

100: Call to Order and Determination of a Quorum

The Linn-Mar School Board special session was called to order at 1:00 PM in the boardroom of the Learning Resource Center (2999 N 10th St, Marion). Roll was taken to determine a quorum. Present: Nelson, Wall, Weaver, Buchholz, Isenberg, Lausen, and Morey. Administration present: Bisgard, Anderson, Ramos, Read, and Wear. Administration absent: Christian and Breitfelder.

200: Adoption of the Agenda *Motion 048-09-16*

MOTION by Weaver to adopt the agenda as presented. Second by Lausen. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

300: Special Session

301: Discussion of Proposed Updates to Return-to-Learn Plan – *Exhibit 301.1*

Board President Nelson facilitated a discussion on a possible return to mandating face masks due to the recent judicial decision that implemented a temporary restraining order against the banning of face masks in Iowa schools. Superintendent Bisgard shared the following three options for consideration: 1) Continue current practice (face masks optional except for on buses), 2) District-wide PK-12 grade mask mandate, or 3) PK-6 grade mask mandate. Each board member expressed their concerns and opinions.

302: Approval of Updated Return-to-Learn Plan *Motion 049-09-16*

MOTION by Buchholz to mandate masks for PK-6 grades with an ending date of 60 days after the COVID vaccination is available for PK-6 grade students. Second by Isenberg.

The following items were clarified: A timeline for the temporary restraining order on the ban of face masks in Iowa schools is unknown at this time; the best legal option per district attorneys is for a PK-12 grade mandate, but due to the student in the lawsuit being in the PK-6 grade level, at least a PK-6 grade mandate was recommended; for families wishing to move to homeschooling, online learning, or open enrollment out of the district each case would be considered individually; waivers for face masks are available with a physician-signed medical excuse; and the enforcement of face masks would follow normal student/staff disciplinary procedures. Isenberg raised the question of a beginning date for the PK-6 grade mask mandate; it was clarified it would go into effect on Monday, September 20th if the motion is approved to allow families the time to adjust.

Buchholz moved to update his previous motion to mandating masks for PK-6 grades effective Monday, September 20, 2021; with an ending date of 60 days after the COVID vaccination is available for PK-6 grade students. Second by Isenberg. ***Motion 050-09-16***

Roll call vote: Wall (Nay), Weaver (Aye), Buchholz (Aye), Isenberg (Aye), Lausen (Aye), Morey (Aye), and Nelson (Aye). Motion carried.

400: Adjournment *Motion 051-09-16*

MOTION by Wall to adjourn the special session at 1:55 PM. Second by Morey. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Sondra Nelson, Board President

JT Anderson, Board Secretary/Treasurer