# Merrimack School Board Meeting Merrimack School District, SAU #26 Monday, November 16, 2020

#### 6:30 p.m. – Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3, II (a) (b) (c) Merrimack High School Conference Room

- Staff Welfare
- Negotiations

## 7:00 p.m. – Public Session

<u>**Present:**</u> Chair Guagliumi, Vice Chair Barnes, Board Members Schneider, Rothhaus, and Hardy. Also present were Superintendent McLaughlin, Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell, and Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Fabrizio.

### 1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Guagliumi called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chair Guagliumi led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 2. Public Comments

Chair Guagliumi stated public comments could be sent to <u>publiccomment@sau26.org</u> or by going to sau26.org where a meeting link was provided. She said all comments would be read and written into the record but noted the name and address of the speaker had to be provided.

Ms. Carla Monte, 101 Front Street, addressed the Board and stated she was very passionate about students participating in sports. She read aloud from a letter she had already submitted to the Board as summarized below:

Student athletes that make the roster of a Merrimack High School are prohibited from playing on any other team, including in a different sport outside of Merrimack High School. This includes MYA (Merrimack Youth Association) club teams, AAU, outside tournaments, showcases, etc. This rule is in effect for the duration of the athletic season. Failure to abide by this requirement will result in the athlete's removal from the Merrimack High School athletic team.

Ms. Monte explained she did not agree with the decision and did not understand how a public school was able to prohibit such things. She asked if families would be reimbursed for fees already paid for other team sports and organizations.

Mr. Bob Powers, 2 Edward Lane, a parent, and Director of MYA Softball, addressed the Board and said he too had a great passion for students participating in sports. He said he was present to request that the School Board reconsider the decision of the high school/middle school Athletics Department's newly implemented rule prohibiting student athletes from participating in any other outside athletics programs during the sports season.

Ms. Melanie Curren, 138 Middlesex Road, stated she was present in opposition to the decision to prohibit student athletes from participating in other outside athletics programs during the sports season.

Mr. Charlie Daddona, 58 Erik Street, stated he was also present to express opposition in the decision regarding high school/middle school athletics.

### 3. <u>Merrimack School Board Review of Winter Sports Recommendation</u>

Mr. Mike Soucy, Director of Athletics, reviewed the activity risk levels for sports as summarized below:

- Lowest Risk Performing skill-based drills or conditioning at home, alone, or with family members.
- Highest Risk Full competition between teams from different geographic regions.

He also reviewed the potential risk levels by sport as summarized below:

- Lower Risk Sports: Sports that can be done with social distancing or individually with no sharing equipment between use participants.
  - Alpine Skiing
  - Bowling
  - Swimming
  - Track & Field
- Moderate Risk Sports: Sports that involve close, sustained contact, but with
  protective equipment in place that may reduce the likelihood of respiratory partial
  transmission between participants or intermittent close contact or group sports or
  sports that use equipment that can't be cleaned between participants.
  - o Gymnastics
  - Swimming Relay Events
  - Track Relay Events
- Higher Risk Sports: Sports that involve close, sustained contact between participants. Lack of significant protective barriers, and the high probability that respiratory particles will be transmitted between participants.
  - o Basketball
  - o Ice Hockey
  - o **Spirit**
  - Wrestling

Mr. Soucy reviewed the rationale for continuing to offer high school sports in the current environment.

- Canceling high school sports would provide an opportunity for club sports to fill the void left behind.
- It would create a further divide along socio-economic lines for families within the community as club, travel, and AAU program could be costly.
- Risk would not be mitigated by canceling school sports. Kids will continue to participate in these activities outside of the school.
- Risk could increase as their participation could expand beyond our immediate region or state lines.
- Club programs are ready and eager to fill the void if school sports are canceled for the fall.

Mr. Soucy shared that his recommendation for winter sports during the 2020 – 2021 season included offering alpine skiing, basketball, bowling, gymnastics, ice hockey, indoor track & field, swimming & diving, and winter spirit (cheerleading). He said he felt they could safely mitigate some of the risk associated with all of the listed sports, although he said the risk could not be eliminated.

