

POQUOSON CITY SCHOOL BOARD SPECIAL MEETING
August 11, 2020 – 6:00 P.M.
CITY OF POQUOSON COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Present: Garry Carter, Chairman
Michelle Sheeler, Vice Chair
Wayne Holcomb
Jeremy Jordan
Jonathan Ingram
Christy Helsel
Craig Freeman
Arty Tillett, Superintendent
Antonia Fox, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Support Services
Lenna Reimers, Clerk of the Board

I. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE TO THE FLAG. Chairman Carter called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. PRESENTATION.

A. Reopening of Schools Options – Mr. Arty Tillett, Superintendent and Dr. Antonia Fox, Assistant Superintendent presented a presentation on reopening of schools options.

B. Peninsula Health Department – Dr. Rachel Romaine, MD, MPH, Representative from the Peninsula Health Department gave a presentation on COVID in our region.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT. No in-person comments. Public comments were submitted in writing to the Board. The Board received each of the comments electronically and a hard copy.

IV. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION.

A. Consideration of Approval of Superintendent's Recommendation of Reopening Schools Plan for the 2020-2021 School Year.

I. Ms. Helsel made a motion, seconded by Ms. Sheeler to approve Superintendent's Recommendation of Reopening Schools Plan for the 2020-2021. Vote was taken.

VOTE: 7:0

Mr. Freeman, Aye; Mr. Ingram, Aye; Ms. Jordan, Aye; Mr. Holcomb, Aye; Ms. Helsel, Aye; Vice Chair Sheeler, Aye; Chairman Carter, Aye

II. Ms. Sheeler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jordan to approve a Partial Hybrid Model of Option 1 with K-3 Students, Students with Special Needs, and English Language Learners returning in-person 2 days a week. Grades 4-12 starting virtual, but will be phased into the Hybrid model as soon as possible.

VOTE: 7:00


Mr. Freeman, Aye; Mr. Ingram, Aye; Ms. Jordan, Aye; Mr. Holcomb, Aye; Ms. Helsel, Aye; Vice Chair Sheeler, Aye; Chairman Carter, Aye

V. COMMUNICATIONS BY SCHOOL BOARD AND/OR SUPERINTENDENT.

- Mr. Tillett. No Comment.
- Mr. Freeman. Thanked everyone, particularly the principals, for all their hard work on the PCPS return to school plan. He also thanked the community for their support.
- Mr. Ingram. He thanked the steering committee, Mr. Tillett, Dr. Fox, and principals for an excellent job on their planning.
- Mr. Jordan. He shared that he felt the Board made the best decision for students and staff at this time. He also thanked the staff for all their feedback to the Board. He is looking forward to guidance that Mr. Tillett and staff will share as PCPS moves forward with the continuum plan.
- Mr. Holcomb. He echoed all the thank you remarks from Board members. He shared that he believes PCPS is making a bold move with starting school with some in-person teaching. He thanked Mr. Tillett for all his hard work.
- Ms. Helsel. She thanked the community for their patience on waiting for an informed decision. She echoed other Board members thank you remarks. She shared that she supports sending our most vulnerable students back to school. She encouraged families to continue to teach children hand washing techniques and social distancing.
- Vice Chair Sheeler. She shared that she is very proud to be on the PCPS Board. She spoke on how each Board member cares deeply for Poquoson and our students.
- Chairman Carter. He spoke on how the virtual learning piece that will start at the beginning of the year will be very different than the virtual learning at the end of the school year. He encouraged parents not to judge the virtual learning and to give it a chance, as a lot of adjustments have been made to make this successful. He thanked the Health Department for their presentation.

X. ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Carter adjourned the meeting at 7:12 p.m.


Garry Carter, Ed.D., Chairman


Lenna Reimers, Clerk of the Board

Date: 8/25/2020