

District Leadership Team

Minutes

February 17, 2021

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm – Virtual Meeting

The Hyde Park Central School District empowers our community to strive for excellence and embrace the opportunities of our globally connected world.

Welcome

Contact Tracing Changes:

- So much has changed, even since the County Dept. of Health put out the memo giving us the opportunity that when we contact trace we can ask about ventilation, who was sitting closest.
- A concern is that there are some questions we have not had answers to with ventilation, airflow, track seating and attendance every day. Tracing takes hours – how will we be able to do it in a more timely way?
- People getting tested, ventilation, contact tracing is an ability that we have, please bring concerns to the group.
 - With a small number of students, we call them all figuring out who those people are, it would take much more time.
 - Teachers, staff would not have to quarantine if six feet apart.
 - Staffing issues causes us to go full remote, with 6 ft. barrier teachers could have that choice and we wouldn't have to close.
 - If not enough adults we would have to pivot to full remote.
 - Try to quarantine less, two weeks after the second vaccine, people wouldn't have to quarantine. People are starting to get vaccinated.
 - Seating charts will need to happen. Green & Gold would have two students, elementary would not have to worry about that. Now we have the expectation of same day turn around.
 - Option – Dept. of Health said it's safe, if six weeks away it's ok but people right around them will have to quarantine.
 - A student had to quarantine three times who always wears a mask and stays 6 feet apart. 49 kids had to quarantine, if six feet away they wouldn't have to quarantine.
 - The decision is not being made this month. We are starting to get ideas as we look forward, this is a great group to start with.
 - Parents and teachers have been sharing their support with Aviva.
 - Some parents' perspective is if they know their child wasn't within 6 feet they would want them to be in school.
 - Secondary – use sticky notes on desks from period to period of who was sitting in what seat and when. Then that would be where you stay for the year.
 - No one is speaking for the group.
 - It could cause consequences if not talking to every teacher scheduled in a classroom, usually a week 5-6 days. Someone was in theirs and might have been systematic it may be less accurate. The last case took four hours to do 39 kids/adults, it could have been more refined but it would have taken till the end of the day to do that.
 - This opens up to a little more risk, new strains are game-changers.
 - Dr. Ritter on Friday stated that it is certainly safer to continue with the way we have been doing. The information came later as people remember and it added more kids.

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- It may be things in between from what we are doing now and what the memo said of who is included in the quarantine. Staff won't be afraid they will close school if they move around the room. If only kids move we will know who it is, it would add spacing issues as to what we are doing now.
- I like the idea that we could not close down the whole grade level or school in fear that it has to be investigated and will cause more days makes it more obvious which student it is.
- If it has the ability and maintains staying in hybrid mode and decreases the number of students to be quarantined, I am for it. It's frustrating sometimes from start to finish when the community & staff are notified of parameters. It will have to be defined very well (i.e. seating chart, number of feet away). We don't want to create a system that can't be mitigated.
 - Are we quarantining people in a situation with no proof a single case has been gotten on campus?
 - Are there other ways to bring in the community to share?
- Families who live in Hyde Park but work in other communities have written that other districts look at 3x6 and 3x3 into classrooms. Other people are looking into that, no state or government guidance on that but it is out there.
- The situation is changing quickly, bringing in more kids and guidance changes bring this all in. If a low rate these should be allowed if moderate.
- After spring break 4th quarter starts there is a fear of spread when back from break.
 - Barriers for K-12 have been purchased.
- NYS Health Department has made it clear they are not making exceptions to the 6 foot rule as of today no changes are made.
 - This is changing very quickly and now that the CDC said 6 feet standard we won't be hearing anything change from the County. Because a few people said it we are exploring the idea of how would we implement it.
 - More staff are vaccinated and the survey is going out tomorrow or this week. We did a random list of employees, it took many days and many hours of work. We are now doing perfect management of doing vaccine appointments every week. People can fill out the quick survey if they are interested, it will be uploaded to the random list for appointments next Saturday 2/27.
- We are every day, every other day getting new guidelines, are we double masking? Currently elementary is no mask when eating, does 6 feet apply to that? Teachers like the ability to be safe. The district is looking at the safety of students and teachers. We would like to know of COVID positive cases in the area.
 - We need to proceed carefully and slowly because variant changes. We are not planning on doing anything tomorrow but a limited quarantine is interesting. We will wait until we have all the facts.

