Members Present: Mr. DiGiacomo, Ms. Ames, Ms. Bader, Dr. Miller, Mr. Pell, Mr. Fisher

Members Absent: Administrators Present: Dr. Gould, Ms. Wiklund, Ms. Austin, Mr. Mulcahy, Ms. Hill

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:
Mr. DiGiacomo called the meeting to order at 6:03pm and stated that this meeting is being held through a conference call/google hangouts and is being recorded. You may view the meeting by live stream at this time on Sandwich Community TV.

At this meeting, the audio is not transmitting to the viewers watching from home. A problem on the end of SCTV. They may join the virtual meeting and SCTV has indicated that there is a problem on the live stream.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC FORUM:
Mr. DiGiacomo made a motion to allow non-residents to speak at public forums at tonight’s meeting. Second by Mr. Pell.
Roll Call Vote Aye: Mr. Fisher, Mr. Pell, Dr. Miller, Ms. Bader, Ms. Ames, Mr. DiGiacomo.
6-0-0 Unanimous
Dr. Gould displayed the list of public comments/questions and read aloud her answers.
The list of questions and answers is attached to these minutes

Ms. Chelsea Craig, teacher and SEA President for the Sandwich Public Schools spoke on behalf of the SEA. We would like you to consider the best and safest way to reopen the schools. There are too many unanswered questions such as the HVAC systems, traffic flow in the hallways, how will the cafeteria work etc. All parties need more time and a phased in remote opening for 2 weeks is suggested with a reevaluation after the 2 weeks. We want to return but not until safe.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:
Dr. Gould spoke on the DESE Requirements in regards to the re-opening plan. There are many frustrations from people who want answers. We found a way to have PK-6 in the buildings, it took a lot of work to make this happen and we are proud of it.
At Home Learning, we tried hard to come up with this plan for the students to be at home and to get an education.
The deadline has been extended to August 14th by the Commissioner to submit your reopening plan.
We are still addressing issues with the union and tonight we will vote on the amended 2020-2021 school calendar as well as the reopening model.
Thank you to the administrative staff and the Re-Entry Task Force for giving up their time to work hard on a plan.

The Sandwich Public Schools has three learning models (In person, Hybrid, Remote) Grades PK-6 will be in person and grades 7-12 will be hybrid. The map of Massachusetts showing town by town covid cases, has Sandwich with less than 5 reported cases.

Ms. Ames asked about school choice students or staff members who may come from a red zone, can they come to school? Dr. Gould mentioned we will monitor the individual and the Board of Health will be consulted as well.

Ms. Chelsea Craig mentioned that other areas are going remote for 2 weeks but Dr. Gould does not agree with this.

Ms. Bader was concerned that the numbers are under reported with tourists coming onto the Cape.

Dr. Gould explained that we receive information on Sandwich residents, how many are tested and at Cape Cod Hospital with the virus. This is a good metric to look at. The Command Team shares all statistics available and I feel very comfortable with the data provided. I will not cancel & go remote without their guidance.

Ms. Ames asked how are we doing social distancing in the hallways? Ms. Wiklund indicated that at Forestdale they have a rope with ribbons spaced 6ft. apart for students to hold on to for social distancing.

Mr. Mulcahy mentioned that the hallways will be monitored and we will have less students passing as well as having alternating passing times.

Dr. Gould reiterated that parents should take kids' temperatures in the morning. Any symptoms, keep the child at home, do not send to school. We have extra staffing in the nursing offices to help out.

Ms. Ames asked if we have enough room for 90% of our students? Dr. Gould replied, we will not need it as 400+ students are choosing remote learning, parents want to keep them at home.

We are still figuring out transportation and food services. For facilities, more staff to clean high touch areas. Teaching & Learning, we have robust PD opportunities, kudos to Maureen & her staff. We will have training for remote learning and each building has their own learning plan.

Ms. Ames asked about recess, who supervises? Dr. Gould mentioned that teachers, monitors etc will monitor students. They will not be allowed on the playground and no toys. Kids will just be outside, perhaps each child will have their own bag of stuff to play with. We have to be creative for fun stuff to do.
A question on the bathrooms and any plans to update for hands free soap etc., a more sanitary way? Dr. Gould indicated that that would cost a lot to update and the CARES money does not cover that sort of expense.

