

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
106 Hancock Rd.
Peterborough, New Hampshire**

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

Thursday, December 10, 2020

Emergency School Board Meeting

6:00 p.m.

**Physical Location: Superintendent's Office
106 Hancock Rd.
Peterborough, NH**

Virtual Location:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89805156318?pwd=cTFkTVFkQ2VuTnBVQVZFZEZGN3V2UT09>

Meeting ID: 898 0515 6318

Passcode: YUfn2A

Phone: +1 646 558 8656 US

Meeting ID: 898 0515 6318

Passcode: 096002

Minutes

BOARD

Rich Cahoon, Richard Dunning,
Alan Edelkind, Jim Fredrickson,
Katherine Heck, Janine Lesser,
Niki McGettigan, Kevin Pobst,
Robert Short, Jr., Tim Theberge,
Stephen Ullman, Jerome Wilson

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Kimberly Saunders, Supt.
Dr. Ann Forrest, Asst. Supt.
Ben Moenter, Special Ed.
Heather McKillop, CVHS
John Reitnauer, CVHS

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Rich Cahoon called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

2. Right to Know for Public Meeting Emergency Declaration

Rich Cahoon read the "Right to Know for Public Meeting Emergency Declaration".

3. COVID Monitoring Team Recommendation

Kimberly Saunders reported that the COVID Monitoring Team has made the recommendation to move from the Green Phase, which ConVal has been at since August, to the Orange Phase.

What this is indicative of is substantial control measures. Rich Scheinblum, Monadnock Community Hospital, was present. Kimberly Saunders noted the membership makeup of the team who meet daily to review data. There has been an increase of local cases and statewide cases and an increase in positivity locally to 8%. There is increasing demand on medical facilities and personnel.

The Orange Phase does not change our day to day operating plan. We went with a segmented calendar in anticipation of a surge when people began to move back inside. We will not be changing our learning mode but we are recommending thinking about our sports program. The recommendation is to pause sports immediately and allow time for evaluation. Coaches would continue to send workout expectations to athletes.

Initially, the thought was that additional students could be brought back sooner than January 19th. Those plans need to be paused.

Alan Edelkind asked if the pause in athletics would be for all risk groups. Kimberly Saunders confirmed that is the recommendation at this time.

Janine Lesser asked what the markers are to go to the Red Phase. Rich Scheinblum said that it would be a team-based decision. He imagined it would occur if the Governor began shutting the State down, student and staff issues. ConVal has done an excellent job. There are things going on in the community. There are positive cases in Antrim and at Great Brook School and what is going on in long-term care facilities. Daily confirmed positive rates at Monadnock Community Hospital are greater than that of

previous weeks. Mr. Scheinblum said that based on everything that is being seen, this is the best recommendation.

Kevin Pobst asked about additional students coming back on January. Kimberly said that the students in person now were identified as Tier I students in greater need of services. The hope was to increase student in-person learning with Tier II students. That is no longer possible at this time.

Ben Moenter said that 145 students are in person at this time.

If we go to the Red Phase, both students and staff would be remote.

Stephen Ullman spoke about the recent passing of NH Speaker of the House, Dick Hinch's death, due to COVID and the hope that people will wear masks to help mitigate the spread as a result.

Robert Short, Jr. spoke about the 8% rate of positivity and ask how it is calculated.

Rich Scheinblum said that statistically, there are more cases in the community than are identified. When they do the calculation, it is the number of positives over the number of tests and not the population.

Kimberly Saunders said that moving to the Orange Phase will help.

Rich Cahoon said that there is no intention, at this time, not to have the current 145 students at school, with the exception of the current Great Brook School students.

Katherine Heck spoke about the importance of keeping communities safe. She shared what other local communities are doing and not doing. She spoke about potential exposure to the ConVal community as a result.

Kimberly said that an increase in risk is a result and increase in the possibility that we would not come back on January 19th.

Rich Cahoon said that the COVID Monitoring Team can move up from one level to another, it is the movement back down that is a Board decision.

Dick Dunning moved to adopt the athletic recommendation as presented. Stephen Ullman second.

Kimberly Saunders said that while the COVID Team could change the status of pods and individual schools, that it would be a board decision as well for moving up levels.

Kevin Pobst said that he understands that we are pausing until the 5th of January.

Stephen Ullman noted that we are going beyond the phases in the plan. Rich Cahoon said that the phases in the reopening plan are the focus.

Jim Fredrickson said that pause means a complete and absolute pause. Kimberly said that students may remote to team meetings and coaches will be sending workouts to athletes. Team practices will not occur in person. No team practices, exercises or activities will occur in person.

Katherine Heck said that the risk level of the sport and the plan that we adopted has nothing to do with this decision.

John Reitnauer confirmed that all sports, no matter what risk level, would be paused until further evaluation on January 5th.

In favor: Janine Lesser, Dick Dunning, Kevin Pobst, Alan Edelkind, Jim Fredrickson, Tim Theberge, Stephen Ullman, Jerry Wilson, Niki McGettigan

Opposed: Robert Short, Jr.

Abstained: Katherine Heck

Motion carried.

Tim Theberge moved to instruct the administration to move the District to the Orange Phase in the reopening guidelines. Jerry Wilson second.

In favor: Janine Lesser, Dick Dunning, Kevin Pobst, Alan Edelkind, Jim Fredrickson, Tim Theberge, Stephen Ullman, Jerry Wilson, Niki McGettigan, Katherine Heck

Opposed: Robert Short, Jr.

Motion carried.

4. Non-Public Session (if needed)

None.

Dick Dunning motioned to adjourn at 6:37 p.m. Jerry Wilson second. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok