

**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SLINGER
SLINGER, WI 53086**

September 16, 2021

6:30 P.M.

SHS IMC/Board Room (Door 39)

The meeting was called to order by President Ken Strupp at 6:30 PM in the High School IMC.

Members answering roll were: Ken Strupp, Bruce Hassler, Gary Feltz, Cherie Rhodes, Roman Weninger, Joe Havey and Jody Strupp. Also present was administrator Daren Sievers, Patrick Armstrong, Karen Hug, 14 in-person guests, and 26 on-line guests.

Sievers affirmed public notice.

Public Comments and Questions:

In Person – None at this time.

On-line – Listen only.

Sievers presented a letter of resignation from a new hire at Slinger Middle School. This resignation came in after July 1; contract breaking fee will apply. Motion to approve the resignation from Rochelle Halstead, Reading Specialist, beginning with the 2021-22 school year by Weninger; seconded by Hassler. Motion carried.

Sievers presented a report regarding recent critical matters related to COVID-19 plans for the 2021-22 school year.

1. Slinger School District Dashboard and County Dashboard for 2021-2022

- Current conditions – Sievers walked through the current dashboard which is also found on the District website.
- Daily updates – Email provided to staff and parents.
- Current conditions compared to last year -Sievers presented a comparison and noted that we were more compliant last year with safety mitigations (contact tracing, quarantining, masking, social distancing, barriers, etc.) but number of cases are not showing a huge difference.

2. Current School Safety Mitigation Practices

- Masking not required at this time
- Quarantine of all positive cases (vaccinated or not)
- Quarantine of all in-family close contacts (unless vaccinated and symptom free)
- Notify/inform of all close contacts
- Enhanced cleaning
- Improved air quality

- Symptom Sheet Reminder for 2021-2022
3. Other Mitigation Considerations
- Masking on Buses- Federal mandate; who should be enforcing? School, RiteWay, parents?
 - Enhanced cleaning on buses
 - Need for Special Board Meetings
4. Others:
- Covid time for employees- Previously approved COVID leave for staff is greatly appreciated as not many surrounding districts have done this.
 - Insurance concerns (article)- Liability insurance could be in jeopardy if not following federal/state mandates.
 - Polarized community and region
 - Community input- Possible parent survey to be discussed at next meeting.

Public Comments and Questions:

Sievers read a letter from Rebecca Gundrum as she could not attend in person – wants in-school mask requirement to return

In Person –

Bill Brewer – Requesting the 3 year illness rate/dashboard handout be available to public.

Questions the accuracy of tests and student to student transmission (spreading) rates.

Kristi Bares – Requests the District to be proactive instead of reactive by educating our students/families on how to boost immune systems.

Luke Tennes- Not in favor of masking-referenced state of GA student masking study.

Robyn Hora – Not in favor of masking-referenced a Brown University study in regards to IQ scores. New ELA curriculum should be reviewed for CRT before purchasing.

Julie Ayers – Wants advanced notice of changes being made by the Board in regards to COVID procedures, i.e. field trips.

Trista Bringa – Has a mask study to share with district. She is not surprised with infection rates going up. Wants to see information go out to parents regarding boosting immune systems.

Laurel Harmon – Thanks the Board for their efforts. Masking is a federal overreach.

Motion by Hassler, seconded by Feltz to adjourn at 7:26 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Cherie Rhodes, Clerk