### Proposed Universal Protocols

Student athletes that make the roster of a Merrimack School District team are prohibited from playing on any other team (including in a different sport) outside of the Merrimack School District. This includes MYA, club teams, AAU, outside tournaments, showcases, etc. This rule is in effect for the duration of the athletic season. Failure to abide by this requirement will result in the athlete's removal from the Merrimack School District athletic team.

Mr. Soucy said a student had tested positive in the fall due to an outside club sport exposure resulting in the shutdown of an entire program and required all kids affected to be quarantined for two weeks. He also said Merrimack was lucky to be in a good place with COVID presently but the data showed that the cases were rising. Mr. Soucy said one of the challenges of winter sports was that they occurred indoors and relied on outside vendors for the students to participate in the sports (i.e. bowling alleys, mountains to ski, swimming pools, etc.)

### Proposed Additional Universal Protocols (Summarized)

• Each athlete will complete a pre-screening process including a temperature check, prior to participation in any workout, practice, competition, or team activity. A daily log of attendance and all screenings and temperatures will be maintained by the Athletic Department.

- Athletes must have their own transportation and arrive no more than 15 minutes prior to the start of any activity.
- All coaches and athletes are required to arrive with a face covering (mask) and wear it during all transitional periods when physical distancing cannot be maintained. Face coverings do not need to be worn during training or competition unless required by the State or NHIAA.
  - Failure to abide by this policy will result in a verbal warning, and a second violation would result in a suspension of the coach/athlete from the activity.
- All shared equipment and frequently touched surfaces will be cleansed and disinfected at the conclusion of all athletic sessions. Adequate cleaning schedules will be developed, in coordination with the custodial or venue staff, and implemented for all teams to mitigate any communicable diseases.
- Locker rooms will be **CLOSED** to all athletes except immediately after school to change for practice. Athletes learning remotely must arrive at practice dressed and ready for each training session.

## Proposed Scheduling Protocols

• Schedules for all sports will be developed in a regional format as much as possible.

# Proposed Home Game Protocols (Summarized)

- Locker rooms **CLOSED**.
- Fans will be limited to immediate family members only. (Limited to 0 3 depending on the size of the venue)
- Away fans will not be allowed at this time at Merrimack athletic events.
- Fans are asked to remain at least 6-feet away from anyone else in attendance unless residing in the same household.
- Visiting teams will conduct screening including temperature checks prior to leaving their facility. Anyone arriving at a Merrimack High School event must have been cleared by their home school and will have no access to the locker rooms and, therefore, must arrive dressed and ready for competition.
- All visiting athletes are required to have face coverings and must be worn during all transition movements while on-campus.

Mr. Soucy said he recommended basketball be allowed, however, the athletes needed to wear masks at all times, even while playing. He added the mask policy would be consistent with all Division I schools.

Mr. Soucy also said he recommended allowing the athletes to play hockey as it was felt they could make the environment safer by closing the locker rooms. He added that they had already purchased masks that could be worn during play.

Additionally, Mr. Soucy recommended allowing cheer as they had a very successful fall season. He said competitions had to be completed virtually or in a way that did not expose the athletes to multiple teams in one venue.

Mr. Soucy said he would like to allow access to Cheer Gym once per week. He added the gym was treated with Nano-Shield, which was EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) registered and an antimicrobial cleaner, the mats were sprayed down at the end of each day with hospital-grade disinfectants and hard surfaces were wiped down with bleach frequently during the course of each day. He said masks would be worn by staff and athletes at all times.

In conclusion, Mr. Soucy said he did not recommend the sport of wrestling during the winter 2020 – 2021 season. He said there were not enough reasonable safety protocols they could put in place to mitigate the risk. Mr. Soucy added he would support the continuation of training sessions that did not include full contact with a reduced number of athletes during a particular session.

Board Member Hardy said she appreciated Mr. Soucy's hard work. She explained some people were confused as to why some students might play soccer in Merrimack and be involved in a theater group or a choir outside of Merrimack and that would be okay but if that same student wanted to join a choir and play soccer outside of Merrimack, that would not be okay. She suggested having parents sign some sort of a COVID contract that indicated parents would follow certain rules if their child played sports out of the Merrimack School District.

Board Member Rothhaus commented that the NHIAA (New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association) had stated there were no COVID-19 cases that were contracted from athlete to athlete. Mr. Soucy replied there were no on-field or on-court transmission. She added one of the things she heard from parents was their concern regarding mental health and for those athletes who were talented enough and looking to get a scholarship from a Division I or II college and needed to set-up showcases.

