation
 - o Identifies who is the right person to contact should be called for various topics and considerations
 - o Recognized by the Board as a good parent resource handout
- Finneytown Local School District Guide to Addressing Concerns Draft
 - o Lays out the process for addressing concerns, but seems too in depth for a community handout
 - o Seems very similar to a restorative practices process guide
 - o Appears better as an internal staff resource for helping the community in response to concerns addressed to public school officials and staff by the community
- Finneytown Newsletter/Flyer
 - o A mailer is near completion for mailing to the entire community
 - o Cost for a 4 page \$4,400 and a 6 page is \$6,000
 - o It will include updates on learning community initiatives, restorative practices, district finances, Finneytown podcasts, OFCC school construction project funding expectations, and a Finneytown Elementary Ribbon Cutting ceremony and open house announcement.
 - o It was decided that a message from the Board President should be included.

Discussion – Future Meeting Planning

- Two special meetings have been requested on specific topics
 - o Safety Plan review
 - This is time sensitive, preferred prior to the start of school.
 - August 30th at 6:00pm
 - o Story Harvest
 - This meeting, facilitated by the district administrative team, will share through stories, information about the work they are doing
 - September 14th at 6:00pm

Mr. Reeb stated that he was leaving the meeting to attend the marching band halftime show. Mr. Reeb left the meeting at 6:27pm

112-22 Ms. Lee moved, seconded by Mr. Rea, that the Board recess for 20 minutes.

RC: Ms. Lee, yes; Mr. Rea, yes; Mr. Gast, yes; Ms. McMullen, no. The president declared the motion passed.

The Board went into recess at 6:28pm

The Board returned from recess at 6:48pm

Mr. Reeb returned to the meeting at 6:48pm

Ms. McMullen clarified that her "No" vote was not because she did not want to watch the band, but rather as a sign of respect for the time of administrators participating in the special board meeting.

Discussion – Future Meeting Planning (continued)

- Future meeting recap
 - o 8/30/22 6pm Special Board Meeting; Topic: Safety Plan
 - o 9/7/22 6pm Special Board Meeting; Topic: enrollment, open enrollment, others TBD
 - o 9/14/22 6pm Special Board Meeting; Topic: Story Harvest
 - o 9/19/22 6pm Regular Board Meeting; Additional topic: Cottonwood and Whitaker facility disposition discussion
- The administrative team is working on a plan for student involvement at regular board meetings.
- An offer will be extended to the district's unions offering a representative to address the Board at regular meetings?

Administrative Report

Dr. Laurie Banks, Superintendent – discussed the following:


- Met with Mr. Jeff Immelt on August 8th –
 - o Mr. Immelt was very generous in his time and in the conversation.
 - o We discussed the possibility of partnering this year and in future years around building leadership capacity directly within our staff and perhaps indirectly with our students.
 - o Mr. Immelt offered \$100,000 of his own accord to be used specifically for marketing the school district in an effort to increase student enrollment.
 - o Mr. Immelt expressed interest in connecting with the alumni on their capital campaign fundraising effort.

Discussion – Review of the Agenda for August 13, 2022

- An executive session for employment of an employee will be added to the agenda.
- Can we add an update on the future of the Cottonwood and Whitaker properties, costing us to operate, and possible disposition?
 - o Dr Banks, requested this be deferred until the September regular meeting to give Mr. Anderson, who has just assumed the Director of Operations role, time to properly research these questions.
- The FEA supplemental MOU recommendation provides a 1.5% increase in the supplemental salary base in the first year of the FEA contract with a reopener for years 2 and 3 of the contract. Supplemental salaries discussions were deferred during contract negotiations so that a more thorough review of salary competitiveness, as compared to other districts, could take place.

- Dr. Banks agreed to provide information about how state safety grant funds were used by the school district.
- All policy updates are for the purpose of updating the title of the district compliance officer referenced in these policies.

113-22 There being no further business, Mr. Rea moved, seconded by Ms. McMullen, that the meeting be adjourned. The president declared the meeting adjourned at 7:03pm.



Tony Gast, President



David L. Oliverio, Treasurer

ATTEST:

