

Questions from the November 19, 2020 Board of Education Meeting

What will determine if and when the District will close all schools to in-person learning?

The directive from the Governor and Department of Education has been to provide in-person instruction to students. Our district began the school year in a fully remote program because we needed time to explore the reasons behind the extraordinary amount of leave requests. We have investigated and responded to those concerns and are prepared to open for in-person instruction in accordance with our Plan.

Is it true that some schools, particularly the older elementary schools, will have to leave windows open during in-person learning? If so at what temperature will those windows be closed? Have parents been notified? Has there been a study done to indicate that "air purifiers" will help reduce COVID transmissions?

The district has undergone an extensive HVAC Field Assessment which details Heat Ventilation and Air Conditioning issues, this report is posted on the website.

How often will the COVID cases dashboard be updated on the BOE website with current cases in the schools?

At the beginning of the school year, the chart was updated weekly, currently as of 12/21/20, it is updated twice a week.

Is the HVAC contact for over \$100K simply a consulting contract or does that include installation or repair of HVAC systems?

Consulting.

Is the Board charged with taking proactive steps to solicit and secure minority- and or women-owned business to provide bid as part of the various bidding processes?

No, the Board is bound by regulations for purchasing and contracts which favor the most economical bid which complies with Chapter 18A of NJ Statutes. We encourage all parties to enter into the bidding process.

It's there a legend or key to help the public understand what Fund 10, 20, etc. refer to in the financial reports?

Not at this time.

How is the return to in person classes planning to adjust to the anticipated spike of rates following the Thanksgiving holiday?

All staff and students who are attending in-person instruction are asked to fill out a form every morning which is used to determine their exposure to Covid-19. Questions include those about symptoms, travel and exposure to others who have tested positive. Persons who answer the form in a way that poses a risk of exposure to others will be excluded from the building.

What will be done if a teacher is not allowed to come to the building for in-person instruction?

Substitute teachers have been utilized to supervise students in class while their teacher provides instruction remotely.

Will the dashboard also indicate the number of students/staff who are in quarantine, or solely positive Covid-19 cases?

The dashboard is updated with the number of reported positive cases in the district. The number of individuals in quarantine is a fluid number which changes daily those who completed their quarantine return and those who are exposed to symptomatic individuals are sent home pending confirmation of a positive test.

How many students are enrolled in the SCESC program? Is the one bus provided for the program sufficient to keep students safe?

Nine students attend the SCESC program. Bus capacity and safety protocols on all district buses have been implemented in accordance with the district's Restart and Recovery Plan. SCESC also has a Restart and Recovery Plan.