

**Minutes  
Board of Trustees Special Voting Meeting  
August 11, 7:30 PM**

**1. Opening Matters**

- Call to order - 7:32 p.m.
- Attendance:
  - **Board Trustees:** D.Rufo, E.Falcone, S.Glick, M.Reynolds, A.Bragoli, G.Scott, S.Narahari, G.Queen, Y.Francois; M.Grenier;
  - **Administration:** G.Guarino Buli, H.Smith; C.Schaeffer; M.Boyd; D.Cosme; H.Rinker; K.Gruber
- Pledge of Allegiance - [Flag](#)

**2. Opening statements – Dan Rufo**

- Two topics to cover tonight in preparation for the opening of school.
- Please submit public comment to email - [publiccomment@rak12.org](mailto:publiccomment@rak12.org)
- There will be opportunities for public comment to be spoken allowed

**3. Handbook approvals**

- **Elementary School Student/Parent Handbook 2021-2022.** K.Gruber provided a summary of edits. Motion to adopt Elementary School Student Handbook for 2021-2022 made by E.Falcone; Seconded: G.Queen. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carries. **Elementary School Student Handbook for 2021-2022 is Adopted.**
- **Middle School Student/Parent Handbook 2021-2022.** H.Rinker provided a summary of edits. Motion to adopt Middle School Student Handbook for 2021-2022 made by M.Greiner; Seconded: S.Narahari. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carries. **Middle School Student Handbook for 2021-2022 is Adopted.**
- **High School Student/Parent Handbook 2021-2022.** M.Boyd provided a summary of changes, no major policy or procedures changes. Motion to adopt High School Student Handbook for 2021-2022 made by G.Queen; Seconded: E.Falcone. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carries. **High School Student Handbook for 2021-2022 is Adopted.**

**4. Reopening Plan**

- **Public Comment –** Dr. Buli read emails that were submitted. Reminder that Public Comments requires that author's names be included to be read during meeting.
  - S.Cooke – concerns regarding mask requirements. Asks about mask breaks, and areas
  - S.Shrek – questions regarding
  - A.J. Kristen – praise and thank you for RA team;

- B.Alveria – concerns re: mandatory face mask policy and questions regarding options relating to mask requirements (virtual option, when no longer required based on transmission, zones for mask breaks)
- A.Shenkle – comment regarding support for mandatory mask policy
- J.Kenuvie – requests explicit authority requirement for COVID testing and parental preference for test administration
- K.Zimmerman – would prefer mandatory mask mandate
- B.Wilenski – requesting additional information for re-opening plan
- M.Miller – questions regarding electronic hallpass, and LEA’s guidance, if virtual, process board will use for that determination;
- S.Foehl - Questions on masking issues and return plan: how school can mandate masks & authority for same, what criteria being used for mask requirements, what sending districts are requiring masks, virtual option for mask previous parental decisions
- Concerns regarding under 12 virtual option because unvaccinated, what mitigation strategies going to be in place, protocol for keeping kids home with cold symptoms, testing options, pro-active decisions vs. re-active decisions, infection levels that would require change of protocols, would RA support asking about families’
- J.Mckee – thank you to RA & support for masking
- H.Parsons – questions regarding masks during recess;
- L.Didio – support mask mandate
- K.Cook – support mask mandate and following CDC
- A.Stockton – questions on social distancing, masking requirements and use of Chromebooks, where eat lunch and social distancing, protections for medically sensitive students
- M.Lass – questions regarding authority for mask mandates
- S.Foda – question regarding desk shields and their continued use
- A.Rodriguez – question about L.School required mask use and rationale for same
- J.Weiss – support for mandatory masks for ages 12 and under
- M.Pucke – notes importance of in-person support for mandatory masking consistent with the most conservative guidance
- J.Warwick - comment regarding position
- M.Fink – comment regarding intent of sending children to RA
- L.Barbaric – support for social distancing
- M. Stoct - support for mandatory masks
- A.Darrow - support for mandatory masks consistent with CDC
- A & D. Quereshi – support for mandatory masking policy
- R.Lee – requesting online option
- A.Jenkins - support for mandatory masks
- K.Bates - Support for layered mitigation efforts. Requests permanent on-line option
- G.Holdsworth – questions on intended teaching plan for in person learning.
- A.Kipp – supports parental choice for masks
- T.Baylor – no follow up regarding choice for virtual attendance;
- B.Sparrow - support for return to in-person option and mask mandate to support return

