

**WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE
SCHOOL BOARD EMERGENCY MEETING
Tuesday, July 28, 2020
Lyndeborough Central School/Video Conferencing
6:30 p.m.**

Due to the state of emergency declared by the Governor regarding the COVID-19 outbreak, and subsequent Emergency Order #12, the Board Chair determined that the physical presence of a quorum within the time required for Board action is not reasonably practical and therefore authorized participation of Board members via videoconferencing/audio.

The videoconferencing link was published several places including on the meeting agenda along with the Superintendent's email to be used for written public comment.

Present: *Alex LoVerme, online participation: Carol LeBlanc, Jonathan Vanderhoof, Mark Legere, Brianne Lavallee, Tiffany Cloutier-Cabral, Jim Kofalt, Charlie Post and Paul White (late arrival)*

Superintendent Bryan Lane, Business Administrator Robert Mullin, Principals Peter Weaver and Bob LaRoche, Director of Student Support Services Ned Pratt, Technology Director Mark Kline, and Clerk Kristina Fowler

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman LoVerme called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Chairman LoVerme thanked everyone for attending and noted sensitive issues will be discussed such as sports and opening school in the fall. He reminded everyone disrespectfulness will not be allowed, do not talk over one another and remain professional. He added that students are also joining us this evening.

II. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Superintendent Lane requested to add two teacher nominations.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral to accept the adjustments to the agenda.

Voting: via roll call vote; seven ayes; one abstention from Chairman LoVerme, motion carried.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The public comment section of the agenda was read.

Superintendent called out all the phone numbers and names joined in the meeting asking if they wanted to comment.

Superintendent read for the record several emails from parents, copies can be found with the minutes.

Superintendent noted we have hired a boys' varsity coach and would love to see the students play.

Ms. Jo Anne Dufour requested that the WLCTA letter be discussed in nonpublic or taken off the agenda as they believe it is an inappropriate action at this time.

IV. APPOINTMENTS

a. Pending

- **Jane Lehto-SPED Case Manager-FRES**
- **Mary Beth McQuaid-Library Media Specialist-WLC**

Superintendent reviewed the recommendations for appointment.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral and SECONDED by Ms. Lavallee to appoint Ms. Jane Lehto, Special Education teacher.

Voting: via roll call vote; eight ayes; one abstention from Chairman LoVerme, motion carried.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral and SECONDED by Mr. White to appoint Ms. Mary Beth McQuaid, Library Media Specialist.

57 *Voting: via roll call vote; eight ayes; one abstention from Chairman LoVerme, motion carried.*

58
59 Superintendent confirmed the library media specialist position is a required position.

60 61 **V. RETURN TO SCHOOL PROTOCOL**

62 Superintendent provided a draft protocol of returning to school for 5 days a week with the option of distance learning
63 and provided an overview. He noted distance learning will depend on several factors such as how many students and
64 what obligations we have to fill. Details would be provided at the August 11 meeting. There is an option of VLACS;
65 for elementary students an option for math and language arts through VLACS. If this option is chosen as temporary,
66 students would still remain enrolled in our district. The protocol presented includes what to do while in the buildings,
67 requires wearing masks with fresh air breaks during the day, limits the amount of social interaction, what happens
68 when you arrive at school, what “in class” looks like, and areas around SPED (determined on a case by case basis).
69 The protocol also includes information on lunch time, busing, and visitors will be restricted to the vestibules in each
70 building. Procedures for students and staff with symptoms of COVID is included. The teachers have a presentation
71 for an alternative to the 5 day a week return. This option is “2-1-2” with half of the students in for 2 days and the
72 other half in for 2 other days with 1 day for cleaning and time for teachers to create and manage distance learning.
73 This is the option they felt was most appropriate and safest way to limit transition even with precautions and cleaning
74 we are doing. The HS has alternatives within that model with possibly the HS going virtual which would allow the
75 MS students to be spread around the building.