Vice Chair Barnes asked if the mask policy would be enforced with the coaches. Mr. Soucy replied it would be strictly enforced.

Board Member Schneider commented that he agreed with the idea of having parents sign off and state that they would act as the advocate for their child in terms of safety. He said he felt it was important to have the parents on-board.

Chair Guagliumi commented that she agreed with everything that Mr. Soucy presented to the School Board except for the proposed protocol. She said first and foremost she was not sure that it would even help with the transmission of COVID-19. She also said she felt it overreached into people's personal lives.

Board Member Rothhaus moved (seconded by Board Member Hardy) to accept Mr. Soucy's recommendations excluding the universal protocols regarding student athletes playing for other teams.

Board Member Schneider wanted to confirm that wrestling would not be offered and although the intent was to offer the remaining sports, some may not occur simply because there was not an appropriate venue.

### The motion passed 5 - 0 - 0.

# 4. Discussion Concerning Opportunities and Limitations Regarding Scheduling: <u>High School Focus</u>

Superintendent McLaughlin said there had been some previous comments regarding differences in the experiences of students at the high school as it related to remote and hybrid learning.

Ms. Sharon Putney, Principal, Merrimack High School addressed the Board and stated there were a lot of moving parts when designing a high school schedule.

Mr. Rich Zampieri, Assistant Principal, Merrimack High School addressed the Board and said the District had tried to plan for the future of the current school year the previous June. He said there was a task force set up to discuss scheduling for the high school and their charge was to keep safety in mind for both the students and the staff which is why they recommended a hybrid model – some learning in the building and some learning remotely. He said they built the schedule based on the student choices and had to provide three options: a schedule that allowed for a hybrid model, a model that could change to an all-in back in the building, and a fully remote model.

Mr. Zampieri said they considered three models with the first being the eight period per day schedule and explained the feedback received in the spring had indicated that it was difficult for students to do the work remotely for five to seven classes per day so one of the remedies of that was to switch to a hybrid model where they reduced the schedule to three to four classes. He said they wanted to reduce the amount of passing times on any given day to reduce the crowded hallways and to maintain some of the safety measures that were put in place.

Additionally, Mr. Zampieri said another schedule was the  $4 \times 4$  hybrid schedule which meant the student would have only three or four classes in a semester and then go to other content areas for the second semester. He said after much discussion they decided not to go in that direction.

Mr. Zampieri commented that they settled on using the modified eight period day hybrid schedule that was the one currently being used. He said the downside to that model was the teachers only met with the students once per week but it did address the safety issues and felt they could get the complete curriculum in as best they could in terms of drilling down to the most important parts to be delivered in-person and the remainder remotely.

Mr. Zampieri pointed out that one of the critical components for the teachers that went remote was what certifications they had. He said, for instance, a life science teacher could only teach life science classes. He said the decisions regarding which classes to run were always based on if it would help the study continue on their path to graduation.

Ms. Putney said in addition to providing those classes that they were able to offer remote students they were also able to offer VLACS (Virtual Learning Academy Charter School) courses, VHS (Virtual High School) courses, and American School courses.

Ms. Putney said there had been some challenges and they were still in the process of migrating to Canvas. She said an additional challenge was trying to figure out how to support the increase in students who were typically participating in a hybrid model but who had to quarantine. She also mentioned they had some technology issues but they were being addressed.

Ms. Putney said where needed students were being taught executive functioning skills and received resources and tools through each of their homeroom teachers and it would remain on-going over the next few months. She added they were offering tutoring services in math, providing links via zoom for students who needed additional help in a certain subject, and remote teachers were available to assist students.

Ms. Putney shared that they had received over sixty requests from students who were interested in changing cohorts including requests to go from hybrid to fully remote. She said those changes would require a new set of courses and teachers. She added that most students and parents were opting to have the students stay in the hybrid model but be at home getting the necessary supports until they feel comfortable coming back into the building.

Ms. Putney said they were also seeing some students who were remote that wanted to come back into the building for hybrid.

