

Dallas Center-Grimes Community School District  
Special Board Meeting  
Wednesday, October 14, 2020  
Administration Center at 7:00 AM - Board Room  
Grimes, Iowa 50111

Present: Directors Doug Rants, Ryan Carpenter, Ronnie Wiedman, Kathie Hicok, Sarah Wilson, and Marco Bejarno, Mark Wills, Business Manager Michelle Wearmouth, Associate Superintendent Jill Van Woerkom, and Superintendent Scott Grimes were present at the meeting site. It is noted that COVID-19 social distancing recommendations were in place for this meeting thus electronic format was required for some attendees.

Absent: None.

**Receive Visitors and Read Miscellaneous Communications**

President Rants called the regular meeting to order at 7:05 a.m. Roll call was taken by the secretary and a quorum was acknowledged.

**Approval of Agenda**

Director Wills motioned, seconded by Director Bejarno to approve the agenda as published.

Vote:	Doug Rants	yes
	Ronnie Wiedman	yes
	Kathie Hicok	yes
	Marco Bejarno	yes
	Sarah Wilson	yes
	Ryan Carpenter	yes
	Mark Wills	yes

**First Reading of Board Policies required by FEMA (Procurement Standards, Fraud Reporting Policy, and Personally Identifiable Information and Protected Personally Identifiable Information Requirements Applicable to all Federal Awards)**

Director Bejarno motioned, seconded by Director Wilson to approve the first reading of policies required by FEMA (Procurement Standards, Fraud Reporting Policy, and Personally Identifiable Information and Protected Personally Identifiable Information Requirements Applicable to all Federal Awards).

Vote:	Doug Rants	yes
	Ronnie Wiedman	yes
	Kathie Hicok	yes
	Marco Bejarno	yes
	Sarah Wilson	yes
	Ryan Carpenter	yes
	Mark Wills	yes

**Consider change of Learning model from Hybrid to On-Site Learning**

Superintendent Grimes acknowledged that a great deal of additional communication has occurred with administration and with teachers between the work session on Monday and this morning's meeting. Superintendent Grimes states that he knows our staff will rise to the occasion with regard to whatever the board decides today. His recommendation is to transition K-12 students to full on-site learning on November 9, 2020 as discussed on Monday, October 12, 2020.

Board discussion was held. Director Hicok stated that so much feedback has been received from secondary staff that transitioning before semester will be a hardship for staff, difficult scheduling, and some students could lose credits. Director Hicok indicated that some families learned of the Board's discussion on the news and have been blindsided by this information and finds it unfair to families. Director Wilson asked if looking at the semester timeframe and changing the semester to end earlier could be feasible or reasonable. Superintendent Grimes replied that option was discussed but it reduces what learning we can provide to our students in the shortened timeline. He also stated that with regard to student credits, we have the means to work with each of our students to ensure that they can achieve credit. Director Carpenter asked for clarification stating that he is aware that District credits are under District control, but can we ensure the change of learning model will not be impacted with college level credits and that the student's transcript will not be negatively affected by the change? Superintendent Grimes replied that just as we did last spring, we will work with students and staff will work to ensure that student work can be achieved. Superintendent Grimes stated we will meet the needs of our students.

Director Hicok asked if the Board is able to consider the possibility of providing additional days for teachers. Director Carpenter suggested the use November 9 and 10 as teacher work days while student are educated remotely. It was explained that the two extra days may help teachers align students and student needs after the canvas results from parents are returned and it is known which students will use the DC-G Online model and which students will be on-site.

Director Carpenter asked if early outs on Wednesday will continue to occur. Superintendent Grimes stated that it is the intention that early out Wednesday and block schedule will continue. Director Carpenter asked if allowing the two additional days allows the District to meet the 50% online compliance metric of the state, and Mrs. Van Woerkom stated that it will meet the requirement.

Director Hicok and Director Wilson both stated that staff clearly said that they required more time and asked that this request receive thoughtful consideration. Director Wills and Wiedman concurred. Discussion was held regarding the amount of on-site time through November 9, 2020 for each group, A or B, will have occurred. If online option is not utilized for November 9 and 10, Director Hicok suggests using spring break days for this purpose stating that colleges have eliminated spring break due to the pandemic.

Director Rants asked if the Board could set the transition for November 9<sup>th</sup> and discuss details later. Director Wiedman stated that for those with daycare concerns, as much time as possible is needed for notification to parents. Director Wilson stated that she wishes to be as clear as possible with communication to the public and hopes for resolution today. Discussion was held regarding possibly beginning with shortened school days to help staff with additional time, and Superintendent Grimes stated that a full work day for staff would be most efficient.

Director Wilson requested an agenda item for October 26 for the plan for transition and reviewing the guidelines that we have agreed to as a board, and put a mechanism in place for adjustments to learning models as necessary. Discussion was held regarding whether the guidelines should trigger adjustments or if the situation should be reviewed individually as it occurs. Director Wilson requested review of the timeline for canvassing parents. Superintendent Grimes states that once action is taken by the Board, administration would send out the survey and information to which each parent is required to reply, or the building will contact parents to determine their choice of learning model. This allows administration the weekend to begin planning.

Director Wilson asked what strategy is in place if we see ten percent or more change into the remote online learning model. Superintendent Grimes stated that we will review the numbers and grades and the District is unable to react or plan until figures are known. He stated that the needs of our students will be met, and there may be realignment of classes including some teacher changes or schedule changes.

Director Hicok asked if we will consider additional long term subs and requests this issue be discussed on the next agenda. Director Hicok asked if furniture can be distributed back to buildings on this timeline. Superintendent Grimes indicated that the furniture distribution can be handled.

Director Wills stated that for those listening online and requesting a change in the learning model, school will not be the same as in the past or business as usual.

Director Wiedman motioned, seconded by Director Bejarno to transition to on-site learning model during the week of November 9, 2020 with November 9 and November 10 as online remote learning days for all students, to continue early out professional development each Wednesday, to continue mitigation strategies established, to continue with block scheduling at some secondary buildings, and to continue both Edmentum online learning and DC-G online remote learning for the remainder of the year.

Vote:	Doug Rants	yes
	Ronnie Wiedman	yes
	Kathie Hicok	no
	Marco Bejarno	yes
	Sarah Wilson	yes
	Ryan Carpenter	yes
	Mark Wills	no

**Written and oral communication:** Next regular board meeting, Monday, Oct. 26, 2020 (4<sup>th</sup> Monday),

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Director Carpenter motioned, seconded by Director Wills to adjourn. Time: 7:51 a.m.

Vote:	Doug Rants	yes
	Ronnie Wiedman	yes
	Kathie Hicok	yes
	Marco Bejarno	yes
	Sarah Wilson	yes
	Mark Wills	yes
	Ryan Carpenter	yes

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle R. Wearmouth  
Secretary to the Board

Approved in the meeting of:  
October 26, 2020

---

Doug Rants, Board President