76
77 Elementary teachers, Ms. Julie Lemire, Ms. Melanie Drew and Principal LaRoche presented their option for 2-1-2,
78 slides can be found with the minutes. Principal LaRoche noted this is a different option for the Board to consider
79 with dividing the school into 2 parts, classrooms will be half the size and provides more social distancing. Teachers
80 will teach 2 groups of students Mon. and Tues. and then Thurs. and Fri. with Wed. providing a chance for teachers to
81 work together. Having smaller classes also allows them to remediate easier. Each slide was reviewed showing what
82 the week would like with the 2 separate groups. (Copies can found with the minutes.) There will be instruction going
83 on Wed. as well but it will look different at each grade level. More specific details would be available later. Students
84 would have either face to face or remote instruction. Reasons to choose this option were reviewed such as this is the
85 safest option for students and staff, allows for proper social distancing protocols while students are in class and when
86 they need to move around the classroom, provides students opportunity to ease reintegration into the school setting
87 and allows for teachers to focus on each child’s social-emotional health and well-being, distance learning
88 assignments will be explained prior to remote learning days, allows custodial staff to deep clean between the 2
89 groups of students and prepares families and students in the event that the district has to close the schools again.
90 Principal LaRoche acknowledges this option may be difficult and represent challenges for parents who don’t have
91 the ability to have their kids home 3 days a week.

92
93 Principal Weaver spoke in support of the 2-1-2 model for WLC however adjustments would have to be made. Slides
94 were reviewed and can be found with the minutes. WLC students would attend 2 days of face to face instruction
95 staggered with 3 days of distance learning. There would also be an option for students to be fully distance learning.
96 Another option that WLC presented is for MS students to attend 4 days of face to face instruction, 1 day of distance
97 learning and HS students will have 5 days structured distance learning and reassess in the 2nd quarter. He notes being
98 concerned with the social emotional needs of the MS students in particular. Reasons for supporting these options was
99 provided including opportunity to utilize the entire facility for grades 6,7 and 8 if the HS was fully distance learning.
100 It would also allow for larger classroom space for the larger classes, minimizes the number of students at any one
101 time in the building and for the safety of students and staff. Distance learning’s structure is strongly aligned with a
102 regular school day schedule, subject-centered and focused on curriculum competencies. The options also included
103 changing the start date of school with the 6th grade starting on September 8, grades 7 and 8 starting on September 9
104 and HS students would start on September 8.

105
106 A question was raised to Principal LaRoche regarding the 2 groups, would they have same instruction be planned for
107 Mon. and Tues. as Thurs. and Fri.? Principal LaRoche explained they are looking into technology and some kind of
108 live streaming for the student who are doing distance learning to be able to speak to the teacher while in classroom.
109 They are still working on some of the details.

110
111 Regarding the start date changes, Superintendent explained the Governor and Commissioner recommended that
112 teachers have additional time prior to the start of school for PD time. We need to get better at distance learning and
113 make sure we are prepared. The Commissioner says those days we do not need to add onto the calendar for

instructional days; it is to provide more time for teachers. He notes another option is to start the Monday before Labor Day. It was noted the district's calendar is not set up this way, has a start date and there was no agreement for additional PD days with the Union. Superintendent agreed there would need to be an agreement to add PD days.

There was a long discussion regarding masks; should it be mandatory, what kind are they, who provides them, is there time without them during the day, which grades should wear them, it's a lot to ask to wear them all day, what if it drops on the floor, what the plan is for those who have difficulty, and what's the plan for those who refuse. There was concern raised by some members regarding making it mandatory/required.

Superintendent explained the recommendation from the state is to provide the masks for children; we do have donations from the Wilton Cares Group whom he thanked. Staff would provide their own. They are working on putting 2-3 breaks during the day when they can have them off. During quiet work times while socially distanced they won't need to wear them; however, if someone is in the back of the class speaking louder they should be worn due to potential of transmission. Ms. Lavallee, who is a trained nurse commented that she is aware masks are a very big hot topic for people however she bases her support for wearing them on her medical knowledge. She has worked in both pediatrics and geriatrics with compromised patients and having them wear masks with breaks is feasible but there will always be some exceptions. Superintendent confirmed there is no requirement from the state to wear them but there is a strong recommendation to wear them from the Department of Health. Superintendent explained there is a difference if a student struggles with the mask and refusal to wear the mask. If parents are sending students to school, there is an expectation they will wear a mask. We won't send students home in a "draconian" manner. If someone says no, I am not going to wear it, they will need to leave the building. We are looking at age appropriateness and student management is extremely different for a 1st grader vs. a 6th or 12th grader. Full face shields will be available for students who have breathing issues and the nurse will work with the student and parents. Principal LaRoche added we will try to educate them, there will be a lot of prep for students too. This is more of an educational approach; it is not considered a disciplinary issue for the 1st grader (for example). It was noted there is parent concern regarding masks/face coverings. Superintendent added, when students are in class, speaking out loud there is a lot of potential for droplets and information received depends what you are reading, it changes constantly. Transmission in younger children is less likely, a 10-year-old (in 3rd grade) has as much possibility to transfer as an adult.