Mr. Peter Bergeron, Assistant Principal, Merrimack High School, addressed the Board and said the pre-enrollment process would begin in February and would include the incoming freshman class of 2025. He said future opportunities could include students being able to access classes remotely in the actual classroom, 1:1 devices for students, and additional staffing to ensure that most classes were offered remotely.

Board Member Rothhaus suggested it might be a good idea to pay teacher's a stipend if they would teach an additional class.

Board Member Schneider asked if there was any work being done to better prepare for remote students. Ms. Putney replied most of the students who were remote would remain remote for the entire school year and said she thought there was a better sense of what some additional options were.

### 5. <u>2019 – 2020 Budget Year in Review</u>

Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell reviewed the 2019 – 2020 Budget. He summarized and highlighted that there was a surplus in all line items resulting in an under expenditure directly driven by COVID of \$2,045,644.69.

Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell said the previous year started off with a fund balance of \$32,319.11 and the fund balance for 2018 – 2019 fund balance was \$50,824.58.

Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell stated that the entire \$4,456,390.89 surplus went in its entirety to reduce the December tax bill. He said the school portion of the tax rate had gone down to .39 cents per thousand.

### 6. <u>Summary of Funding Sources Outside Current or Proposed District Budget</u>

Superintendent McLaughlin said they were in receipt of money from the CARES Act for COVID related expenses and they did use it. He said, however, that the state would be releasing additional money at a rate of approximately \$200 per student. He said Merrimack would receive an additional \$700,000 plus but that it not only needed to be expended but anything purchased needed to be in place by December 30, 2020. He said they were hopeful that the money could be put towards technology.

Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell explained they also received \$392,000 which had been used in part to pay for the Transitional Taskforce, technology, and PPE (personal protection equipment) which included the portable sinks, hand sanitizers, masks, etc.

Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell said he did not feel it made sense to get the additional \$700,000 and then have a deadline of December 30, 2020, in which to spend it.

Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Fabrizio said that he and Ms. Nancy Rose, Director of Technology and Library Media Services oversaw the Title IV, Part A grant which focused on the student supports and academic enrichment programs. He said the three major criteria for the grant was to provide students with a well-rounded education, improve student conditions for learning, and improve the use of technology in order to improve academic achievement and digital literacy for all students.

Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Fabrizio said some recent purchases from the grant included Chromebooks, laptops for specialized drafting class at the high school, and library resources to support all learners.

Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Fabrizio said another grant that he and Ms. Rose oversaw was Title II A and the funds from that grant were used for supplemental activities that strengthened professional growth. He said the three major criteria that needed to be followed for the grant was to increase student achievement and state standards, improve the professional growth and effectiveness of teachers, principals, and school leaders, and improving effective educators, and principal's current practices in the use of technology.

Superintendent McLaughlin pointed out that all of the grants had been reduced over the course of his 11-year tenure.

### 7. <u>Procedural Safeguards: Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Disability (ACE)</u>

Superintendent McLaughlin read aloud from the above policy as follows:

The District provides the following Notice of Procedural Safeguards to parents/guardians, and disabled persons, as required by 34 Code of Federal Regulations Sections 104.7, 104.8, 104.22 (4) (f), and 104.36 of the Regulations Implementing Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

The District does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities.

The District provides a grievance procedure with appropriate due process rights. The Superintendent is the designated employee, charged with coordinating efforts to comply with Section 504. The

parent/guardian of disabled students or any disabled person may use the grievance procedure established by the Board.

#### Grievance Procedures:

Parents/guardians of a student with a disability have the right to notify the above-designated employee with a complaint. Additionally, any disabled individual also has the right to notify the above-designated employee with their complaint.

The designated employee will provide an initial response within ten (10) days of receipt of the complaint. The parties will attempt to work out their differences informally in a prompt and equitable manner. A written record of the resolution shall be made within ten (10) working days of completion. Both parties will receive a copy of the written record. Additionally, the Superintendent will keep a copy on file.

If the issue is not resolved after the informal resolution process, the complainant may: (a) request that the Board places this matter on its agenda; or (b) notify the Superintendent of the complaint. The Superintendent will notify the Board if he/she receives such a complaint.

If the Board schedules the matter for a hearing, the complainant may be represented by any person the complainant chooses, including legal counsel. The complainant may present information through documents and other evidence and witnesses and may examine witnesses presented by the School District.

