

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Dalesandro at 7:00 pm

FLAG SALUTE

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of the Act the Board of Education of the Netcong School District in the County of Morris has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted. The notice was mailed to the Daily Record and those persons or entities requesting notification and filed with the municipal clerk of the Borough of Netcong.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mrs. Lapsley, Mrs. Santalucia, Mrs. Santana, Mr. Stevens, Mrs. Dalesandro

Absent: Mr. Costanzo, Mr. Kranz, Mr. Morton

Also present: Mrs. Walsh, Superintendent
Mr. Stabile, Business Administrator
Mr. Ceresnak, Principal

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Good evening and welcome to tonight's special Board of Education meeting for the presentation of the road back restart and recovery plan to Re-open. Mrs. Walsh and Dr. Ceresnak will present our plan in its entirety. After the presentation, the board will take questions and answers will be provided both in English and Spanish.

En espanolBuenas Noches. Puedes hacer preguntas en espanol y se responder en espanol por Ms. Gutierrez.

Currently, New Jersey is in stage two of its 4 stage plan to restore and reopen the state as data continues to suggest a downward trend of confirmed COVID cases.

Accordingly, should the data continue to present a downward trend school buildings will be open in some capacity for in-person instruction and operations in the fall.

Therefore, on June 26th Governor Murphy ordered each district to develop, in collaboration with community stakeholders, a plan to reopen schools in the fall that best fits the district's local needs.

The guidelines set forth by the department of education addressed health and safety measures and suggested anticipated minimum standards and components that should be incorporated into our reopening plan. Mrs. Walsh and the Board moved quickly to establish a Team of various stakeholders to address the four key subject areas: conditions for learning, leadership and planning, policy and funding, and continuity of learning. We worked closely with our stakeholders to ensure decisions were made collaboratively and transparently to prioritize a stay safe return to school for all.

Our team was faced with a highly complex task that required sustained and meaningful dialogue with a variety of education and community stakeholder groups.

I am very happy to report that of the 136 registered families in the district we had 25% or 34 families represented on the Team. We had 50% of our teachers represented 100% of our administrative staff and 10% of our support staff. Our team also included a representative from the borough council, Mr. Wayne Anthony from the office of emergency management, Netcong Police Chief Jim Blesson, a representative from the Netcong education foundation, the Netcong PTA, SEPAG, Municipal alliance, students, and several representatives from the department of health.

This pandemic has created a variety of physical challenges related to the delivery of both in-person and remote instruction to our students. The 2020-2021 school year will look drastically different come this September. Parents and guardians will have a choice of either 100% remote learning or a hybrid in-person structure for the start of the school year. Parents may choose which plan works best for them and their families. However, you remain locked into your choice until the beginning of a new marking period when you will have the option to switch your learning plan.

Please note that our reopening plan is fluid. We will continue to engage our stakeholders at every level to address any situation that arises during the implementation of our plan. Once our plan is operational and we find a flaw, we will work together through relationships already built to address and correct it. After initial operational readiness, I invite anyone who has a suggestion on how to improve our plan to reach out to Mrs. Walsh directly via email. As I have maintained from day one of this pandemic, we are in this together and together we will get through this!

Many hours of dedication and commitment went into developing this plan to allow our school to re-open and protect our students' and educators' health while providing high-quality education.

We are faced with an unprecedented situation that will test our resolve. But we must remain steady in our resolve.

Unprecedented times call for unprecedented dedication and commitment from all to work together for the common good of our students and staff.

I want to thank all those who took the time to stand up and be part of our reopening plan. There are not enough ways to say thank you. But please know your decision to be part of the solution reflects highly so on yourself and your family. This district remains forever indebted to you all.

Mrs. Walsh and Dr. Ceresnak, we are ready for your presentation.

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Mrs. Walsh and Mr. Ceresnak presented the district's reopening plan.

Mrs. Walsh stated that the parents will be responsible for the cost of insurance for the chrome book and will be capped at \$75 per family.

SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR / BOARD SECRETARY COMMENTS

No comment at this time

HEARING OF CITIZENS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

On a motion by Mr. Stevens, seconded by Mrs. Santalucia to open the hearing of citizens on agenda items only. Approved by voice vote. All in favor.

Public is invited to address the Board with any questions, comments or concerns. The Board requests that the individual address the Board, giving name and address, and asks that all remarks be directed to the Chair. The public portion shall be limited to thirty minutes with a five-minute time limit on each participant. The Board wishes to remind all attendees at its meeting that while it subscribed without reservation to the principle of keeping the public completely informed, by policy it cannot allow public discussion of personnel matters. If a matter concerning the staff of the Netcong Public School is of interest or concern, the matter would be referred to the Superintendent or the Board of Education, either by telephone or letter.

The Board Attorney translated in Spanish to those who wish to speak during the hearing in citizens.

- Shawn Cryan NTA vice president read a letter on behalf of the teachers association
- Tana Ferris NTA president asked if a child is sent home what happens to the rest of the class. Mrs. Walsh responded.
- Mary Ann Callahan 14 Kuplis Dr has a kindergarten student asked about after care. President Dalesandro stated that NEF is working on a plan with more information forthcoming. Mrs. Walsh stated this will be discuss at the Prek –K orientation.
- Mrs. Barbero asked about transporting students
- Nicole DeLucia 26 Barrone St – larger class size
- Flory Barrientos asked a question which was answered by the board attorney and Mr. Picallo teacher.
- Nicole Perretti 46 Railroad Ave – Half day compared to full day.
- Kerri Santalucia, Board Member – concern about putting all students together at one time. Will barriers be present? The barriers have been ordered and scheduled to be delivered by the start of school.
- Jennifer Santana, Board Member – commented on the number of students per room and when will the date be established.

Mrs. Walsh mentioned the survey and those who responded preferred the hybrid plan over virtual

President Dalesandro stated that there will be a board meeting tomorrow night and thanked everyone.

On a motion by Mr. Stevens, seconded by Mrs. Santana to close the hearing of citizens on agenda items only. Approved by voice vote. All in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

**On a motion by Mr. Stevens, seconded by Mrs. Santalucia to recess into executive session at 8:22pm.
Approved by voice vote. All in favor**

RESOLVED, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4:13 and 10:4-12 that the Netcong Board of Education hold a closed Executive Session for the purpose of presenting the Superintendent's evaluation for an estimated time of 15 minutes and action will not be taken at the conclusion of the executive session. It is expected that the discussion undertaken in this closed session can be made public at the time official action will be taken.

**On a motion by Mr. Stevens and seconded by Mrs. Santana to close the executive session at 8:22pm.
Approved by voice vote. All in Favor.**

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Stevens, seconded by Mrs. Santana to adjourn the meeting at 8:33pm. Approved by voice vote.
All in Favor except for Mr. Costanzo who was not present.

Respectfully Submitted,

P Stabile

Paul Stabile

Business Administrator/Board Secretary