Mr. Pratt spoke regarding the limited preschool program that is happening now. Some students are coming into the building on a half day basis. Preschoolers don't wear masks; they are not developmentally appropriate and we are finding staff has to be additionally masked. Some elementary students have the awareness to wear them. At the HS RISE program, all are wearing masks; a lot are wearing them at home already. All 3 programs are social distanced and with younger students it is harder. We are finding it is necessary for students with disabilities to come into school.

Ms. Lavallee spoke of attending a lot of webinars that included other towns and school administration across NH. Although NH is doing well, we want to keep it that way and in order to bring students back, we need layered protection. This is a standard in most schools. She feels strongly if we have a scenario with kids in school we need to use masks and balance the need of the student's health, staff and community. If we have an outbreak in the school, it will affect the community. We need to take into consideration what is best for our community as a whole and providing that level of protection is not too much to ask. Ms. LeBlanc added we should be looking at it as more of a learning experience and students are quite capable of learning new things. She gave the analogy that if it is cold outside, you ask them to put their coat on. Parents are already doing a lot of the education on this and many have adapted to the need to wear the mask. Concern was raised again by some board members regarding making wearing masks required and that it should be relaxed some. It was suggested to have a policy that recommends, requests, encourages but does not require. Concern is that when it is a hard requirement and if you don't comply you will be sent home; it goes too far. A better environment is created by the suggested policy as opposed to sending a child home. Discussion continued on this matter with varying opinions and examples shared. Several members felt there are options for students/parents with masks or face shields or doing distance learning and it was not feasible to put everyone at risk by not making it required. It was noted in the protocol a lot of the wording is required regarding masks but there are 4-5 exceptions therefore it is not a requirement. Discussion was had regarding the number of cases being zero in the town and making it required is too much. Superintendent confirmed to provide a face shield to every student would require additional funding. It was noted as an example the dress code is a requirement which students need to follow. There is scientific data which supports wearing a mask. It was noted that Dave

Boissonnault, Emergency Management Director commented that the state has stated they will assist the SAU with PPE.

Principal Weaver provided information on spacing desks at WLC and some classes have 20 students and one with 25; we will need to figure out how to maintain social distance in the large classes. Whatever model is chosen, there will be the need move some classes to larger spaces in the building as a safety precaution. It was noted he is basing this on full enrollment and according to the survey sent to parents 30-40% of parents may keep their students home which may make social distancing in all classes possible.

Discussion was had regarding how many options should be available to parents and the need to narrow it down. It was noted the 2-1-2 model is great however some parents may have a problem leaving their students home all day alone if the parents are working and financially it may be difficult for some families economically. Superintendent named some of the districts in the area that have chosen a 2-1-2- model and other districts are still finalizing plans. Discussion was had regarding needing to know the number of students per grade and per class to determine if social distancing in every class was possible however this still doesn't account for students moving around in class, leaving their desk for a number of reasons. Superintendent reviewed an example of what the classes numbers may look like if 20% of the students did not attend for face to face instruction. He reiterated there is a lot of movement in the classes in grades 1-5 and this is a concern for some teachers. Discussion was had regarding student's movement during the day and Principal Weaver voiced that he is not sure keeping students in one room the entire day is the best scenario. He believes those things are necessary to keep them engaged during the day. Superintendent added MS students would pass in the hallway one grade at a time. Grade 8 is still a concern even with a decrease of 20% of students as that is a large class and would still need to figure out how to utilize the building for that class.

Discussion was had regarding the option of HS students doing remote learning and not being in the building, how would you determine if they are struggling and they have not seen their friends and have been stuck at home. Principal Weaver acknowledges this and notes we have to consider how to create more distance and space; the need for them to have a sense of community. The HS is much more independent on their learning. Once we have a decision, we can focus on the details. If we have students struggling and have the space, we can create an area for remediation and 1:1 support. Most HS students can be generally successful although there is always going to be a cohort of kids who will struggle. SPED students need a different level of instruction and content and should be in the building with direct support. Once we know the direction, we can focus on those details.

Mr. Vanderhoof noted he will make a motion but to keep in mind, he is not talking about exceptions or details in the motion.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Vanderhoof and SECONDED by Mr. Kofalt to return to school for 5 days per week.