A question about athletics and how that will be handled was asked but Dr. Gould mentioned that we are still waiting to hear by the end of the week possibly on any new guidance. We are not able to use locker rooms and the same precautions used during the day would come into play for after school activities. We are limiting the use of the buildings, sort of a lockdown mentality.

Dr. Miller would like to know the last best day to make a decision on the reopening plan? Dr. Gould mentioned she has to turn in the plan on Friday, so tonight we would need a vote. Dr. Miller expressed that there is still information that is outstanding and we have to approve tonight?

The principals will be sending out videos to parents on what school will look like. This will be good information for the parents/students.

Ms. Bader asked about the reopening document, if this is set in stone, are additions able to be made? Dr. Gould explained that you are only voting on the model and we can continue to work on everything in the document. The DESE is approving the model (in person, hybrid, remote) and then they will assess it and provide feedback. Voting will not stop all the work.

Mr. Pell stated they want to be sure we have a plan in place.

Ms. Bader suggested that the school committee take a tour of the buildings and Dr. Gould said yes, you should set it up. Ms. Bader also mentioned that she has had emails from teachers who are managing anxiety in regards to the HVAC and air quality in the buildings. Perhaps we could have a questions and answer session for members of the staff? Dr. Gould will be setting up a live stream session for parents and staff in the next couple of weeks.

Mr. Fisher supports Dr. Gould’s timeline.

Mr. DiGiacomo asked if Mr. Mason, Health Director and Chief Burke have previously signed off on the school plan? Yes from Dr. Gould. He also expressed that we have to turn the plan in so we have to approve the plan tonight.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**
Mr. Pell congratulated Dr. Gould and the team for putting this plan together.
NEW BUSINESS:

- **Policy EBCFA - Face Coverings - 1st Reading:**
  These are MASC Policies that we need to have if these are in the reopening plan stated Mr. DiGiacomo. Dr. Gould suggested that we strike out the sentence with Grade 1 and below.
  
  Ms. Ames made a motion to waive the 2nd Reading. Second by Mr. Pell.
  
  Roll Call Vote: Aye: Mr. Pell, Mr. Fisher, Dr. Miller, Ms. Bader, Ms. Ames, Mr. DiGiacomo.
  6-0-0 Unanimous
  
  Ms. Ames made a motion to accept Policy EBCFA - Face Coverings with the corrections of striking out the sentence with Grade 1 and below as presented.
  
  Roll Call Vote: Aye: Mr. Pell, Mr. Fisher, Dr. Miller, Ms. Bader, Ms. Ames, Mr. DiGiacomo.
  6-0-0 Unanimous

- **Policy IHBHE - Remote Learning - 1st Reading:**
  Mr. DiGiacomo gave an overview, we have had no policy before and it is a possibility we will have remote learning. We need this policy which gives equity for students and it is directing the Superintendent.
  
  Ms. Ames made a motion to waive the 2nd Reading. Second by Mr. Pell.
  
  Roll Call Vote: Aye: Mr. Pell, Mr. Fisher, Dr. Miller, Ms. Bader, Ms. Ames, Mr. DiGiacomo.
  6-0-0 Unanimous
  
  Ms. Ames made a motion to accept Policy IHBHE - Remote Learning as presented and approved by the Policy Sub Committee.
  
  Roll Call Vote: Aye: Mr. Pell, Mr. Fisher, Dr. Miller, Ms. Bader, Ms. Ames, Mr. DiGiacomo.
  6-0-0 Unanimous

- **Policy IHBHE-E - Remote Learning Addendum - 1st Reading:**
  Mr. DiGiacomo mentioned that this addendum provides more specifics.
  
  Ms. Ames made a motion to waive the 2nd Reading. Second by Ms. Bader.
  
  Roll Call Vote: Aye: Mr. Pell, Mr. Fisher, Dr. Miller, Ms. Bader, Ms. Ames, Mr. DiGiacomo.
  6-0-0 Unanimous
  
  Ms. Ames made a motion to accept Policy IHBHE-E - Remote Learning Addendum as presented and approved by the Policy Sub Committee.
  
