

## **Special Meeting – September 30, 2020**

Unapproved

The Charles City Board of Education met in special session on Wednesday, September 30, 2020 in the Superintendent's Office in the North Grand Building. The meeting was open to the public by attending in person or watching live at Facebook.com/CharlesCityCSD. President Mack called the meeting to order via zoom at 12:00 p.m. Present via zoom: Board members Rottinghaus, Dight, Freund (arrived 12:03 p.m.), and Bergland and student member Ruzicka. Absent: none. Staff members present included Superintendent Fisher, Board Secretary O'Brien, and Communication Director DeVore. Four others were present via zoom.

(Rottinghaus/Dight) to approve the agenda as amended. Item 3, COVID Hybrid decision was revised. Superintendent Fisher added his recommendation for the Hybrid decision. Motion carried 5-0.

(Dight/Rottinghaus) to direct the superintendent to convene a team of teachers and staff leaders, including representation from our associations and student body, to meet and confer with the School Board on how to safely reopen our schools fully. To schedule an additional Board meeting to discuss with this team in the next week and continue the current learning format until the time that the Board may take further action. Superintendent Fisher explained the recommendation has been given a lot of consideration. They have received emails from the community all in support of fully reopening. One week ago the recommendation being considered was to continue in the Hybrid. After hearing the Governors guidance yesterday and hearing additional public comment, the District wants to revisit their recommendation and seek additional information. The District wants to fully reopen.

The Board asked questions. There was much discussion. Bryan Jurrens, High School (HS) principal, and Tom Harskamp, Middle School (MS) principal were at the meeting. The North Grand Building (NGB) is the location of a support program for students who are struggling with the Hybrid model. The NGB is staffed by Karleen Sickman, MS and Josh Dean, HS.

Student Director Ruzicka answered questions and commented on his experience and perception of the Hybrid and School-to-You models.

Gail Arjes, Floyd County Public Health, took questions regarding their updated recommendation to restart full in-person learning based on the current trend of the local COVID conditions.

The Board appreciates the emails, comments and feedback received. Roll Call Vote. Motion carried 5-0.

President Mack adjourned the meeting at 1:11 p.m.

Terri O'Brien, Board Secretary