MOTION is AMMENDED by Mr. Vanderhoof to return to school full time 5 days per week with an option for full time distance learning, Mr. Kofalt SECONDED.

Discussions continued; Superintendent confirmed once we have a direction, we can plan the details. Superintendent confirms for a parent who had a student in W.I.N., we would work together and it is our obligation as educators to find a way to deliver that instruction to the best of our ability. We would work to do this.

Voting: via roll call vote; three ayes; five nays from Mr. White, Mr. Legere, Ms. LeBlanc, Ms. Lavallee and one abstention from Chairman LoVerme, motion failed.

Members continued to have discussions and noted the need to have a direction for parents and students this evening. They discussed options that would include flexibility for parents. Superintendent confirms if there are students struggling with remote learning we would work with any family and let them know there is concern and if a student is not engaging we will work the family and if we had to make a change during the 9 weeks we can work it out as long as it is structured. He confirmed the 2-1-2 model would still allow full distance learning if parents chose to do that. Principal Weaver expressed he believes there will be parents who want to keep their children home and we need to figure out how to help those who are struggling.

A question was raised to discuss kindergarten and what is happening with LCS. Superintendent responded, we can't ask them were masks and distance learning is difficult at best for kindergarten; having them here gives them some

structure. If we come back 5 days a week, kindergarten would be 5 days a week. There are 18 per class now. If they don't want to come in, we will have packets to send home. It is not feasible to have a 5-year old sit in front of a screen. While they are in the building, there will be separate times to go outside and across the district anytime we have the opportunity to hold class outside we will. If back for 5 days, kindergarten is 5 days, no masks for students and teachers will have face shields and masks and 1:1 instruction will be between a Plexiglas barrier with a pass through so they can have visual contact.

It was noted the discussion is hard to follow as we do not have a plan or even a baseline at this point and questions could be answered with more authority or planning if we had a direction. It was expressed in order to make an educated vote; questions need to be answered.

Questions were raised regarding cleaning at LCS, will the bathrooms be cleaned multiple times a day, we cut back on custodial hours; is it still feasible. Superintendent confirms cleaning will be done multiple times a day and hours will be adjusted to ensure this is possible. A question was raised if the nurse is doing the temperature checks in the morning at LCS; will we adjust her hours as well as that position was decreased. Superintendent confirms she would come in for the 8:10 start time and if a student had a temperature of 100 or more, the nurse would do an additional check (after staff did the original check) to confirm the temperature. He notes sometimes if it is warm in the car, the temperature reading may be elevated that is why the second screening would be required. The nurse would make the medical judgment on sending students home or not.

Discussion was had regarding having parents check temperatures before students come to school. This is helpful in order to not send the child if they have a fever. A question was raised regarding how is this monitored as other school districts have talked about doing it through an app. Superintendent voiced, regardless of how we do it we will have to trust parents will do this and if they don't report, we won't know. We will have to depend and trust parents to say yes, I am part of the process if my child has a fever I will keep them home. There are also cases where parents have left for work before the MS or HS child goes to school. We may not have the ability across the board but with the younger students we would. Regardless, how we monitor, we will ask parents to work with us.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Post and SECONDED by Mr. Legere to have 3 options for families, 5 days in school learning, full remote learning for variable days or portion of the day with agreement by staff, commitments to learning mode must be for the quarter with 2 weeks' notice of a change.

MOTION AMMENDED by Mr. Post to strike staff and replace with administration. (to have 3 options for families, 5 days in school learning, full remote learning for variable days or portion of the day with agreement by administration, commitments to learning mode must be for the quarter with 2 weeks' notice of a change.

Discussion was had regarding the motion and how much time would be needed to complete the protocol. Superintendent could get notification out in the morning to parents for them to choose and let us know if they are looking for 5 days in the building, 5 days remote or a flexible schedule that is consistent for 9 weeks. Superintendent confirms the 3rd option we would work with the families to determine what their needs are and as long as we can lock that down for a 9-week period we could create specific options for what they need. Discussion was had that that creates too many options. It was suggested to make that 3rd option the 2-1-2 option instead. Principal Weaver spoke regarding we need to be very careful how many challenges we place on the system before it become mediocre across the board. The 2-1-2 option will not work with a 5-day face to face as there is 1 day for cleaning in the 2-1-2 that model. As an example for HS an AP student may be home learning remotely and may want to come in and do AP environmental science with the teacher, that is one the scenario's he sees a parent may ask for an accommodation and we would check with the teacher to see if this is feasible. Superintendent notes, this doesn't need to be in the motion as long as everyone has an understanding of this that in the information we give parents, options are: 5 days in, 5 days remote or a consistent daily schedule for part of the day. If they chose this, transportation would be the parents responsibility (they are looking for an exception). Parents could say they want their child to come in for specials only or English language arts for example but has to be a consistent schedule. We are looking for a consistent schedule, 5 days a week or partial. A question was raised if anyone knows of other districts offering 2 or 3 options; none heard. Concern was raised we have a limited budget and putting out multiple options will be difficult to manage. Concern was raised regarding cleaning the buildings. Superintendent confirms we are cleaning every night and if we have to adjust schedules we will. It was noted the bulk will be done at night; floors may suffer in order to continue with the disinfecting which is most important at this time.

