

Community Unit School District 200

Administration and School Service Center

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NOTICE

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) MEETING

BOARD OF EDUCATION
DISTRICT 200
DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

A Meeting of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) of Community Unit School District 200, DuPage County, Illinois will be held on Wednesday, February 16, 2022, at 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at the Wheaton Warrenville South High School, 1920 S. Wiesbrook Rd., Wheaton, IL. The agenda of the meeting is as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of Minutes from January 19, 2022
4. Discussion of COVID-19 Layered Mitigation Reduction Plan
5. Discussion of District 200 District Organization, Oversight, and Planning
6. What is the Buzz?
7. Adjournment



Chris Crabtree

Board of Education, District 200



Superintendent of Schools, District 200

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Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)
February 16, 2022 - Meeting at WWSHS

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Dr. Schuler.
- This meeting was conducted at Wheaton Warrenville South High School, in the Library Learning Center (LLC).
- 30 CAC members were present for the meeting.
- Others present: Superintendent Dr. Jeff Schuler, Asst Supt of Educational Services Melissa Murphy, Asst Supt of Student Services Chris Silagi, Director of Community Engagement & Communications Erica Loiacono, and Board of Education Member Chris Crabtree.

Public Comment

- None

Approval of Minutes from January 19, 2022

- Motion to approve the minutes as presented G. Aimonette; seconded by: N. Mead. All in favor.
- Minutes of January 19, 2022, were approved.

Discussion of COVID-19 Layered Mitigation Reduction Plan

- Dr. Schuler and the team reviewed a PowerPoint *Covid 19 and the D200 Learning Experience Planning for the Road Ahead*. This is a preview of the document to put in front of the board next week. The admin team is seeking feedback tonight - questions, concerns, what is liked about the information, etc.
- The context for this discussion: 1-½ weeks ago, the board came together on Sunday afternoon (Feb 6, 2022) and made adjustments to mitigations in place. When the Board came back together on Feb 9, 2022, the board was updated on COVID data points monitored, and there was discussion on bringing the plan to move forward - a permanent plan to move the district forward.
- Dr. Schuler provided the PowerPoint, which included information on the following:
 - Meeting Objectives
 - Two Tiers of Layered COVID-19 Mitigations in District 200 (Universal/Targeted)
 - Universal COVID-19 Mitigations (Those not as impactful to learning experience)
 - Universal COVID-19 Mitigations (Those are as impactful to learning experience)
 - Removed/Suspended Universal COVID-19 Mitigations
 - Targeted COVID-19 Mitigations
 - The landscape of COVID-19 continues to change
 - January & February 2021 vs. 2022 - Key Differences
 - DuPage County Health Department Partnership
 - Focused Protection of Vulnerable Populations
 - Changes to Circumstances & Data => Changes to Risk/Benefit Analysis (Risk Tolerance)
 - Future Considerations
 - Four Key Types of Analytical Data
 - Descriptive Data - What is happening?
 - Diagnostic Data - Why did this happen?
 - Predictive Data - What could happen in the future?
 - Prescriptive Data - What should we do next?
 - Prevalent Variant *- February 16, 2022
 - District 200 New Cases per Week (student & staff)
 - District 200 Daily Public Data Snapshot (voluntary quarantine & case data by school/level)

- Zip Code Cases per 100,000 Residents
- District 200 Approximate Student Partial/Full Vaccination Rates (Elementary, MS, HS)
- Hospitalizations: ICU and Non-ICU Bed Utilization
- District 200 Safe Hours for School Environment
- Summary
- Recommendations
- At any given point in time, the administration has a real-time dashboard that tells how many students are positive in each building, how many quarantines, etc.
- Targeted mitigations - applies to individual spaces as needed.
- Reminder - when using the term "impactful", the perception as to how much that mitigation impacts kids in their education.
- The District is still contact tracing, even though we are not quarantining - for notification.
- Can a family opt-out of notification? No.
- Still doing notification letters/emails at the elementary level.
- Removed or suspended universal mitigations - those removed on February 7 include required quarantine for close contacts, required universal masking, and test-to-stay requirement for in-school close contacts.
- Targeted mitigations are used in spaces when seeing multiple cases/clusters in a space.
- Lunchrooms - spacing is still at 6 feet in MS and Elem, but not in the HS.
- Do have assigned seats on all of our transportation routes.
- What does the landscape look like as we move forward?
- DuPage County Health Dept. Partnership - recognition to look at other things than simply case numbers. Do look at other factors when making decisions about mitigations.
- Building teams continue to look at and evaluate the individual need for accommodations and healthcare plans for vulnerable populations.
- It is difficult to talk about risk tolerance.
- A purely case-based model does not reflect the complexity of the current situation.
- Do we track students that have had the virus and recovered? We have a total case count from mid-December to the current time.
- Indoor humidity has a huge impact on what happens with the virus inside a space.
- Outcome severity data - calculate that ourselves.
- There is not a significant shift in the vaccination data.
- Recommending that the mitigations suspended on February 7 be removed from the list of universal mitigations (including universal masking, required quarantine for close contacts, and test-to-stay requirement for in-school close contacts.)
- Continue to monitor the data points identified and if we see a positive trend, there is an opportunity for other adjustments to be made. At the Elementary level, would be to move back to 3-foot physical distancing for lunch. Impactful due to space considerations - give buildings the gyms back and other spaces used for lunch periods. At the MS level, space utilization would not be changed making this adjustment.
- Admins continue to be empowered to implement targeted mitigations as needed in individual spaces or buildings - rearranging desks, ionization, airflow, etc.
- School buses and face coverings - CDC requirement at this point in time (regardless of the TRO, according to what Dr. Schuler and the District has been told.)
- The TRO, future appeals and rulings, JCAR ruling.
- The recommendations to the board are based on how we handle this locally, and not on the TRO.
- In terms of the discussion tonight, the table groups were asked to take the court elements and set them aside as they talk about the presentation and recommendations.
- Clarification on removing required quarantine and what that means.

