# STRONGSVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION OCTOBER 16, 2020 EMERGENCY MEETING

The Emergency Meeting of the Strongsville Board of Education and any other items germane to the Board of Education was called to order at 6::30 p.m. on Friday, October 16, 2020, at the **Administration Building**, **Meeting Room**, **18199 Cook Avenue**, **Strongsville**, **Ohio**, by President, Richard O. Micko.

All members of the Board and media were notified of this meeting in compliance with Section 121.22 O.R.C., effective November 28, 1975.

The following Board Members answered Roll Call: Mrs. Bissell, Mrs. Buckner-Sallee, Mrs. Housum, Mr. Micko, and Mr. Roberts.

Others present were: Dr. Cameron Ryba, Superintendent and Mr. George Anagnostou, Treasurer.

This meeting was videotaped and is part of the official minutes.

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Jennie Crosby commented that the students are not receiving the quality education they deserve with the SOLO program and would like the District to provide a better remote learning option.

Ms. Gianna Monro thanked everyone for all they are doing for the students. Ms. Monro is a nurse and spoke about the process of creating a vaccine. She asks that students' mental health also be taken into consideration when determining how to proceed with either in-person or on-line learning.

Ms. Jessica Cozza expressed her concern about the supply of Chromebooks available for the students and asked if the new supply has been received. She stated the District is doing a wonderful job and everyone must do their part to keep the kids in school.

Dr. Ryba replied that Chromebooks for kindergarten have been received. The District is still waiting for Chromebooks for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

#### A. <u>SUPERINTENDENT</u>

#### 1. Discussion Item – COVID-19 Responsible Restart Comprehensive Plan

Dr. Ryba reviewed the COVID-19 Learning Framework Decision Protocols. On September 21<sup>st</sup>, students returned to school using a blended learning framework. Elementary students moved to in-person/in-building learning on September 28<sup>th</sup>. The Middle School and High School students will continue with blended learning through the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, October 16<sup>th</sup>. The District's current restart plan requires a one week notice of any change in the learning framework for the students. Based on Cuyahoga County being in Orange on Monday, October 12th, Dr. Ryba shared the one-week notice that SMS/SHS students would return to in-person/in-building learning on Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. Yesterday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, Cuyahoga County changed to Red, but both Lorain and Medina stayed in orange. Dr. Ryba explained that if the District follows the Learning Framework Decision Protocols chart, PreK-5 would continue with in-person learning and the Middle School and High School students would continue with the blending learning framework instead of moving to in-person learning on October 19<sup>th</sup>.

OCTOBER 16, 2020 Page 1 of 3

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** (continued)

### A. <u>SUPERINTENDENT</u> (continued)

#### 1. Discussion Item – COVID-19 Responsible Restart Comprehensive Plan (continued)

Dr. Ryba shared that the reason for this Board Meeting is because discussion was never had about what action should be taken when a one-week notice is given to change the learning framework and the color of Cuyahoga County changes prior to enacting it. The one week notice is to allow parents ample time to prepare or make arrangements for their students and to maintain a specific learning framework for a minimum of two weeks for some stability.

Discussion was since a one week notice was given to move to in-person learning, does the District continue with the plan for in-person learning for a two-week period, or because the change in the County occurred prior to implementation, should the District stay with the current learning framework. Discussion was also had about keeping the one-week notice time-frame.

After much discussion and sharing of much data, the majority of the Board voted to honor the one week notice so that on Monday, October 19th, PreK-5 students will remain in the in-person/in-building framework and middle school and high school students will move from blended learning to the in-person/in-building framework. The Board, Administration, Teachers, and Staff have worked tirelessly to prepare for all students, PreK-12, to return to school. Dr. Ryba shared some specifics. The District is ready and will continue to ensure that all is being done to mitigate risk to students and staff and to provide a school environment that meets the educational, social emotional, and mental health needs of our students.

**20-10-15** Moved by Mrs. Housum to return to five-day, in-person learning for all grades, Pre-K through 12, beginning October 19, 2020, seconded by Mrs. Bissell and approved on a roll call vote as follows:

Mrs. Housum, yes; Mrs. Bissell, yes; Mr. Roberts, no; Mrs. Buckner-Sallee, no, Mr. Micko, yes. Motion carried 3-2

Dr. Ryba gave a brief update on the focus groups of parents having students in the SOLO program. A little over 80 families signed up. Six focus groups have been scheduled with four having already met and two more scheduled for Monday evening. Information is being compiled from these groups. At the October 22<sup>nd</sup> Board Meeting, Dr. Ryba will share results from the focus group meetings and will have some recommendations as to next steps to help support and enhance the SOLO programs.

OCTOBER 16, 2020 Page 2 of 3

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**20-10-16** Moved by Mrs. Housum to enter into Executive Session to consider the employment of public employees, seconded by Mrs. Bissell and approved on a roll call vote as follows:

Mrs. Housum, yes; Mrs. Bissell, yes; Mr. Roberts, yes; Mrs. Buckner-Sallee, yes; Mr. Micko, yes. Motion carried 5-0

Entered into Executive Session at 9:15 p.m.

Resumed public session at 10:17 p.m.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**20-10-17** Moved by Mrs. Housum to adjourn the Strongsville Board of Education Emergency Meeting, seconded by Mrs. Bissell and approved on a roll call vote as follows:

Mrs. Housum, yes; Mrs. Bissell, yes; Mrs. Buckner-Sallee, yes; Mr. Roberts, yes; Mr. Micko, yes. Motion carried 5-0

Meeting adjourned at 10:18 p.m.

Richard O.	Micko,	Presi	dent

OCTOBER 16, 2020 Page 3 of 3