

Anderson School District #41  
Special School Board Meeting  
August 10, 2020

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees, Anderson School District #41 was held via google meet, August 10, 2020, for considering business to come before the Board of Trustees.  
Board Chair Warren Bauder called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.  
Chair Bauder made the statement that the meeting was being recorded.

**Trustees Present** Warren Bauder, Jack Huczek, Mary Burrows, Jaime June, and Brandon Atkins

**Trustees Absent**

**Staff Present** Kristi Jacobs: Superintendent; Tanya Roberts: Business Manager

**Visitors Present** Google Meet attendees

**Public Participation on**

**Non-Agenda Items** **Chair Warren Bauder reminded those in attendance that to avoid violations of individual rights of privacy, a member of the public wishing to address the Board during this time will not be allowed to make comments about any student, staff member, or member of the general public during his/her designated time to speak. In addition, the Board will not hear comments on contested cases or other adjudicative proceedings.**  
There was none.

**Personnel**

Consideration of 2020-21 Interventionist/Para Contract

Motion to approve hiring of Kim Rosswork as a full time Interventionist/Paraprofessional for the 2020-21 school year:  
Motion: Trustee Burrows  
Seconded: Trustee Atkins—passed unanimously

**Action**

Consideration of 2020-21 Out of District Applications

Superintendent Jacobs recommended the board approve two applications for 7<sup>th</sup> grade bring that class enrollment to 24, the Anderson target number for that grade is 26. The Trustees discussed overall enrollment numbers and class physical space limitations in light of pandemic.  
Public Comment-Anne Marie Reinhold asked for clarification on the 210 ANB # and Chair Bauder explained that is a target number where we can reach full budget potential and fit students within the space at Anderson School.  
Motion to table Out of District Applications until a later meeting:  
Motion: Trustee Burrows  
Seconded: Trustee June—passed unanimously.

Consideration of 2020-21 Reopening Plans

Superintendent Jacobs presented the 2020-21 Reopening Plans, available for review in the Board Packet on the Anderson School website. The Trustees' discussed the mask requirements, air ventilation issues, lunch program, and staffing concerns.

Trustees' June, Huczek, and Atkins agreed they couldn't support the reopening plans as currently proposed with students coming to the gym to get their lunches, they would support lunch deliveries to their classrooms in grades K-6.

Public Comment:

Ron June expressed concern that the air intake/ventilation issues will not be resolved by the start of school; equity issue for those distance learning if the board chooses the cohort model; middle school cohort numbers too large.

Dan Frost asked if the staff will be prepared as well as the students.

Judy Isenberg commented on following the county health authorities' guidelines.

Rory Maughan asked if parents can be told what each individual classroom size is?

Motion to table until the August 13<sup>th</sup> meeting:

Motion: Trustee Atkins

Seconded: Trustee Burrows—passed unanimously

Consideration of  
Instructional Model  
For the start of 2020-21  
School Year

Trustee Jacobs presented the 4 options for starting the 2020-21 school year: Option 1-Cohort Model for all grades K-8; Option 2-Cohort Model Grades K-4-Blended Model 5-8; Option 3-Distance Learning K-8; Option 4-Traditional Model.

Superintendent Jacobs stated she was recommending Option 1. The Superintendent stated the current enrollment numbers for each grade:

K-26-2 classes of 13 each

1<sup>st</sup>-17

2<sup>nd</sup>- 26- 2 classes of 13 each

3<sup>rd</sup>- 23

4<sup>th</sup>-23

5<sup>th</sup>-25

6<sup>th</sup>-27

7<sup>th</sup>-22

8<sup>th</sup>-26

Trustee June stated several concerns with Option 1 being the ventilation issues in middle school classrooms, larger cohort sizes in middle school classrooms, teacher exposure. She said she would support a blended/cohort model.

Trustee Burrows said she supports a cohort model, and feels that kids are suffering more from being at home and not in school. She stated we also need to be concerned about our kids mental health as well.

Trustee Huczek stated his concern that option 1 would not be sustainable in keeping the school open, would cause more exposure/risk. Worried we could not execute on this plan.

Trustee Atkins stated he was leaning toward option 2 until ventilation issues are fixed.

Trustee Bauder stated he was in agreement with Trustee Atkins and would like to bring the 5/6<sup>th</sup> and 7/8<sup>th</sup> cohort numbers down in size.

Public Comment:

Kirsti Felska: Believes kids should be in school, if parents want their kids to opt out they have the ability to do that.

Laurie Friedo: Kids should be in school, they missed out on way too much last spring, fully support option 1.

Jim Fryer: My kids struggled with distance learning, cohort model beneficial.

Kerri Norick: Believes there is a big mental component to kids being in the building, cohort model makes sense, best practice for teaching kids.

Brian McGeehan: Support cohort model, when kids are not in school they're not just home with families, this could actually increase exposure. Equity is a factor for families that can stay home to educate their kids versus leaving them home alone.

Anne Dingerson: Distance learning affects those who can't support cohort model.

Liz Sullivan: supports the cohort model, part of greater Bozeman community, increasing exposure if these kids are not in school.

Rory Maughan: not an easy decision, need to protect the teachers, mitigate the risks. Thanks to Superintendent Jacobs and everyone for their hard work.

Margot Ogburn: 3<sup>rd</sup> year parent impressed with teachers, Anderson community. Summer camps have gone well, supports the cohort model.

Walter Banziger: Supports a decision based on logic and science, covid-19 has real risks to children. Puzzled why Anderson would begin school year with a risky decision. Recommends starting school with a blended model.

Ron June: recommends blended model to start school and then moving forward not backward.

Charlotte Dickson: need more information on the ventilation issues.

Elliott Breukelman: How will we handle staffing, finding substitute teachers?

Stephani Lourie: 5/6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, initially supported Option 1 but is leaning toward blended 5-8<sup>th</sup> due to class room size constraints.

Vanessa Simmonds: Professor of Public Health does not support option 1, will make pandemic last longer.

Gretchen Jensen: Interested in a baby step model, additional option?

Adam Barker: Passion for education, support for option 1.

Shawn Friedo: Fully supports Superintendent Jacobs recommendation of option 1.

Shawna Kelly: Educators know their buildings, look at data and science, consider the recommendation of your staff.

Chair Bauder asked the Trustees if they would like to make a decision on K-4 tonight and wait on 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>?

Trustee Atkins stated he is ok with the K-4 cohort model.

Trustee Burrows stated she could proceed on the K-4 cohort model.

Trustee June commented on the idea of moving into a cohort based on the parameters of a less than 5% daily transmission rate?

Trustee Burrows wouldn't support putting any definite language in a motion on daily transmission rates.

Chair Bauder recommended tabling making a decision tonight so the Trustees have time to process and gather more information. Decision can be postponed until Thursday's meeting at 6pm. Issues that need to be vetted:

- 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade classroom ventilation
- 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade cohort sizes/ability to social distance?
- Schematic of drop off/pick up

Motion to table approval of Instructional Model for the start of 2020-21 School Year until August 13<sup>th</sup> at 6pm:

Motion: Trustee Atkins

Seconded: Trustee Huczek—passed unanimously

Consideration of  
1908 and 1908F  
Policy Revisions

Motion to approve recommend revisions to policies 1908 and 1908F:

Motion: Trustee Burrows

Seconded: Trustee June—passed unanimously