- What data points are we looking at to bring lunch tables back to normal? Looking to see we are not reverting back. Most impactful data - what are we seeing with our kids. Looking at March - would like to make that happen in front of spring break.
- If the District changes to a 3-foot distance, will you provide the option to 6-feet for families? The guiding principle of protection; accommodation plans put in place to support students. Different at the elementary level vs high school level.
- Have you heard of staff concerns with these potential mitigation changes? Similar to community members, staff sit on all sides of this.
- Vulnerable staff - do we have available roles for those who are vulnerable? Making sure they have the ability to protect themselves, access to PPE.
- If TRO turns, and D200 takes this road - any concern about this? Dr. Schuler does not have that concern at this point.
- Since cases are going down, and we are masks optional, do masks make sense? Do not think there is a mutually exclusive answer to do masks work and have they worked.
- Impact on a number of students and the path to bring students back that are not currently in school (was at 34 families and now down to 4). Every family is different, circumstances are different. Working with families since the beginning of the year, always the goal being to get students back in school.
- Families that left because of masks required - are they returning now?
- Positive feedback on the communication sent out after the February 6 meeting. The statement not tolerating bullying or disrespectful behavior of any kind needs to be part of every communication. There were situations and cases on both sides of the masking change that settled after the first day or two.
- Clarification on the isolation window and masking requirement - if you test positive, isolate for 5 days, return, still supposed to wear a mask for 5 days? Yes.
- Cases of unapproved mitigations - students were separated based on masks or vaccination status. Is there a policy against doing that? Have given clear direction around this. Noted, this was a big transition for all, including for our staff. They did not know about the change until 4-5 pm on Sunday afternoon and had to make transitions, including on lessons they had planned on teaching. Genuinely believe 99% of people are trying to do the best they can. Bottom line - this all rolled out very quickly. Some things needed to be clarified, and some circumstances occurred and were addressed.
- Dr. Schuler asked the table groups to look over the presentation materials and to take some notes, so they can be collected.
- Feedback reported from table groups:
 - While Springfield keeps going back and forth, appreciative of D200 being on this path; help schools as much as possible - getting lunch and recess people. Not tax the staff as much.
 - Descriptive data table - emphasize that things could change and shift. Might trigger a change.
 - Ionization, MERV filters - will that continue regardless and if so, that should be highlighted/emphasized?
 - Reminder - not bullying in community messaging. Trauma from the situation, kids fearful of removing masks. In favor of recommendations, continue to monitor. Returning to lunch as usual. Ask, at what point do we stop tracking data?
 - Positive feedback on how it was handled; lunches - some of the things with adjustments that happened. Be outside more often for lunch. How do we capitalize on some of those positive changes that happened?
 - Shift to local control from state control is very positive.
 - Would like to see lunchroom mitigations lessened.

- Dr. Schuler thanked the group for their feedback - appreciative of the thoughtful way the committee approached the conversation.