283 *Voting: via roll call vote; six ayes; two nays from Mr. Vanderhoof and Ms. LeBlanc one abstention from Chairman*
284 *LoVerme, motion carried.*

285
286 Discussion moved to the start date of school for students and the protocol. Concern was raised regarding losing
287 instruction time and parents have planned on the start date originally put forward on the calendar. Superintendent
288 explained there is the option to move up the 2 full day teacher workshop days (Sept 24 and Feb. 5) and instead have
289 those on the 27th and 28th of August; would not need approval from WLCTA. Questions were raised what that would
290 look like. Superintendent explained one day will be for the teachers to set up their rooms, and the other 4 days will be
291 used for making sure staff has an appropriate understanding of all protocols and how they are implemented with 3
292 days of distance learning strategies. It was noted this didn't leave any full PD days during the year if we needed to go
293 full remote. Superintendent confirmed this is correct unless an exception made. School schedules would still need to
294 be finalized and some details still need to be worked out. The arrival window for WLC would be closed slightly for
295 drop off and at FRES, we would need to determine if morning recess would continue. Students and staff would be
296 checked for temperatures and MS HS will have 2 entrances to maximize social distancing and create a better flow.
297 Concern was raised regarding the last page of the protocol regarding reporting known cases. It was suggested to
298 change that to COVID-19 cases. It was noted there are certain cases that the Dept. of Health is requesting us to report
299 to them. We can change the wording to per the Dept. Health and Human Services Guidelines. If we become aware of
300 a case of COVID-19, the Department of Health requests we report to them. The testing agency is required to report to
301 the Dept. of Health and most likely when we report, they would have already been notified. Discussions and options
302 of start dates were discussed. It was noted for a few grades they would have had a step up day and since this did not
303 happen, for some it will be their first experience in the building. If we were able to do a staggered start, orientation
304 could be achieved. Superintendent confirms the teachers would be present and assisting with the orientation of
305 students, working on distance learning plans and making sure the technology available is working. It was suggested
306 to hold back one of the PD days for further into the year. Concern was raised that teachers need time to acclimate
307 themselves to the changes and how instructional practice will work; they also have been out of school since March.
308 For those who are doing remote learning, they are starting the same day as face to face instruction. There is also the
309 need to test out the arrival protocols of staff to determine what works and what doesn't before the students are
310 present.

311
312 *A MOTION was made by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral and SECONDED by Ms. LeBlanc change the start date of school from*
313 *the original start date to have the 1st and 6th grade start on August 31, Grades 2-5 and 7 and 8 start on September 1,*
314 *and grades 9-12 will start on September 2.*

315
316 Concern was raised again regarding using all 5 PD days prior to starting school and if we had a better idea of what
317 attendance looks like if there is a need later, adjustments can be made but not if all 5 are used prior.

318
319 *MOTION was AMMENDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral, SECONDED by Ms. LeBlanc, to include Kindergarten starting*
320 *on August 31. (change the start date of school from the original start date to have the 1st and 6th grade start on*
321 *August 31, Grades 2-5 and 7 and 8 start on September 1, and grades 9-12 will start on September 2.)*

322 *Voting: via roll call vote; five ayes, three nays from Mr. Vanderhoof, Mr. Kofalt and Mr. Post, one abstention from*
323 *Chairman LoVerme.*

324
325 Superintendent will send notice to parents in the morning. Remote learning will be the same schedule as face to face
326 learning.