- R.Fedko - Urges support for proposed changes to health and safety plan including mask mandate
- P.Sheppard – opposes mask requirements
- Caliani Ervin - requesting that teachers for the lower school wear a shield and/or a clear mask, if required.
- Opening up for Verbal Comment –
  - J.Kipp – sent email that was not read
  - K.DiFrancesco – scared to send kid without masks – has one child with asthma; concerns about Norristown bussing and lack of social distancing on bus; supports mask mandate; believed 3 ft. distancing was advised;
  - M.Mehta – supports mandatory masking policy and wants a choice for virtual option;
- **Presentation - Updated Health and Safety Re-Opening Plan**
  - Discussion Held and Board Trustee Questions Answered
  - Motion to adopt each of the 5 proposed changes to Health and Safety Plan:
    1. Motion to update the Health and Safety Plan to include a Mask Requirement for all students, staff, vendors or visitors while indoors at the Renaissance Academy, regardless of vaccination status made by A.Bragoli, Seconded by S.Narahari. In favor: D.Rufo, E.Falcone, M.Reynolds, G.Scott, G.Queen, Y.Francois; M.Grenier; Opposed - S.Glick. Motion Passes. **The Health and Safety Plan shall be updated to require mandatory mask wearing for all students, staff, vendors or visitors while indoors at the Renaissance Academy, regardless of vaccination status.**
    2. Motion to update the Health and Safety Plan to allow optional mask wearing by all students, staff, vendors or visitors at recess or when transitioning in non-congregate settings, which shall NOT include arrival, dismissal, fire drills or other outdoor gatherings made by M.Reynolds; Seconded by S.Narahari. All in favor; none opposed. Motion Passes. **The Health and Safety Plan shall be updated to allow optional mask wearing by all students, staff, vendors or visitors at recess or when transitioning in non-congregate settings, which shall NOT include arrival, dismissal, fire drills or other outdoor gatherings.**
    3. Motion to update the Health and Safety Plan to require mask wearing by any persons on a school bus per federal mandate made by M.Reynolds; Seconded by M.Greiner. All in favor; none opposed. Motion Passes. **The Health and Safety Plan shall be updated to require mask wearing by any persons on a school bus.**
    4. Motion to update the Health and Safety Plan to, in any case of known exposure (close contact only) require a negative Covid-19 test prior to return to school regardless of vaccination status made by M.Reynolds; Seconded by E.Falcone. All in favor; none opposed. Motion Passes. **The Health and Safety Plan shall be updated to require, in any case of known exposure (close contact only) a negative Covid-19 test prior to return to school regardless of vaccination status.**
    5. Motion to update the Health and Safety Plan to allow for the development and implementation of alternative programs as deemed necessary for medically

fragile, documented students, which may or may not include live instruction made by M. Reynolds; Seconded by M.Greiner. All in favor; none opposed. Motion Passes. **The Health and Safety Plan shall be updated to allow for the development and implementation of alternative programs as deemed necessary for medically fragile, documented students, which may or may not include live instruction.**

**5. Moving of September Board Meeting** – Proposal to Re-schedule from the 16th to 23rd because of Yom Kippur.

- Motion to Re-schedule September 16, 2021 Board of Trustees Meeting to September 23, 2021 made by G.Scott; Seconded: M.Griener Seconded the Motion. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carries. **The September 16, 2021 Board of Trustees Meeting shall be re-scheduled to September 23, 2021, and the public calendar updated accordingly.**

**6. General Public comment**

- If not submitted as an email, please use the “Raise Hand” feature and you will be called upon - [publiccomment@rak12.org](mailto:publiccomment@rak12.org)
  - H.Persons - Question regarding transport of the Chromebook every day back and forth to school.
  - E. Allebach - Question regarding upper school students that do not have recess and how they will receive mask breaks.

**7. Adjournment.** Motion to adjourn meeting made by E.Falcone; Seconded by G.Scott. All in favor and none opposed; motion passes. **Meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm**

**8. Executive Session - Legal Matter** – to be held at a later date.



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Monica Mathews Reynolds, Trustee and Recording Secretary