Discussion of District 200 District Organization, Oversight, and Planning

- Dr. Schuler provided a District-level organizational chart and a Senior Leadership Team areas of responsibility chart.
- Context to this - want CAC to be a 2-way conversation. Want to hear from you too. Empower the group to take some of what is learned and take it out into the community. Clarity is needed on how the district is structured in terms of the work we do. This should help people get to the right entry point with concern points they have.
- Opportunity to get into lanes of communication - if parents or community members have a question, want to be sure you get an answer. Do not sit and stew over it. Chain of command.
- Every issue cannot start with a parent being concerned and contacting the Superintendent directly. Too large of a school district.
- How the 'What's the Buzz' feedback is related to this discussion.
- Shared two documents - Org chart of the district; Chain of command.
- The org chart shows how our buildings are structured/governed.
- Chris Silagi (Elementary), Melissa Murphy (Middle Schools), and Charlie Kyle (High Schools) work with level principals and how to problem-solve.
- When parents call with a concern, the chain of command - teacher, principal, Asst. Superintendent.
- In addition to whatever level, what other responsibilities sit under members of the Senior Leadership Team:
 - Melissa Murphy (Asst. Supt. for Educational Services)
 - Oversee Middle Schools
 - Curriculum and Instruction
 - Testing and Assessments
 - Professional Development & Institute Days
 - Grants
 - Special Education Programs
 - Multilingual Learner Programs
 - Chris Silagi (Asst. Supt. for Student Services)
 - Oversee Elementary Schools
 - Social-Emotional Learning
 - Mc-Kinney-Vento (Homeless)
 - Before & After School Program
 - PACE
 - Microcredentials
 - Student Records & Requests
 - Charlie Kyle (Asst. Supt. for Administrative Services)
 - Oversee High Schools
 - Human Resources
 - Student Discipline
 - Permissive Transfers
 - School Safety
 - FOIA Officer
 - School Calendar
 - Student Handbooks
 - Brian O'Keeffe (Asst. Supt. for Business Services)
 - Finance

- Facilities
 - Student Fees
 - Food Service
 - Transportation
 - Attendance Boundaries & Residency
 - Employee Health & Disability Insurance
- Erica Loiacono (Director of Community Engagement & Communications)
 - District-wide Mass Communications
 - District & School Websites
 - District Social Media
 - District Special Events
 - PTA Liaison
 - Chamber/Business Liaison
 - Student Excellence Foundation Liaison
- Jason Spencer (Executive Director of Innovation & Technology)
 - All Technology Services (Hardware, Software, Security)
 - Innovation & Instructional Technology
 - Student Information System
 - Google Suite
- Layering these two pieces together (the org chart and the areas of responsibility) gives a sense of when there is a strategic goal advancing, who is responsible for planning. In the problem-solving space, general guiding practice is we want problems solved at the closest point to the problem. Elevate through the chain of command.
- Dr. Schuler is the only employee of the Board of Education.
- Snow days - at what point do you decide on a snow day - the night before or the day of? Asked to better understand how that works. Try, whenever possible, to wait until the morning. The one exception is when snow or a weather event is scheduled to come later in the day. Especially when moving to e-learning. If there is an opportunity to keep kids in school, will do that. If it is safe, want kids in school.
- The responsibility for orchestrating strategic planning - setting goals, who does that fall under or makes that happen? Largely, this is Dr. Schuler, supported by the team and Board of Education. In the process of working on the new strategic plan. The year-over-year pieces of the plan will fall under whatever department is managing the goal.
- Why do we not have an Asst. Supt of Special Ed? Dr. Schuler made that change. There is an Executive Director of Special Education, Erica Ekstrom. Functional day-to-day elements of Special Education are managed under her. All intervention services (special education, multilingual learning, and reading/math intervention pieces) are all under one department. She oversees those for all levels of the schools, from Early Childhood through Transition.
- Dr. Schuler gave the group homework - asking the group for feedback - what is the best way to convey this information to our families? What is the simplest way as there is a lot of information? Important for every community member to know who is the person to ask a question to in the organization, and for parents to know the entry point for a question. The goal is not to have people have questions or concerns that are floundering and not productive, so they go unanswered.

What is the Buzz?

- At Wiesbrook, after the issue with the book *Jack (not Jackie)*, a parent met with the librarian to discuss the book, a display was put up featuring a book on Harvey Milk (*Pride: The Story of Harvey Milk and the Rainbow Flag*). A six-year-old took the book home. The parent was upset. The student thought the book was about milk.

- Ryan Kipfer's last night on CAC. He and his family are moving to Florida. Thank you for being part of CAC.
- Facilities - what is the facility plan for the next year, next five years?
- Strategic planning - test scores - K-8 - strategy to bring scores up? That is the epicenter of everything. Dissect it and see what grades do we start to have issues.
- Thank you for the messaging coming in all ways - phone, email, text.
- Playgrounds (updating/replacing) - excitement and other schools.
- Books - Parents wishing there was a way to check books off of the list that can be checked out by their student(s).
- Concern about public comments - the amount of time allocated to speakers; people expected to speak for three minutes, being cut off at two minutes; all public comments should be kept at three minutes.
- New CAC membership form - working on that and will be sending that out. Erica will be sending that out in the next couple of days.
- Sub-committee on membership has met twice. The second sub-committee will be meeting soon.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn: M. Martich; seconded by: J. Castino; All in favor.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.