



3497 North Ammon Road, Idaho Falls, Idaho, 83401 ♦ (208) 525-4400 ♦ Fax (208) 557-6800 ♦ www.d93schools.org

Dr. Scott Woolstenhulme, Superintendent

## Emergency Meeting

March 15, 2020

5:30 PM

District Board Room

### I. Call to Order

#### A. Emergency Meeting

Chairman Amy Landers called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. She stated that this Emergency Meeting has been called this afternoon to discuss and take action regarding the COVID-19 Coronavirus Action Plan. She also stated that there would not be any public input at this meeting. Patrons will be able to speak in public input at the April 8, 2020 Regular meeting.

### II. Roll Call

Chad Dance present  
Greg Calder present  
Paul Jenkins present  
Scott Lynch present  
Amy Landers present

Others in attendance were Superintendent Dr. Scott Woolstenhulme, Chief Financial/Operations Officer Guy Wangsgard, Executive Director of Instruction & Learning Jason Lords, Executive Director of Planning & Personnel Heath Jackson, Director of Maintenance & Operations John Pymm, Energy Education Specialist Don Trauntvein, Community Relations & Communications Phil Campbell, D93News Samantha Williams, Food Services Supervisor Heather Plain, and Board Clerk Mary Hansen.

### III. Action Items

#### A. COVID-19 Coronavirus Action Plan

##### a. Attendance Policy

Chairman Landers turned the meeting over to Dr. Scott Woolstenhulme to lead the discussion regarding the COVID-19 Coronavirus Action Plan. Dr. Woolstenhulme informed the Board a community meeting held Friday afternoon with local health leaders and hospital administrators, city administrators, other school districts, emergency response officials and Eastern Idaho Health to review the mutual responsibilities are in this crisis. District 93 and District 91 are the largest childcare providers in the city of Idaho Falls and surrounding communities. School closures would have a great impact on the healthcare and childcare in our community. Dr. Woolstenhulme believes that decisions need to be made in accordance to the other agencies as a community response and following the guidelines set by the CDC and Eastern Idaho Public Health. His recommendation is to keep schools open at this time, keeping schools clean and sanitized, encouraging frequent handwashing with students and staff, and emphasizing that students and staff remain home if they are ill. Many parents are concerned to send their students to school. As a school district, we need to be mindful of those concerns. This creates a challenge, to find a balance between supporting families and to lessen the burden on the teachers. He recommended to waive a portion of the 3050 Attendance policy for the remainder of the school year. Moving forward, the District will follow the recommendations provided by Eastern Idaho Public Health. He noted although children are asymptomatic to the virus, they can contract the virus and pass it on to others who are more susceptible. School closures could put many grandparents acting as caregivers, in harm's way. Teachers under contract are required to be at work; for those with specific circumstances can request accommodations through the American Disability Act with proper medical documentation. The district would need to take extra measures to educate students with disabilities who require special services and who choose not to attend school.

Dr. Woolstenhulme stated the concern of the burden placed on teachers when students are not in attendance. He explained how district teachers use the online platform, Google Apps for Education, utilizing Google Classroom, already in use in their classrooms. This program would allow the teachers to instruct students who do not attend school. He proposed to shorten the upcoming week for students and create teacher Professional Development days for Thursday, March 19 and Friday, March 20 for teachers to create lesson plans to be used within the Google Classroom platform. One hurdle would be petitioning the State for additional non-instructional days due to the time lost with the weather closures. The District would be contacting the State for

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approval to use these two days as professional development days. Chrome books will be available for students if necessary. If connectivity is not available for students at home, parents can contact teachers and pick up assignments from the school. His recommendation was to change the school calendar to include March 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 as professional development days for teachers and staff and as non-student days.

**MOTION:** Paul Jenkins moved to waive the 90% attendance requirement in policy 3050 Attendance for the remainder of the school year as presented. Chad Dance seconded. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Greg Calder moved to designate March 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 as professional development days for all staff. Paul Jenkins seconded. Motion carried.

Dr. Woolstenhulme stated the administration has met with the principals and for the board to plan on meeting often throughout this time. Chairman Landers expressed her appreciation to the administration for their dedication and time spent this weekend in behalf of the students and their families. Trustee Lynch requested attendance reports be sent to the Board.

IV. Adjournment

Chairman Landers adjourned the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

**MOTION:** Chad Dance moved to adjourn. Greg Calder seconded. Motion carried.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

ATTESTED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_