  Roll Call Vote: Aye: Mr. Pell, Mr. Fisher, Dr. Miller, Ms. Bader, Ms. Ames, Mr. DiGiacomo.
  6-0-0 Unanimous

- **School Re-Opening Model Plan:**
  Dr. Gould mentioned that this is our recommendation for a plan and a vote is needed by the school committee. This has gone through the Re-Entry Task Force and has been approved by them.
  
  Mr. Fisher made a motion to approve the plan as presented. Seconded by Dr. Miller.
  
  Discussion: Ms. Ames asked if the SEA has approved the plan. They have approved the model stated Dr. Gould.
Roll Call Vote: Aye: Mr. Pell, Mr. Fisher, Dr. Miller, Ms. Bader, Mr. DiGiacomo.
Nay: Ms. Ames
5-1-0 Passes

- **Amended 2020-2021 School Calendar:**
  Dr. Gould explained that the calendar was sent to Ms. Ames as she is the school calendar liaison. We are presenting the whole year on the calendar but we are not sure what it will actually look like. We may need to revisit again.
  Key Points: First 10 days for teachers negotiated with the Commissioner plus 2 days we normally have before school starts.
  We took out the parent conferences for now and At Home Learning/PD Day for teachers is on Wednesdays. Last day is June 18th and the students have 170 days in school.
  Ms. Ames mentioned that this is the plan for the year unless an emergency occurs.
  Ms. Bader made a motion to accept the 2020-2021 Amended School Calendar as presented. Second by Dr. Miller.
  Roll Call Vote: Aye: Mr. Pell, Mr. Fisher, Dr. Miller, Ms. Bader, Ms. Ames, Mr. DiGiacomo.

- **School Lunch Annual Increase:**
  Ms. Austin presented the annual lunch increase which is .05.
  Grade K-5 $2.80 for lunch
  Grades 6-12 $3.05 for lunch
  This is the recommended price from the Department of Nutrition.
  Ms. Ames asked if we can alter this price? Ms. Austin said it is not recommended to do so.
  Mr. Fisher thought the price should go down with the crisis we are in.
  Dr. Miller asked what the % of free & reduced lunches are? It is low around 17-20% which is lower than most towns around here.
  Ms. Ames made a motion to accept the school lunch price increase as presented.
  Second by Ms. Bader.
  Roll Call Vote: Aye: Dr. Miller, Ms. Bader, Ms. Ames, Mr. DiGiacomo.
  Nay: Mr. Pell, Mr. Fisher
  4-2-0 Passes

- **Culturally Responsive Practices Leadership Academy-School Committee Representatives:**
  Ms. Wiklund gave an overview of the Leadership Academy where she would like to create a team. This is a 2 year commitment and this committee would be to increase culturally inclusive practices. It is suggested to have 1 or 2 members of the school committee be part of this and she asked for volunteers.
  Ms. Bader mentioned that this is a wonderful & great opportunity to develop a path.
  Mr. DiGiacomo stated that he would have to pull himself and Mr. Fisher from being on this committee as their terms expire in May 2021.
  Ms. Bader and Dr. Miller expressed an interest in participating on this committee.
• **Discussion on Athletics/After School Activities:**
  Dr. Gould mentioned that there are no parameters around Athletics, locker rooms may not be used due to the possibility of cross contamination, kids can't hang around after school and we need more guidance on everything. What other things may we engage students in if sports can't be done.
  They are doing strength & conditioning and running healthy, all fits into protocols.
  Ms. Ames mentioned that we should hold off until September 14th and until more guidance from MIAA.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

• **Sandwich School Committee Anti-Racism Resolution Update:**
  Ms. Bader explained that we held a workshop earlier to finalize the resolution and it will now be up for a vote this evening. This is the beginning of a lot of work we are doing and she extended a thank you to the three students involved and to Ms. Wiklund and Dr. Gould.
  Ms. Bader made a motion to accept the Anti-Racism Resolution as presented.
  Second by Ms. Ames.
  **Roll Call Vote:** Aye: Mr. Pell, Mr. Fisher, Dr. Miller, Ms. Bader, Ms. Ames, Mr. DiGiacomo.
  **6-0-0 Unanimous**
  Ms. Wiklund extended a thank you for responding in this way which is affirming to us to have your engagement and for creating an advisory board.