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- Is there a possibility if there is a positive kid in a classroom that we can notify parents but if their child was not in contact with that student it could be a layer of protection if you feel it necessary to quarantine your child, that we could leave it up to the parent?
 - We would not know how to figure out a way to do all of this.
- We could send an email to the community that because of our contact tracing we haven't had any issues and give a positive spin out to the public.
 - Today 68 people tested negative 1 tested positive but had no symptoms, a systematic people were all negative. The good news is that in all of the cases we have had none of them appear to have happened in the building. Just like temperature checks, we don't want to keep doing things that are not helping.
 - The response plan all came from this group.

Budget/Building Condition Survey (BCS):

- We will discuss the budget first then the Building Condition Survey (BCS).
- The activity Greg came up with is to find out what the group thinks we should go with in December.
- It will cost \$24.5 M to keep the sewer where it currently is. To have a vote in December we need the approved Project to the BOE by the end of October.
- We will need to start presenting the architects' design and budget amount in September so the BOE would have a few meetings before that decision is made.
- We will issue an RFD this Spring so the group will have time to do that.
- Elliot presented the Building Condition Survey to the group. Discussion on 2020 Capital Project:
 - Explain why we feel this is important to the district
 - The BCS is separated into sections so the group can weigh in on what projects would take priority.
 - Roof Work
 - HVAC Work
 - Plumbing Work
 - Interior Work
 - Exterior Work
- Jamboard Activity – a work board where everyone has the ability to edit the document.
 - The team broke out into 5 groups, each group can go through and pull items into columns - “must do now,” “hope for future,” “needed,” & “Building Principal Requested.”
 - What is most important to you in each section.
 - Items already labeled “Must do now” cannot be moved out of that column.
 - You will need to have a group presenter to give a summary of your groups' prioritization of projects.
 - This activity will help administration with the next steps of which items will be looked at.

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- \$36 M – unforeseen conditions, numbers are representative of what items would cost, then add 30% to every number for fees, etc. This number does not include projects requested from principals.
- The BCS was created 5 years ago, projects/needs have been added to it.
- All new items added to the BCS will need to be evaluated for cost.
- GROUP 1 Discussion: Roof Work -
 - Are these roofs leaking, what is the cost difference between slate and rubber?
 - HPE has slate & rubber – two separate contractors
 - Different areas of HPE roof conditions include portico sinking which needs to be addressed and the rear rubber roof leaks constantly.
 - Leaking vs. aesthetics.
 - At HMS slate slides off the roof.
- HVAC Work –
 - What areas are involved?
 - Do we keep HPE all together, do later on, smaller items first and working on HPE as a whole – would that include all HPE projects?
 - It's better to do all, the more you do the better you get.
 - Work on areas that have the majority of students.
- Plumbing Work –
 - How long has it been on the priority list?
 - HMS - do all at once
 - VAS urinals – what does that entail?
 - Waterless toilets did not turn out to be what was expected. They don't get much water, creates odors and copper pipes are rotted.
 - NES also has waterless urinals that need to be replaced with a different system. Replace with conventional urinals. This system was done in many other states all are now water again.
- Interior Work –
 - Safety – if unsafe, must do now
 - FDR Elevator
 - Fire alarm panel at Transportation
 - HPE wheelchair lift – ADA regulation
 - Hope to do Library's in the future – what would that work look like?
 - Locker rooms – what would that work look like?
 - Libraries – Scope of work: Highly utilized, fewer bookshelves, move to social media center would be more functional.
 - Maybe budget by General Fund but move to scale to be Capital Project – Library renovations district-wide.
- Exterior Work –

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- Parking focus – drainage issue at RRS would alleviate stress for teachers.
- Rear lighting at HMS space to support students for area to play.
- Recognize being able to utilize space well for teachers and visitors
- FDR parking lot drainage – is it currently flooding?
- Where teachers park on the East side when it's raining heavy the water pools, ongoing issue
- FDR outdoor bathroom is a must do for COVID
- GROUP2: Roof Work –
 - HMS should be done later, Elliott has done a very good job restoring the slate roof.
 - Critically important to be mindful of HPE
- HVAC –
 - If there is no heat there is no school.
 - ADMIN – Will it move to HPE?
 - Do structural spaces first and build-out
- Plumbing –
 - All are directly impacted – septic is imperative
 - Not sure of fixtures
 - Elliott – Sinks in classrooms are all original
- Interior Work –
 - Important to do all libraries (FDR was done 4 years ago)
 - Making them 21st century instructional space, it touches every student
 - FDR Locker rooms are the same from the late '80s and in disrepair, this could be important work. It was in the BCS from the beginning and not done - 10-15 yrs. on the list.
 - Gyms & locker rooms – low supervision spot so safety is also an issue
- Exterior Work –
 - Outdoor classroom – take off list, should do last
 - All others – safety, doors were approved and in the process (which doors does this include?)
 - Rear parking lot at HMS – Kids use it from November – April and it's a mud pit. Middle school kids need to run around.
 - HMS loops improved to understand benefits & safety issues.
 - Sidewalks and playgrounds need to be in ADA compliance - this work has to be done.
 - VAS columns should be addressed, cafeteria wall and the big window gets fogged out – move to must do cafeteria now, it is an instructional place
 - Parking lot drain could probably be done later.
- GROUP 3: Roof Work –
 - Do slate roofs together for possible cost savings

