

TASK FORCE MEETING

NOVEMBER 4, 2020

Dr. Mawhinney conducted the Task Force meeting on Zoom.

She commended parents, students & staff for taking the coronavirus situation seriously. We were fortunate, so far, to have a few cases but the numbers are rising.

Dr. Mawhinney & Dr. Cubelic attend weekly meetings for updates with the AIU and the Allegheny County Health Department. The Health Dept has always been available to provide support.

On the ACHD website you are able to click on individual counties to check on the status. As of now Allegheny County is in moderate range, and hybrid or remote is recommended.

Instructional Model – Students returning for 5 days is not recommended at this time.

Protecting adults as well as students is a priority.

It will take a lot of planning to start back full time when able to. Furniture and supplies will need moved back to the buildings. The Fawn building is being used to store additional items.

In order to move the large amount of furniture back to all the buildings in a feasible amount of time when needed, a moving company may be hired. The cost would be covered by the grant money.

Teacher representatives informed that the schools are following CDC recommendations of 6' apart.

Some are uncomfortable with the count increasing.

We always have the option to re-evaluate. The situation is constantly being monitored. There may be a reason to switch to full remote either because of an increase in cases of students and/or staff.

Plans need to be prepared and ready ahead of time for any change. Each building is evaluated.

There are a lack of substitute teachers to count on when needed.

Dr. Mawhinney commended the teachers for their diligent work, and for taking on additional students when they had to because of a lack of subs.

Dr. Mawhinney commended Chris Reiser & the custodial staff for the work they accomplished in removing & storing excess furniture during this time.

Plans are to send out a Parent Survey as soon as school resumes after the holiday break.

Over 100 students returned to hybrid. We've had many new enrollments.

A suggestion was made that if and/or when we resume a five-day schedule, parents would still have the option for remote-learning for their child through Highlands HVA.

After discussing the recommendation of maintaining a 6' distance, a revision was agreed upon for the Highlands Health and Safety Plan to reword the distance, stating to maintain a 6' distance when feasible, but still try to maintain a 6' distance when possible. (The 6' distance was a recommendation, not a requirement.)

THIS HAS SINCE CHANGED ACCORDING TO THE ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT. Residents must maintain at least a 6' distance from others, in accordance with the November 17, 2020 state masking order.

It was stated, from personal experience, that any decision that is made has an impact on everyone. One choice, pertaining to covid safety, can affect the entire family. One case can have a domino effect.