

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING  
TOWN BUILDING – SCHOOL COMMITTEE ROOM  
JULY 23, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. present by Remote were Arne Soslow, M. D. (AS), John G. Schuler, M. D. (JS), Robert DeFrancesco, DMD (RD), Brian McNamara (BM) and Susan Green (SG). Also present were Julia Junghanns, (JJ), Director of Public Health, Ruth Mori, MSN, RN, (RM) Public Health Nurse/School Nurse leader and Jeanne Downs from the Wayland School Committee

Remote roll call Dr. Soslow: yes, Dr. Schuler: yes, Dr. DeFrancesco: yes, Brian McNamara: yes and Susan Green: yes

SG: In compliance with revised Open Meeting Law requirements, we will live stream the meeting on WayCAM, Public Comments will be received by phone at 508-358-6812 for this meeting. The phone number will be active during the public comment portion of the meeting. Thank you in advance for your patience; we intend to address all calls that come in during the public comment period.

**5:30 p.m.      Discuss reopening schools, review and discuss list of questions from the School Committee, consider potential BoH recommendations, discuss and review any new information and 3 back to school options.**

The School committee compiled a list of items they would like the Board of Health to opine of, the list is attached to these minutes.

RM will be doing the full update report tomorrow, we presently have 112 cases, 5 new, with one more than we discussed on Monday. There is a wide range of ages for the new cases: one under 19, one 40's one in 20's and the rest are in 60's. These cases are all related to community spread, we are not able to identify their place of contact. None of these individuals are in any of the long term care facilities, all living in home environment.

The results of the school survey regarding parents' wishes for students return to school. Of the 2276 responses, 67% want the students back full time. JD: this is the breakdown of the survey divided by school type: elementary (K-5) all in, 35% will keep at home. Middle school (6-8) 36% to keep home, High school (9-12) 30% at home.

There was continued discussion regarding the 3 plans for school students in the fall: all remote, hybrid (½ in ½ out) and full all in school.

Staff has been monitoring what other towns are planning for school reopening

There was a discussion about what types, styles and fabrics of masks would be requested/required for students and teachers. Questions were raised regarding supplying masks for staff, what kind and how often. Does the town have enough masks to make this happen?

7:15: p.m.      AS has left the meeting

There was discussion regarding differing guidelines from DESE and DPH regarding return to school after exposure; if testing is done, when and what type of testing.

RM: some of the questions are being raised regarding DESE return to school guidelines; many towns are asking DPH to speak to the DESE guidance. There are two clear and different processes here regarding when exposed individuals should be tested and then return to school.

JD: Parents and teachers want to know what the procedures and process will be for when a person tests positive. What is the scope of who needs to be tested and/or quarantined? What are the metrics for closing schools. Rm: dph does not yet feel that the antibody testing is as strong as the PCR testing. Not currently comfortable that the DESE guidance is speaking to testing and tracing regarding how the state health department is guiding towns to tracing and quarantine. DPH guidance is stronger than the DESE. All contacts of positive confirmed testing recommend testing to know, if not positive, still out 14 days to determine if symptoms develop. Time between days 2-5 appears to be the window that symptoms will project.

**Jeanne D has left the meeting**

**STOPPED HERE**

**7:40 pm. Discuss Annual Town Meeting outdoors vs indoors and tent options.**

SG: I would not attend unless outside. Need to research ventilation and fans. JS; no walls JJ: questions specifically asked D Bernstein BOH input, BOS inside or outside? Tent? JJ: early September weather may be good, use tent in case of rain or if it is hot. If use tent, to be sure there would be issues. State guidance for food service, they are using tents, certain amount of air circulations, re: fans, not sure what if that is good or bad, in group of 300 to 400 is it good or not? We need to do some research, I believe a tent would be ok, outside is better but better off than enclosed. RD: brought up fanc, season ticket to pats. They will allow 20% no one in first 8 rows, and no fans being used. JJ: if hot day fans would be good, but is that healthy. Looking for BOH members and JJ to attend to be sure things are set up appropriately.

JS: the schools down south will be opening soon so we may get info from that info.

7:45 p.m. Public comment there have been no phone calls

JJ: thank you all for all your dedication, all staff and board members, we are all in as a group.

7:47 p.m. Motion to adjourn: roll call rd yes js yes sg yes

Submitted by Patti White

APPROVED 2/7/22