327
328 Discussion was had regarding the written protocol. It was noted it includes mandatory masks. There still needs to be
329 more work done on the protocol. It didn't appear Mr. Erb, Facilities Manager was included; Superintendent confirms
330 he has had discussions with him throughout the process and believes there is not a need for additional custodial staff.
331 Every desktop, door knob will be cleaned daily along with bathrooms 3 times a day, filters have been dealt with in
332 accordance with annual maintenance and there will be hand sanitizer stations as you come into the buildings, water
333 stations set up for students to fill their water bottles. A brief discussion was had regarding having a
334 cleaning/disinfecting log for buildings and buses. Superintendent confirms busing is Mr. Browne's responsibility and
335 we do have a check list we used over the summer and there is no reason we can't have something similar to fit this
336 situation. A question was raised if we have enough thermometers and what type are they. Superintendent confirms
337 we have 16 digital temporal thermometers and backup batteries (do not touch flesh). Superintendent will forward the
338 specifications of the thermometers to Ms. Lavallee to review.

A brief discussion was had that misinformation that is spread in the community could be prevented with more communication. Superintendent confirms nothing goes out to parents without the Board approving it. For example, he will send notice of the start date changes and the draft protocol for the Board to review, he would like to have the Board reply ASAP so he can send it out in the afternoon at the latest. Regarding social media communication, that is at the Board's discretion.

Discussion was had regarding VLACS. Superintendent confirms if VLACS is used and if they are using this as their distance learning model, they can stay in our school district. It is also an option for elementary students in math and language arts. If a parent indicates that this is what they want to do, its ok and falls in the state guidelines. There are teachers who are assigned to work with VLACS students, at the MS however, there is no accommodation for that at this time and we would need to look at that; he believes we can accommodate it at FRES with the WIN program.

Regarding buses, Mr. Browne has agreed to disinfect the buses, using our equipment and he would pay for the chemicals. He indicated his maintenance person would be trained and do the work. We will need to work out a schedule with him. The cost for the equipment is \$900 and a 55-gallon drum of chemicals is about \$800. A question was raised if the district wanted to pay for the additional equipment for Mr. Browne to have their own to use. Superintendent responded if the Board chose to spend the \$900; Mr. Browne is aware of the cost but did not want to purchase one. A question was raised if we wanted to do assign seating to ensure safety, is it possible to have a system like this. Superintendent agreed we can make a plan to assign students to the bus and families would sit together and social distancing would be maximized. A question was raised if there would be some sort of signed acknowledgement that the procedures regarding reentry were read so that there is awareness of the rules and consequences. Superintendent responded the Board would have to approve this and could include wearing masks and checking temperatures at home.

Mr. Vanderhoof spoke of concern regarding the protocol and if the environment was so hazardous he would not send his children to school or anyone else's. We are at zero cases in both towns; he feels the protocol is unreasonable. Discussion ensued with varying opinions such as wanting to keep the numbers at zero, without precautions, it puts staff and others at risk, we are not letting visitors into the building, it looks more like a prison, children are exposed to others who may work outside of our towns or work in healthcare or food service. It was noted if we do not overreact, we may not find out but if we underreact we will know very quickly and would rather overreact. Discussion was had regarding wearing or not wearing masks with varying opinions shared. Ms. Lavalley voiced we are minimizing the risk; there will always be a risk. We need to have layers to our plan and maybe if it is this contentious it needs to go to a vote. It was noted we will not get everyone to agree; we know our numbers will not get lower but could go higher if we are not cautious. Masking is a measure to keep people safe. It was noted there is not an issue with wearing the mask; the issue is requiring it. Superintendent reiterated our school nurses will work with students, we will have free masks for children to use if they need a replacement, we have donated masks, paper masks and will work to be sure all protocols are known and will do our best to accommodate all students. A question was raised if there could be accommodations for those students who don't want to wear a mask and can be educated in person; we are making accommodations for others, can we accommodate this. Superintendent reiterates the protocol at this point states all students and staff will be required to wear a face mask or shield while in the building. If a child has an issue with a mask, we will work with them together with the nurse, counselor and administration and parents. There may be some who struggle and a student who refuses will be spoken with as we would anything, we would bring them in and speak with them. We don't send anyone home without talking with the parents and we would work with them as well. It was noted that it is important to discuss this now; if something happens, it will be escalated. It can be a difficult situation for parents who are working.

A MOTION was made by Ms. LeBlanc and SECONDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral for all students and staff, it will be mandatory to wear face masks or face shields while in our schools.

Voting: via roll call vote; five ayes; three nays from Mr. Vanderhoof, Mr. Post, Mr. Kofalt, one abstention from Chairman LoVerme. motion carried.

