

TSD UPDATE



COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - 8/3/2020

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BOE Work Session- 8/3/20 Decisions

- ❖ The Superintendent recommends an online start to the school year, with a possible review near week #5 if TSD would need to transition to hybrid or face-to-face at the end of the first 9 weeks (9 weeks and 18 weeks review depending on how long COVID-19 is a major issue in our county and community). Below is the Online Option as outlined by Director Gregg. **The TSD Board of Education votes to implement an in-house online curriculum to start the school year.**
 - Director Gregg provided a comprehensive overview of an in-house online learning model K-12.
 - Online and of-line learning utilizing google classroom K-12, and seesaw for the K-1. Zoom will also be a teaching tool to connect with students. Building relationships with students through technology is very important and those first weeks the dedication will be to building relationships and understanding the mental health needs of the students. Wednesday will be instructional support days, and it is clear that students ARE NOT expected to be online for 6 hours a day...the requirements will be reasonable. Mon/Tues online instruction, Wed we will provide support services, and then Thurs/Fri remote learning. Electives and or specials can be provided per week.
 - We understand working families, so some evening sessions will be provided for. We will utilize our teachers, taking turns on being on-call for this. Working families can identify through a survey and provide us with the information we need to support them best and understand the numbers.

- Zoom offers break-out sessions for small groups and this will be utilized for support with educational assistants, special education, and students who may be struggling with a subject. Students on IEP who have particular needs have already been identified with special education teachers and they will break down information further and meet those needs.
- TSD can provide sample schedules to help parents and students understand how the day will work and what that entails. *Quality Matters Training* has been utilized for training teachers for online learning and consistency is key. A daily welcome every day and announcements are important.
- Ongoing professional development for staff will be available moving forward.
- Streamlining the remote learning management system. We learned from our experiences last quarter, and our teaching staff was complimented for all of their efforts, outside-of-the-box thinking/planning, and resourcefulness. Parents were complimented too, for stepping up to the plate. TSD has the expertise to manage our own robust online learning experience for our learners. We are building google sites...all available through our district website. This will be easy to learn and navigate and we will provide support and also consistency for students, parents, and staff. There will also be video tutorials available, a “frequently asked questions” site will also be available.
- We are preparing teachers to teach online. TSD is heavily involved in STEM, and teachers have been getting ready this summer, they are ready and learning more as we go. Mrs. Gregg has personally already provided an 8 hour PD. We will have more optional training next Monday, and the following week we have mandatory PD. Some time on Wednesdays will be utilized for PD as well.
- Special Education will look completely different than the last quarter, and lots of planning has gone into how best to do this.
- Related services clinics will take place on Wednesdays, and parents will need to assist with transportation. Some therapy will take place via tele-services. We propose that mental health services will also be provided on those days, and can take place via tele-services.
- Preschools will follow the same schedule as regular education. Preschool families will receive notifications soon.
- Food Distribution will still take place and we will continue to provide meals, but we will provide the sites and food likely in the evening utilizing the

same 12 sites we've already identified. Any child in the district can utilize any site for assistance. We used staff and SRO's to help distribute, and this was good because they know the kids...and the kids know them! Please do not forget to complete the Free & Reduced Lunch Forms.

- In addition, Director Gregg is in touch with our Butler Tech Programs, who have been collaborative and are ready to plan for those specialized programs.
 - The TSD van is still available, but we won't be transporting too much. We will be also providing some evening hours.
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- ❖ The superintendent and the Board had a discussion regarding athletics and extracurricular activities, and it was noted that these activities are optional for the students. Some may be able to be done virtually (Mock Trial is an example). Conditioning and practices could continue with non-contact if all health protocols are met. Testing for *contact sports* for COVID-19 would cost around \$35K per month and the Ohio Department of Health is requiring that (this is a concern). The TSD Board of Education voted to support the following:
 - Contact athletic activities that cannot be done virtually/online are placed on HOLD for now, to be reviewed at a later date.
 - Approved non-contact activities (must meet health guidelines and transportation will not be provided, and spectators may be limited or eliminated).
 - Conditioning & strength training may still commence (must meet health guidelines).
 - Band is meeting the requirements as prescribed by the health departments now so will not be included.
 - ❖ We may close all of our facilities to all outside agencies during COVID19 for safety purposes.
 - ❖ Mental Health Concerns? Please reach out to our staff and administrators, social workers, and counselors for support. We have some curriculum already identified to assist with this.
 - ❖ The TSD Board of Education discussed the financial impacts of COVID-19 and online learning and a possible reduction in force. The Board voted to support the administration to explore this idea in the future should it be necessary.
 - ❖ The TSD Board of Education voted to suspend Rental/Facility usage to outside organizations during COVID-19.
 - ❖ The TSD \$40 insurance fee applies K-12.
 - ❖ Possible reduction due to financial issues with SRO's, and we will not enter into a contract with OPD for this semester as the department can absorb them. In

addition we will not have a contract with the Butler County Sheriff's Department this semester as well (or as long as TSD is remote).

- ❖ Marshall LFI for the project is approved.
- ❖ Open enrollment will absolutely NOT receive transportation. This information is on the form.