

**Yuma Elementary School District No. One
Governing Board
Study Session**

The Governing Board for Yuma Elementary School District No. One held a Study Session July 30, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. in the District Office Board Room, 450 West Sixth Street, Yuma, Arizona

Members present: Mrs. Barbara Foote, President; Mr. Cory Mayrant, Clerk (remotely); Mrs. Karen Griffin, Member; Mrs. Irene Montoya, Member; Mrs. Theresa Fox, Member.

Others present: Mr. James Sheldahl, Superintendent; Mrs. Alice Quintero, Board Secretary, District and School Administrative Staff

Call to Order:

Mrs. Foote called the Study Session to order at 5:42 pm following an executive session. The purpose of the Study Session was to discuss data and plans that have been put in place for in-person instruction, to provide additional information surrounding the return to school and to allow for questions and answers from our district representatives.

Mr. Sheldahl started the discussion by asking, what are the Governing Board's thoughts regarding our district's in-person learning date? After sharing Data and number of cases for Yuma County regarding COVID-19, Mr. Sheldahl shared some information from ASBA on the criteria to consider: New cases - a downward trajectory of documented cases of COVID-19 for at least 28 days. Percent positive - a decrease in percent of positive COVID-19 cases for at least 28 days while maintaining a flat or increasing test volume. Robust testing - percent positive cases are less than or equal to 15% for at least 14 consecutive days, and median time to obtain test results is less than or equal to three days. Possible timelines to consider: August 3, 2020 First day of school emergency remote learning begins. August 17, initial return to school date (a place for kids to go if needed and still engaged in the remote learning). September 8, 2020 Possible date to consider return, this date provided the district with 5 weeks to evaluate the local COVID-19 situation. October 5, 2020 this possible date to consider would mark the end of the first quarter and would provide the district with 9 weeks to evaluate the local COVID-19 situation. There was much discussion on deciding on a date to return to in-person instruction. Any date discussed will be approved at a special meeting being held on Friday 7.31.2020 at noon.

The second part of the study session focused on the preparations being made for operations. District Guide Books were provided to the Governing Board with samples of what employees and parents would receive, it contains detailed information, protocols, in a flexible easy to follow format. Mrs. Valenzuela spoke regarding Budget and Finance, per the governor's executive order district would receive 1.00% funding for remote student learning and 1.05% funding for in-person student learning. Funding scenarios for (20-21 SY) options: (1) Funded at our actual FY21 ADM. (2) Funded at 98% of the FY20 ADM (apply for the Stability Grant).

Mr. Munoz spoke to the work that has been done on personnel. Plans have been made to repurpose support staff in transportation and paraprofessionals. Developed employee protocols to include health self-check app with a new company called Healthbox, it is currently being piloted now. Development of an Employee Guide and provided supervisor training. The Human Resource Department has also developed and pushed out the employee survey, maintained

constant communication regarding COVID related questions along with hiring new teachers and have made accommodations & leave options.

Kim Sweeny, Head Nurse for the District spoke regarding the health protocols that have been put in place for the schools and classrooms for the District, it was created in reviewing CDC guidelines. We've requested review from the Yuma County Health Department on the protocols. We will await State Guidelines due to be determined on August 7, 2020. The Yuma County Health Department sent a starter kit of PPE to each site. These materials will be used and available only to the Health Office and their staff. All staff are ready to care for students on Aug. 17th.

Lisa Thrower updated the board on child nutrition operations. Starting August 3, 2020, they are no longer operating on the summer food program. Not every student will not be free of charge, all parents will be required to fill out a free and reduced lunch application. Mr. Schepers updated the board on the bus safety procedures (cleaning seats between runs, having hand sanitizer available and masks for those students not having one), ongoing training and orientation for any changes and mask expectations for the Transportation Department. Mr. Frank Evenson updated the board on cleaning procedures for high touch areas and what the district has provided in Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to include hand sanitation stations, plexi glass shields for all front offices and high traffic areas and electro static sprayers, these orders have been delayed but will be delivered as soon as possible.

Ms. Rindy Ward updated the board on remote instruction. District schedule & expectations will be 9:40 am-3:40 pm and Wednesday's will be (early release day). Google classroom will be utilized with more training and improvements. New teachers started training on July 23, 2020 with in-depth training on the Google Classroom LMS. Learning services will have coaching hours available for all teachers daily and available anytime through phone calls or emails.

Mr. Shedahl spoke regarding equity in the District. The District has purchased "hotspots" for those families who need internet to succeed with remote learning Teachers and Principals will be reviewing the needs at their sites. Mr. Kaste spoke of Special Education guidelines and plans have been developed for all special education teachers, this includes the students who need Specialized Programs, Speech, Occupation or Physical therapy. Students will receive one on one or small group instruction, whatever a child's IEP requirements are. Mr. Monson reported on the Migrant students and over one hundred students were contacted to ask their preference on how they would be attending in the fall, 48% of the students will be attending/learning remotely. Some needs expressed by parents were the need for food during this time of quarantine. There are currently five Elementary educators split among the elementary schools. Three in the middle schools and one Preschool Educator. They are in the process of getting master schedules from sites so that they can accommodate what is going in the classroom. Time will be set aside in the afternoons to accommodate those parents and students who need it and provide those supplemental services. Mr. Sheppard updated on EL students in programs that need support. Instruction will be scaffolded to help those students who need it. Placement tests will be done later in the year. ELA will be done in small group mini lessons to meet the ELL student's needs.

Mr. Sheldahl concluded the study session with a reminder to the School Board that we will have a special meeting on Friday at noon to decide on the start date among a few other items in consent. Also Mr. Sheldahl suggested that a unified prepared board statement be prepared communicating the decision regarding the student in-person learning date.

Adjourn:

The Study Session adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Quintero, Secretary to the Board

Barbara Foote, President

Cory Mayrant, Clerk

Karen Griffin, Member

Irene Montoya, Member

Theresa Fox, Member