VI. ATHLETICS

Discussion was had regarding Athletics, there were a number of parents asking to support playing, mainly soccer. Discussion included, it's difficult to social distance, a number of colleges canceled sports season, do we supply a school bus, 46 responses to our survey, several emails received in support of playing, no decision has been made although there are rumors the Board said no to playing, no parent has contacted us to say they don't support playing,

no additional guidance from NHIAA to date however there was discussion in a superintendent's meeting of it moving forward with classifications, NHIAA does not create the schedule for sports, and the athletic directors are discussing organizing it by area. A question was raised if we got an additional bus what is the cost. Superintendent responded, it depends, if locally about \$300-\$400 or if up north \$600-\$700 and how many games. He doesn't have an exact schedule. Concern was raised if our team plays another team that has a positive case or quarantined, what does that look like for us. Superintendent responded public health would be notified and they would contact us quickly letting us know and give recommendations on what to do; if they say quarantine, we quarantine and would create a protocol for it. He would need to work with public health on the matter. His opinion is to err on the side of caution and quarantine. It was suggested to leave the decision to play up to parents, there is support from members to play. Concern was raised we are sending them off to play other teams and we don't what their protocols are and if they are following the same guidelines as we are. Are exposing those students to a risky situation; we don't have control over what they do. When the students come back to our school and are interacting with other students, we don't want to bring back an illness we are trying to avoid. Discussion was had from both sides including, at some point we have to let people make an educated decision, people are out and about and not in lockdown. We are cautiously getting back to normal; it is a personal decision that may require an additional waiver. There should be a clear protocol and the athletic director should follow up with the Board, have it reviewed by administration to be sure it is being followed and there is consistency. There should be the same guidelines with buses and the message needs to be consistent. Superintendent voiced if students are on a bus from our district they would need to wear a mask as the coaches would also. Once on the field, the NHIAA has protocols around warm up and we would follow those protocols and when not actively participating they would wear a mask and only during physical participation during a game would that restriction be lifted according to the NHIAA guidelines. He believes the NHIAA would waive the penalty and not have a long term penalty if we canceled. Mr. White voiced that with masks being mandatory he feels the risk is less. He works in EMS and notes the mask can be taken on and off and only when there is a positive case do they receive a new mask; it is OK for students to take them on and off.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral to allow fall sports with proper protocol I place to ensure students safety to the best of our ability and follow organization rules.

MOTION was AMMENDED by Ms. Lavallee to Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District will have a fall sports season and all players and coaches will follow guidelines of NHIA and school district.

Mr. Legere requested to solidify if parents would be driving their children or not and the cost of an additional bus. If parents opt to drive, they can't opt back in they need to stick to the decision.

Voting: via roll call vote; seven ayes; one nay from Ms. LeBlanc, one abstention from Chairman LoVerme. motion carried.

VII. WLCTA LETTER REGARDING IMPACT BARGAINING

Chairman LoVerme voiced that 10 minutes prior to the start of the meeting he received an email asking for this agenda item to be removed from the meeting therefore he is removing it and it will be discussed during nonpublic. Superintendent noted there is no nonpublic session scheduled for this evening and no adjustment was made to the agenda to add one. It can be moved to the next meeting on August 11. Mr. Vanderhoof notes he had asked for a nonpublic but was told it was not necessary and this is something that should be discussed at the bare minimum as it affects the school year. Superintendent notes the Board can still call a nonpublic session; it is just irregular in scenario. Discussion was had if it should actually be a non-meeting vs. nonpublic. Superintendent voiced non-meetings are held when meeting with an attorney. It was noted the letter sent by the WLCTA is posted on the website in the Board packet. Discussion was had regarding the WLCTA's request for impact bargaining. Superintendent notes the language used (demands impact bargaining) is a legal term and this is how it should be stated. He adds, some of the requests are management prerogative and some requests would need to be negotiated and would affect working conditions. It is noted there is no date on the letter and it was not marked privileged or not to be discussed.

Discussion was had if it is typical to discuss letters regarding negotiations in public, there needs to be a decision tonight as to when and where to meet, if the full Board should be present or if it should be the Negotiations Committee, and if it should be non-meeting vs. nonpublic. It was noted the request is not limited to our district, other districts have received such requests. Suggestion to meet either this Thursday, July 30 or Tuesday, Aug. 4 with the full Board. It was suggested to break down the request by items that are management rights and those that are not in order to be more effective when meeting. Chairman LoVerme notes he would like the Negotiations Committee to start meeting in August for the WLCTA contract and WLCSSA contract.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Vanderhoof and SECONDED by Ms. Lavallee for the whole Board to meet with the WLCTA for impact bargaining.

