Brimfield CUSD #309 Board of Education

Special Meeting minutes 7/30/2020

The Brimfield CUSD #309 Board of Education conducted a special board meeting, on Tuesday May 5, 2020 at 7:00pm. Members present Heinz, Graham, Meyer, Updyke, Kenney, Johnson, and President Thompson.

The Board recognized approximately 12 visitors.

Superintendent Shinall presented the Brimfield CUSD #309 Return to School Plan. He mentioned there being a few changes to the plan that was earlier shared via email. He mentioned there are no alternatives to face coverings and student must be fever free, without the use of medication, for no less than 24 hours.

A question arose regarding how students or staff bypass the mask requirement. Shinall explained that there must be medical clearance (doctor’s note) and/or speech/hearing deficiency.

There was an inquiry regarding self-certification. Shinall explained each student will need to be wearing a lanyard with a badge that indicates self-certification. They will also have their temperatures checked. Students without a lanyard/badge will have their temperature checked and answer a series of questions.

There was a question regarding social distancing at lunch and by the lockers. Mr. Robison mentioned that, at the High School, the lockers will not be utilized; backpacks will be carried around that will have their materials. There will be two lunch periods in 3 areas. Mrs. Albritton mentioned that, at the Grade School, K-4 students will eat in their classrooms; 5th, 7th, and 8th Grade students will eat in the lunch room with assigned seating. 7th and 8th graders have 15-20 students per class; the desks have been distanced.

Someone inquired about the temperature checks. Temperature checks will be performed at the access doors. If there is an individual with 100.4 temperature or above, the individual will be quarantined and screened. If COVID-19 is suspected, the county health department will be contacted.

There was an inquiry regarding tracking (if a student contracts the virus). Mrs. Albritton explained that we will be doing everything we can to keep students “in a bubble”- on the bus, in the classroom, at lunch, etc…

Students’ temperatures will not be checked before getting on the bus; will be socially distanced though. If a student is brought to school by some other means, it is ‘highly’ recommended that the student does not ride the bus home so as to preserve the “bubble.” The bus form will be available online and at registration.

Superintendent Shinall mentioned that The Return to School Plan will be available online and an all-call will be sent directing you to it.

There was a question regarding the virtual learning for elementary versus the virtual learning for high school. Mrs. Albritton and Mr. Robison explained that it will vary due to the number of teachers a student sees. Screen Castify will be utilized and Mrs. Albritton requests teachers (with virtual learning students) to utilize this option as it is sure to put parents at ease.

Accountability for students remains the same for all students.

2nd through 8th grade MAP testing may be possible online. The hurdle is knowing the results will vary due to the method of learning. However, the state has not issued guidelines at this time.

There was a question on structure now versus how it was this past spring. “Do no harm” was the phrase used to sum up last spring. That is not anticipated going forward. Mrs. Albritton and Mr. Robison foresee issues with families that have more than one virtual learner.

The blended learning model is listed in the plan as an option but, at this time, is not being utilized.

Superintendent Shinall explained that whatever method of learning you choose to utilize, you must stick with it. Legal counsel has advised the District to allow virtual and in-person students to participate in extracurricular activities.

Superintendent Shinall publicly thanked Lonna Sumner, the Brimfield Teacher’s Union, Jamie Henson, Mrs. Albritton, and Mr. Robison for all of their assistance in helping to create the Return to School Plan.

Johnson moved and Heinz seconded to approve the Brimfield CUSD #309 Return to School Plan. Roll Call: Heinz – yes, Graham – yes, Johnson - yes, Updyke – yes, Kenney – yes, Meyer – yes, Thompson – yes. Motion carried

A motion was made by Heinz and seconded by Johnson to adjourn at 7:42 pm

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 Board President

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 Board Secretary