Within ten (10) working days of either of the above options, a written record shall be made of the decision. Both parties will receive a copy of the written record. Additionally, the Superintendent will keep a copy on file.

### Procedural Safeguards:

As required by 34 Code of Federal Regulations Section 104.36, parents/guardians of a student who needs or is believed to need special instruction and related services have the right, with respect to any action regarding identification, evaluation, and placement to:

- 1. Notice of referral/identification, evaluation, and placement process, with appropriate consent form.
- 2. Examine all relevant records.
- 3. At an impartial hearing, at any time, with respect to any actions regarding identification, evaluation, or placement of persons who need or are believed to need special education and related services, an opportunity for participation by the parent/guardian and representation of counsel as provided under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
- 4. A review process.

### Legal References:

34 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 104, Non-discrimination on the Basis of Handicap Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

1st Reading:July 16, 20072nd Reading:August 13, 20073rd Reading:September 17, 2007Adoption:October 1, 2007Revised:December 7, 2009 & April 6, 2009Reviewed:November 16, 2020

### 8. Approval of Minutes

• October 5, 2020 - Non–Public Minutes

Board Member Schneider moved (seconded by Vice Chair Barnes) to approve the October 5, 2020, non-public minutes as presented.

**The motion passed 4 – 0 – 1.** (Abstained – Board Member Rothhaus)

• October 19, 2020 – Public Minutes

Vice Chair Barnes moved (seconded by Board Member Schneider) to approve the October 19, 2020, public minutes as presented.

#### The motion passed 5 - 0 - 0.

• October 28, 2020 – Public Minutes

Vice Chair Barnes moved (seconded by Board Member Schneider) to approve the October 28, 2020, public minutes as presented.

#### The motion passed 5 - 0 - 0.

• November 2, 2020 – Public Minutes (Special Meeting)

Vice Chair Barnes moved (seconded by Board Member Schneider) to approve the November 2, 2020, public minutes as presented.

#### The motion passed 5 - 0 - 0.

#### 9. Consent Agenda

**Educator Nomination** 

• Ms. Melissa Delay, Special Education Teacher, Merrimack Middle School

Approval of Policy

• School Volunteer Policy (IJOC)

Board Member Schneider made a motion (seconded by Vice Chair Barnes) to accept the Consent Agenda as presented.

#### The motion passed 5 - 0 - 0.

#### 10. <u>Other</u>

Correspondence

Chair Guagliumi stated that the Board had received several pieces of correspondence specifically regarding the topic that was discussed and vetted regarding the opposition of the proposed protocol regarding sports.

Chair Guagliumi also said the Board received a communication from a parent who had concerns regarding some of the challenges her family was facing. She said she would direct the school principals to address her concerns.

Vice Chair Barnes said she had a communication from a constituent regarding something she saw on WMUR. Vice Chair Barnes said she let the constituent know what the Board's policy was regarding the questions.

• Comments

There were no comments to report.

#### 11. New Business

Superintendent McLaughlin shared that the District might need to move to the purple category regarding COVID-19. He said it largely had to do with events that were happening outside of Merrimack.

Board Member Hardy asked if the School Board could receive an updated number of COVID-19 cases from each school. Superintendent McLaughlin replied he would do that.

#### 12. <u>Committee Reports</u>

Vice Chair Barnes commented that the Professional Development Committee had met on the November 12<sup>th</sup> and they reviewed re-certification planning. She added that the high school, the upper elementary school, and Thorntons Ferry Elementary School submitted special project proposals.

#### 13. Public Comments on Agenda Items

Vice Chair Barnes read aloud from three e-mails received earlier in the evening as summarized below:

#### Mr. Zach Medlock, 34 Fairway Drive

Let me preface by saying that I am a nationally certified athletic administrator, have served as an athletic director in New Hampshire and Alaska, am an adjunct instructor of sports management, and am currently a building level administrator. In all of these roles, I would never put forth this type of

mandate to my students. "2020 – 2021" Student athletes who make the roster of a Merrimack High School team are prohibited from playing on any other team, including a different sport outside of the Merrimack High School, this includes MYA, club teams, AAU, outside tournaments, showcases, etc. This rule is in effect for the duration of the athletic season and failure to abide by this requirement will result in the athlete's removal from the Merrimack High School athletic team."

