

ATHENS AREA SCHOOLS
Board of Education
East Leroy, Michigan 49051
August 23, 2021

REGULAR MEETING
Media Center
7:00 P.M.

Athens High School
300 E. Holcomb Street, Athens
TELEPHONE: 729-5414

1. Call to order, Mr. Dennis Stanton presiding at 7:00 PM.

a. membership count to determine quorum presence:

Present: X Kacie Brunner X Dennis Stanton X Mike Harvey
X John Knowles X Eric McClure X Jason Stanton
A quorum X is, is not present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. Approval of Agenda.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Education approve the agenda as presented/amended.

Motion: Mr. John Knowles.
Second: Mr. Jason Stanton.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Y Kacie Brunner Y Dennis Stanton Y Mike Harvey
Y John Knowles Y Eric McClure Y Jason Stanton
Ayes: 6 Nays: 0.
Passed: X. Defeated: .

3. Public Comments.

- *Stephanie Harvey – Where was notice of special meeting posted for tonight? Ideas for...*
- *Jessica Cramer – Posting on websites, etc.*
- *Loretta Drake – Could you clarify positivity rate in COVID-19 plan?*
 - *Numbers based right now, masks required now?*
 - *How does it help when other places not mandating masks?*
 - *Wouldn't it be better to stay optional? Masks don't work based on data and size of virus.*
- *Cliff Denney – Thank you all. Not your job to worry about things outside of education.*
- *Jeremiah Hybrinx – What is 7 day running total for our community? Are policies same as last year, minus face masks?*
- *Jessica Cramer – Has the Board looked into the effectiveness of wearing masks? Are they even wearing face masks properly? Why are schools mandating if government isn't?*
- *Brandon Gauna – 3-3 split on Board re: masks? Don't you have the ability to make it optional?*

- *Jessica Cramer – Child anxious about wearing masks. Our job is to take care of our children's health and wellbeing.*
- *Cliff Denney – I think we should hear some Board discussion.*
- *Eric Mattson – Can Board take a vote with provision for emergency board meeting to address changes in mitigation measures?*
- *Joel Case – If the Board were to say keep masks optional, can you implement tiers that are pre-determined?*
- *Jeffery Penick – Leave it up to us parents to decide whether or not masks are required.*
- *Carley McMann – Still haven't walked through school, on second year at Elementary. Took inactive break after holidays last year.*
- *Jenny Lake – Thank you again. I've brought more CDC facts with me tonight. What happens when flu season arises in fall?*
- *Jessica Cramer – I appreciate the Board and you, Joe.*
- *Brian Jackson – Do we have data/reports of grades from school year with masks?*
- *Jeffery Penick – Have we asked staff about what their thoughts are?*

4. Presentations/Discussions.

A. COVID Plan

Reviewed 2021-2022 COVID-19 plan for District.

Highlighted changes from 2020-2021.

Currently – masks when considered “high transmission” by CDC or considered an “outbreak” or “cluster” school by CCPHD.

5. Board Discussion:

- 5% per building – 13 HS, 12 EL
- 4% per building – 10 HS, 9-10 EL
- 10 positive cases per building (actively)
- 10 total in building (w/in same period)
- Not a cumulative number
- Minimum of 2 week period of mask wearing
- Directed Mr. Huepenbecker to change without a motion by the BOE

6. Public Comment

- *Read from online.*
- *Loretta Drake – Thank you very much for listening to the community.*
- *Stacy Snodderly – I agree with Loretta.*
- *Jenny Lake – Does this change plans for tomorrow?*
 - *Mr. Taylor – Kindergarten students will have a hybrid open house at 5 PM tomorrow.*
- *Jeffrey Penick – Should we do an outreach to all new, incoming students?*
- *Ryan Whipple – My son is having a new teacher at EL. Can I ask where his teacher's room is?*
- *Jenny Lake – Would like to see more outside/public/parent being able to enter school buildings.*

7. Board Comment

- *Mr. Dennis Stanton – This is a compromise on behalf of Board.*
- *Mr. John Knowles – We are parents, too. We know this job is hard, but that's part of it.*

8. Adjournment.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move the meeting be adjourned.

Motion: Mr. John Knowles.

Second: Mr. Mike Harvey.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Y Kacie Brunner Y Dennis Stanton Y Mike Harvey
 Y John Knowles Y Eric McClure Y Jason Stanton

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 .

Passed: X . Defeated: .

Time of adjournment: 10:03 pm .

Minutes signed by: , Acting Secretary of the Board of Education

Minutes prepared by: Angie Harris, Superintendent Administrative Assistant

Approved for publication by the Board: September 20, 2021 (date)