• **School Committee Open Seat Appointment Update:**
  Mr. DiGiacomo gave an update on the joint appointment with the Board of Selectmen.
  There will be a joint meeting and he will reach out to the individuals who have expressed an interest in the open seat on the day and time for the interviews. We will also make the appointment of that individual at the meeting as well. No quorum is needed and not required. Mr. DiGiacomo suggested next Wednesday, August 19th at 7:00pm and he will confirm this with the Board of Selectmen and then we will post the meeting.
  Ms. Ames felt it was important to meet next week and get this done.
  Discussion on the questions, we may have a set group of questions and anyone may ask any questions, stated Mr. DiGiacomo. There will be a time limit for each candidate.

**DONATIONS:**

• **Sandwich Partnership for Families from Sandwich Kiwanis Club:**
  Mr. DiGiacomo announced the donation of $7,500 from the Kiwanis Club.
  Ms. Ames made a motion to accept the donation as presented and with great appreciation and thanks.
  Second by Mr. Pell
  **Roll Call Vote:** Aye: Mr. Pell, Mr. Fisher, Dr. Miller, Ms. Bader, Ms. Ames, Mr. DiGiacomo.
  **6-0-0 Unanimous**
Savor the Summer Program from Sandwich Kiwanis Club:
Mr. DiGiacomo announced the donation of $2,500 from the Kiwanis Club.
Ms. Ames made a motion to accept the donation as presented and with heartfelt thanks.
Second by Ms. Bader
Roll Call Vote: Aye: Mr. Pell, Mr. Fisher, Dr. Miller, Ms. Bader, Ms. Ames,
Mr. DiGiacomo.
6-0-0 Unanimous

Mr. DiGiacomo extended a thank you to the Kiwanis Club.

WARRANTS:
Dr. Miller made a motion to accept the Warrants from last week as presented.
Second by Mr. Pell.
Discussion: Dr. Miller asked about the Cape Cod Collaborative & Southshore Collaborative
invoices, in regards to services. Dr. Gould explained they offer different services for the
students' needs. We try to keep it local but some students go to Southshore.
Discussion on the renewal of tech licenses and when to go to bid. Ms. Austin explained the bid
process.
Roll Call Vote: Aye: Mr. Pell, Dr. Miller, Ms. Bader, Ms. Ames,
Mr. DiGiacomo.
Abstain: Mr. Fisher
5-0-1 Passes

ACT ON THE BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES OF 7/22/20:
Ms. Ames made a motion to accept the School Committee Meeting Minutes of
July 22, 2020 as presented. Second by Mr. Fisher.
Roll Call Vote: Aye: Mr. DiGiacomo, Ms. Ames, Ms. Bader, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Pell,
Dr. Miller
6-0-0 Unanimous

PTA/PTSA/SPECIAL EDUCATION PAC/SCHOOL COUNCIL/BOARD OF
SELECTMEN REPORTS: None

LIAISON/ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

OTHER TOPICS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY THE CHAIR: None

PUBLIC FORUM:
List of Community questions/comments are included with the meeting minutes.
Chelsea Craig spoke on the validity of the vote for re-opening the schools with so many
questions pending. Thank you for taking the time to break everything down and the SEA never
took a formal vote. We look forward to the facilities report.
ANNOUNCEMENTS/CLOSING REMARKS:
Mr. DiGiacomo mentioned that he will get the information out tomorrow for the joint school committee meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:
Ms. Ames moved to adjourn at 9:51pm. Second by Dr. Miller.
Roll Call Vote: Aye: Mr. DiGiacomo, Ms. Ames, Ms. Bader, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Pell, Dr. Miller
6-0-0 Unanimous

Meeting is adjourned and the next school committee meeting will be held on August 26, 2020 at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Holly Lenk

Holly Lenk
School Committee Secretary

DOCUMENTS USED AT MEETING
Polices IHBHE, IHBHE-E & EBCFA
School Reopening Plan
Amended 2020-2021 School Calendar
School Lunch Annual Increase Information
Sandwich School Committee Anti-Racism Resolution
Donation Forms
July 22, 2020 School Committee Business Meeting Minutes

Minutes Approved by School Committee of August 26, 2020
Holly Lenk