I am also the father of two current high school students who have been given new rules for participation beyond the scope of NHIAA and COVID mitigation a month before the start of the winter season. People plan their lives based on a set of rules. COVID has certainly changed that but this policy, for the unaware athlete, places them in an unenviable position of having to make a decision about how to spend their time out of school. NHIAA policy limits the role that non-school organizations have in the lives of our athletes. I would never allow my children to break those rules. The priority during the season must be given to the high school team. When this was brought to my attention by my wife I was dumbfounded. It's a bad policy in both the time of COVID and other times. It lacks transparency and rationale. I would never support such an edict in my athletic department but if I was forced I would make sure that people knew it was manifesting in a timely manner and not shortly before the start of the season. Schools are about kids and this does not support kids. Thank you for all that you.

### Mr. Mark Roy, 12 Mountain View Drive

I would like to offer my opinion on the latest knee-jerk reaction to the COVID-19 situation regarding participation in outside athletics. These kids have been impacted in ways that most of us will never understand. Last year we didn't have a graduation and spring sports were canceled altogether. This year we have a hybrid school motion that is working but not what we would all like for our developing teams. Now you are looking to limit their opportunities or better yet, force them to choose between school athletics and their potential growth by developing their craft through outside participation. I'm sorry but this is a myopic and flawed approach to a problem that will not have any great effect on any potential outcome. For example, right off the bat, the statement that athletes who make the roster; I'm not sure how long it's been since any of you have had children in the high school but the reality is we already know who is going to make the rosters. This isn't rocket science beyond academic or other disciplinary issues, the rosters from last year contain return players and will virtually remain the same. Given the flawed statement above, an athlete can participate all they want in outside athletics up to the rosters are posted so in essence they can attend tryouts, all-season workouts, and captains practices all the way up to the rosters being posted – flawed. You can see this isn't going to work and will be a paper rule that has been instituted by people who think that they represent the best interest of the taxpaying parents and student athletes. I guess the part that worries me most is what's next? Play an outside sport and you can't go to school or better yet, if you have contact with anyone outside of Merrimack, New Hampshire you can't go to school. Let's take a deep breath and not try to limit our children any more than what is absolutely needed and err on the side of allowing our children to continue some normalcy.

### Mr. Charles & Mrs. Maura Daddona, 58 Erik Street

I am writing in response to a new policy just instituted at Merrimack High School regarding the prohibition of student athlete concurrent participation on the club travel team and the MHS team. This policy is unacceptable under any circumstances for a variety of reasons. Financial commitments – many families have already paid for club team participation in full and cannot receive a refund for this reason. If you are going to institute this rule there should have been ample notice to avoid a financial loss. College placement – many student athletes are preparing to be collegiate athletes and need to play on additional teams to gain the necessary skill and playing time in their sport to compete at the

college level. Denying them the opportunity to play for their school and a club team places them at a disadvantage in their recruiting process. Emotional distress - The student athlete has already suffered from the COVID pandemic as sports seasons have been cut short or canceled which has been painful for them. You are forcing students to make a very difficult choice that adds to their misery. Gross overreach - A student athlete's participation on a club travel team or travel team is not within the purview of the Merrimack High School. If students have a conflict they take it up with the coach and should provide preference to their school team but guite frankly, I am appalled that you or the school think you even have the right to do this in the first place. It is a gross overreach of your position to place this unfair restriction on these athletes. Club programs keep kids engaged and physically fit. The fact that you would prohibit that is extremely short-sighted. Unfair application of policy - if you apply this type of policy to student athletes you are going to create a policy for students who work and participate in and out of school clubs, congregate in large groups outside of schools, or volunteer in the community. They all have an increased risk for COVID infection. Where does this end? If the school has a mask mandate and social distancing I am unsure how this helps the situation and seems incredibly punitive to the student athletes. Given this terrible choice, my kids will not participate in MHS sports and pursue club sports more aggressively. I am formally requesting that this be read at the upcoming School Board meeting tomorrow night.

At approximately 10:30 p.m. Board Member Schneider moved (seconded by Board Member Rothhaus) to adjourn.

## The motion passed 5 - 0 - 0.