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- HVAC Work –
 - Put buildings with students first, HPE after.
- Plumbing –
 - When will Town do Septic?
 - Put plumbing and drainage at a higher priority, then fixtures and Town sewer project
 - The Town Sewer project is on hold, shelved
 - A survey showed 2-1 did not want a referendum unless the town can get aid.
 - Admin sewer system is needed sooner than later
- Interior Work –
 - Has some work already been happening?
 - FDR door's – cluster for safety
 - Elevator
 - Gym floor bubbling
- Exterior Work –
 - Safety for sidewalks at FDR is imminent?
 - FDR needs a new generator
 - Put parking lots later if safety then move up
 - Brickwork at HMS – needs to be addressed
- GROUP 4: Roof Work –
 - We are seeing patterns and similarities within the groups.
 - Roofs – we have many questions on specific problems such as slate vs rubber and funding, staying historic, how urgent and leaks – Assuming all will need to be replaced
 - HMS & VAS require the most maintenance because of their square footage which makes it more challenging.
 - All slate roofs would have to be replaced as to the Historic Society guidelines
 - Many concerns of slate flying off the roof. We do checks and maintenance regularly. We have a certified slate contractor.
 - Transportation roof leaks constantly. It is similar in the age of FDR's, if not this project definitely the next one.
- HVAC Work –
 - What were the issues at Admin and HPE?
 - Preschool now at HPE – will it continue? Yes, Pre-K will continue.
 - Controls and upgrades bringing it up to industry standards. It is now working as efficiently as possible but parts are hard to find due to its age.
 - COVID standards – filters in classrooms are another issue.
 - The issue is the needed upgrades, if we can make it better that's what we will do when replacing equipment.
 - Controls, equipment, Boiler and energy to the equipment. Steam not water to electronics.

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- HPE is all original controls from 2001 which are no longer supported.
- We can't set controls or schedule anything electronically at HPE.
- Plumbing/Septic Work –
 - Admin upgrading in town-to-town septic
 - Questions and unknowns about NES & RRS replacements of water fountains and fixtures inside classrooms so no movements on Jamboard at this time.
- Interior Work –
 - Next to be replaced is FDR elevator, chairlift at NES and Fire alarm panel at Transportation. All are outdated and can't be updated, they are running on an old version. The fire panel can no longer be worked on, soon we will not be able to make it functional.
- Exterior Work –
 - Bus loop at NPE and lack of bus loop at VAS are a must-do.
- GROUP 5: Roof Work –
 - Categorize and clump projects together and prioritize by years left, impact the most students.
 - Keep all roof work together to get the best price.
- HVAC Work –
 - FDR is a priority
 - HPE Cluster together
 - Controls at Admin
- Plumbing Work –
 - Cluster all together in Elementaries
- Interior Work –
 - Elevator and wheel chair lift and ramp should be done right away and clumped together
 - 3-5 year should do later
 - Principal requests clumped together
- Exterior Work –
 - All playgrounds do together – to be done right now
 - 3-5 year do together
 - Principal requests together at the end

Shared notes:

- All groups could have used more time to ask Elliot questions while prioritizing the next steps. How can we provide you with greater details?
- Groups prioritized by student issues, safety, age of the project, buildings structures, cost and support from the community, all are important concerns.
- Budget and state aid have to be layered in.
- Any of the issues put in the chat will be added in.

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Food for Thought:

- Elliot will provide a more detailed description for each item to give more clarity so everyone will be on the same page for the next meeting.
- We can split out into subgroups to not slow down the DLT.
- Create subgroups to do detail and then come back next meeting.
- April 21st we need knowledge and explanation on how to sell a project. We want to recreate some of that good work by having everyone have the knowledge. We can revise this activity work and make changes as needed.
- We can give Elliot a week to give us the detailed information.
- We can do this work then get to the next step of putting a list together
 - Elliott to provide detail
 - Add a meeting in March
 - Send out doodle for March date
 - Greg will put Doodle together.

Meeting Adjourned

/lw