

RETURN TO LEARN
Thursday, October 30, 2020
AGENDA

Members

Laurie Boland, Jr./Sr. High Representative, X
Jim Burchers, Chief Maintenance
Mary Charlton, Parent Representative, Epidemiologist, X
Andy Cutter, Board Member/Parent X
Tim Foley, Jr./Sr. High Assistant Principal X
Abigail Kaska, Student Representative X
Dan Livorsi, Parent Representative, Infectious Disease Physician, X
Jess Pizana, Tech Director Regina Education Center
Larry Pohren, Jr./Sr. High Representative
Glenn Plummer, Jr./Sr. High Principal,
Kris Rutt, Elementary Representative
Melinda Shetler, Board President/parent, X
Shane Schemmel, Communication and Marketing Director, X
Kelly Starr, Elementary Assistant Principal, X
Celeste Vincent, Elementary Principal, X
X= present
Meeting started at 9:00 a.m.

AGENDA

Item I - Should Regina change to a mask only policy in light of CDC guidance on face shields alone are not good enough?

Administrators shared that there are very few students who wear shields alone, but some faculty do so students can see their face and mouth for teaching purposes.

It was suggested if a teacher is using a Face Shield, they could also stand behind a plexiglass barrier to provide another level of protection. Face shields are good at protecting you, but they do not work as effectively to protect others from you.

It was also suggested that teachers should use see through masks when needed for teaching.

The committee recommended that we move to **“masks are highly recommended over face shields.** If wearing a face shield, it should be accompanied with a face mask to protect others.”

Item II - Communication after positive tests/quarantine

What can we report? What can't we report? HIPAA rules are most important.

The school is working on “communication to parents”, while protecting the privacy of staff and students.

On the elementary side of the building, this initial type of general message was sent to parents. This was shared with committee members who thought it was the perfect balance of information and privacy.

It was shared that there was some misinformation published on the Covid19tracker site for schools.

Discussion regarding information sharing. Not sure if we should give this particular site some information or not. A lack of information might lead to misinformation.

Notifications to our own particular families might take care of it.

Discussion of who should get the notes-

Should the note go to all parents K-12? Should the note go to all staff?

What keeps people in the loop without violating policy?

Balance of not wanting to panic parents every time they see something coming from Regina, but also knowing that if people have some knowledge it will help to keep rumors from circulating.

Comment of not sure if it needs to be K-12.

Comment of concerns might be taken care of by a Covid-19 tracker.

A committee member showed an example of a Covid19 tracker from Central Lee.

It was agreed that this type of information would be good to share as long as it doesn't compromise privacy. We will still follow state reporting guidelines to avoid HIPAA violations.

It was suggested that we remind everyone of the procedures and policies regarding moving to online learning for a class, grade level, individuals, or school.

The school is also required to report to the diocese what happens each day.

A committee member asked whether sending the notes to families may cause greater alarm because these were isolated incidents instead of an outbreak. If there is the dashboard data available, then maybe the notes home are not necessary.

Multiple discussion around these ideas. It was determined that while the data would be available it is better to send a message to families because a lot of people will not seek information on their own.

It was agreed that the note sent was necessary and that the dashboard data will help reassure parents.

A committee member asked if the data dashboard needs to be on JMC and password protected or can it be open to all. Discussion brought up if parents have it are we worried about others having it. It would also be better to have the right data available to people than data collected from Facebook, etc.

A committee member supported the idea of posting the dashboard. As did the rest of the committee.

We did discuss that communication should only be sent when the positive case results in actionable quarantines at Regina. If a student doesn't have contact with the school while sick, then information should not be sent out.

Administrators are working on follow-up information that will be sent after these quarantines to the specific families and the general public.

Item III - Limiting fans for Winter Sports

Conference has agreed to everyone being masked (fans, players and coaches on bench, and workers). No agreement on limiting fans.

High school administration gave a brief overview of the issues with larger basketball crowds due to multiple teams (boys and girls).

The committee as a whole recommends limiting fans and will leave it up to administration to develop a plan.

Ideas discussed: a certain amount of tickets per an athlete for both home and away. Social distancing and masking required. Parents/family given first preference over students.

The second issue was seating in the elementary gym. With limited space for seating, the committee agreed that no fans or a very small number of limited fans would be okay. This includes possibly not allowing fans from other schools to attend due to restrictions.

Other Items

A question was raised regarding going online after Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks to avoid possible spread.

Administrators reminded the RTL committee that going all online would require a waiver from the state. A waiver won't be granted without meeting state thresholds.

Committee members agreed that college is a little different than high schools. It was recommended that we send out some CDC recommendations to parents regarding the holidays and gathering with families.

With the move to online for some elementary classrooms, a question was asked about Chromebook availability for elementary. It was noted that 128 Chromebooks arrived this week and all students who needed one were able to get one for the move to online for the classrooms.

There was discussion about possible locations for teachers who are quarantined, but not positive, to continue to teach. The committee did not come up with a solution, but understood there could be issues with teachers teaching from home without a Smartboard and with only home Wi-Fi.

Overall, the committee was pleased that we made it to the last two weeks of October before having to quarantine a large number of students. The committee was complimentary of the students compliance and how successful the implementation of the plan has been.