Voting: via roll call vote; seven ayes; one nay from Mr. Legere, one abstention from Chairman LoVerme. motion carried.

Chairman LoVerme will be absent if the meeting is on August 4. He notes for clarity, he was the one who released the document and Mr. Vanderhoof added he as well asked for it to be released. There was not a request for it to not be released.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The public comment section of the agenda was read.

Superintendent called out all the phone numbers and names joined in the meeting asking if they wanted to comment.

Mr. Dennis Golding commented that he finds it concerning that the option the teachers gave was not considered a viable option for the Board; a variable option was chosen but not the one they recommended. If the teachers are not there to teach our children because they feel unsafe in our environment that is an issue; he feels it should have been given more consideration.

Mr. Adam Lavallee commented that this week was a bit different (he listens each week) but he noticed that every time there seems to be a cost avoidance because something has changed due to COVID. He brings this up because tonight a lot of new expenses have seemed to become clear and what it takes to run schools going forward. Every time there is some sort of a cost avoidance, he hears "we got to get that back to the tax payers". He ran into Dennis and he got the actual definition of the school board duties and there is not anywhere in that definition from the DOE that says it some sort of a tax payer's advocacy board. Our town is a good example of why the school board does not need to be an advocacy board for the tax payers because our tax payers are amazing at advocating for themselves. Two years ago they advocated for themselves to increase the budget, last year they advocated for themselves to decrease the budget. The students do not have that voice and opportunity. The definition of the school board has a lot of things in it about the best interest of the students and providing opportunities for the students. He would like to hear how we are going to figure out how to cover all the additional costs; adding a bus route is expensive. Any cost avoidance we have needs to be looked at as how we can pay for these additional expenses. If they don't come up great, send it back to the tax payers. He is a tax payer, there are a lot of tax payers. He doesn't want it to turn into a tax payer's advocacy board because our tax payers are amazing at advocating for themselves.

Mr. Geoffrey Allen commented that he wanted to thank the Board that these are some difficult decisions we are making and they managed to make it without any incredibly heated discussions. He thanked the Board for being considerate of the tax payers and how they spend our money and for allowing us as parents to be advocating for how they spend our money and how our children are being educated. He is really appreciative of those considerations, for how our money is spent and how the children are being educated and for the teachers themselves and for the level headed and thoughtfulness that was put into this meeting tonight.

Ms. Laura Gifford voiced appreciation for the work of the Board. Great work you guys, lots of attention to detail. She appreciates that. One thing she wants to know about is the nurse's office at LCS is tremendously small and her concern is when there is a student who has the potential for isolation needs; how will that be addressed and has there been any thought on this? Superintendent responded he will speak with her tomorrow.

Mr. Matt Mannarino commented he wants to be sure that the Board has put a lot of thought into the more people we have back in school at one time the greater the likelihood that if there is a COVID case it will shut down the entire

501 school. Depending on how many people are in the building at any given time, contact tracing will dictate quarantine
502 measures to the entire school which will mean distance learning for everyone for two weeks.

503
504 Ms. Sally Blanchette voiced appreciation to the Board for all the work they put into this. She wants to second Dennis
505 Golding's motion. She doesn't think the teacher's proposal got much talk or discussion and she would like to see
506 more of that.

507
508 Superintendent notes he did receive one comment on his phone but does not have a name and without a name he
509 cannot read it into the record. He apologized.

510
511 Ms. Lavallee thanked and recognized student Elizabeth Jacob. She loved that she advocated for other students and
512 put forth a PowerPoint and participated in the local government process. She acknowledges and appreciates the
513 WLCTA for presenting that model. She wished they had received it earlier because she thinks it was great. She
514 doesn't want them to feel unrecognized; they are very much affected by all the decisions the Board makes. She
515 appreciates all the hard work the teachers and staff are doing. We all recognize they are working hard and this is a
516 big sacrifice for them as well. She looks forward to a more comprehensive plan with a bit more detail from
517 administration.

518
519 **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

520 *A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. White to adjourn the Board meeting at 10:54pm.*
521 *Voting: eight ayes; one abstention from Chairman LoVerme, motion carried.*

522
523 *Respectfully submitted,*
524 *Kristina Fowler*

525