



School Organizational Team Minutes
MVHS Google Meet
6/29/2020 3:30pm



SOT members in attendance: Marquessa Aikele, Louise Culler, Lindsey Dalley, Kimberly Hardy, Terry Holzer, Aimee Houghtalen, Chad Leavitt, Hal Mortensen, Geniel Ozaki, Gary Watkins.

Visitors: Lisa Cornwall, Dr. Kenna Higgins, Christie Lewis, Dr. Ronald Lustig, Duane McMinn, Matthew Messer.

- I. Call to Order by Chairman- Terry (3:40)
- II. Reading and Approval of Minutes- Motion made by Geniel, 2nd by Kim
- III. Public Comment (3 minutes)- Geniel Ozaki- Geniel suggested that we should include in our letter to the district, board members and state that Moapa Valley is different from other schools in the district. We need to remember in our planning to reopen the high school that we need to do what is best for the good of all. She listed 3 words that we need to ponder upon- gratitude, forgiveness and sacrifice. If we anchor our planning keeping these true principals in mind that we will be successful.
- IV. MVHS Fall 2020 Reopening Plan
 - A. CCSD Plan
 1. Lacks Rural component- We need to write a letter and voice our concerns.
 2. Limited in school teaching- Divide in 2 groups A and B- A attends Monday and Tuesday, B attends Thursday and Friday. Wednesday is a “deep clean” day. They recommend only 18 students per classroom. This is based on a 900 square foot classroom.
 3. Distance learning would take place on Wednesday and as needed
 4. Electives would not be offered only core classes- Students would earn a full credit in a single semester.
 - B. MVHS Fall Reopening Plan

1. Terry- CEAB met on Friday and asked that ALL SOT meet to formulate a plan for rural schools.

2. Hal- Board meeting was attended by many. It was long and a bit heated. The district put their idea out there, but Trustee Ford felt like we should explore other options. Trustee Wright disagreed. The board will meet again on July 9th to discuss further reopening plans.

CEAB encouraged all the valley schools to meet and then write letters to the board, CCSD, and the Nevada department of Education. Schools in Alamo and Lincoln county are returning to school on a modified schedule. State approved.

Hal asked Dr. Mancil if we could devise our own plan to accommodate our student population while adhering to CDC and state guidelines. The response was to submit a plan and they would review it.

Hal and Geniel met with Mack Lyon and transportation to coordinate times etc for reopening. Mike the transportation manager said precautions on the buses would include windows down, and assigned seats to assure social distancing.

We need to see if we can make the schedule fit, so all students can take the classes they want.

The teachers will have 2 weeks of instruction before school opens to students on August 24th. We also got the word that the school year will not need to be extended.

3. Kim Hardy is contacting all teachers to get their input. This will determine how they feel about face to face teaching verses distance learning and who prefers what. Some may prefer online- Some teachers have concerns about contact with students because they are caregivers for parents etc. The results from that survey are forthcoming.

4. Lindsey Dalley brought up the point that planning should be done first by teachers, not parents. He also brought up information available on American Academy of Pediatrics as a good source to use in planning. Possibly look at other creative options so that students can return to school in larger class sizes, not limited to 18. Maybe have groups of students or clubs help with the cleaning process. We might have to all pitch in to make this happen. Also, parents may decide to pull students and then that will be another funding issue resulting in losing teaching positions etc.

5. Matt Messer stated that our students are not and have not been social distancing. So maybe have the parents sign a waiver not to hold CCSD or the high school responsible if their student was to contract COVID. They are more exposed outside of the school setting than they will be in it. He knows this will be a tough year no matter what, but is willing to do whatever. He is also hearing about people pulling students out of school. We function differently out here and need to have rural representation.

6. Chad Leavitt asked about teacher contracts and their time spent if asked to do both online and face to face instruction. Also asked about sports programs. .

7. Dr. Lustig brought up the liability issue as stated from the district. That we need to have a day to deep clean. Sports are to start up on July 8th for conditioning. There will be strict limits of students at any one place. Only 9 are allowed indoors, and up to 50 in an outdoor setting. He is concerned also about our numbers dropping - may only have a few foreign exchange students, if any, and lots of families are looking at online programs or even relocating to nearby states where the restrictions are eased.

8. Lisa Cornwall said that she likes the 4 day week and prefers face to face. Online does not allow her subject matter to be taught properly. She wonders if there might be a liability about having students clean.

9. Hal reported that we have purchased an electrostatic sprayer to provide an additional level of cleaning. There is a backpack style on back order as well. But we are awaiting approval from CCSD to use it. The approved cleaning supplies we have now are very mild. We are also waiting to hear about a cleaning crew that goes from school to school to assist with the deep cleaning process.

10. Gary Watkins addressed the fact that the number of students allowed per classroom are based on 900 square feet, his classroom is bigger and should be able to accommodate more students. He suggested that we actually measure each room and include those numbers in our plan before we submit the letter to the district etc.

11. Terry Holzer stated that we need to bring up the fact that Moapa Valley has less students and far less cases of COVID and a different plan should be considered for the way our reopening will look.

12. Christie Lewis asked about the parents view and what they are concerned about.

- Terry said she thinks students miss socialization and are becoming depressed. They need to be back in school. The desire to attend school almost outweighs the health safety risk. She wondered what if we are on the CCSD plan with 2 day a week, and only working on a few classes for year long credit and then 2nd semester things go back to normal. Then what?
- Marquessa said she wants to see us utilize all our space at the high school, like the gyms, cafeteria, auditorium and library. If the 2 day meeting for students is adopted that is not OK. The last few months of the school year

were awful and not conducive to learning at all for her students. There may be a mass exodus of students to online learning programs.

- Aimee is moving to Utah, and the situation there is similar. Their high school is looking at an extended school day with 3 student rotations.
- Chad wants a 4 day school week.

V. SOT letter contents should address-

- No rural representation in place
- Outline points of our reopening plan - Classes held 4 days a week with one day for deep cleaning
- Utilize all spaces including cafeteria, library, auditorium and gymnasiums
- Passing period flow map to assure distancing
- Note recommendations from the Academy of American Pediatrics
- Student Behavior social distancing not currently taking place

The letter will be sent out to teachers and SOT for approval by Wednesday, July

1.

VI. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 5:18 pm

No upcoming meeting date set