The mission of the Inspire School of Arts and Sciences is to provide high levels of learning and support within a personalized environment that allows students to explore their interests and develop their talents.

Board Meeting Norms

1. We collectively own problems and we collectively solve them.
2. We respect time guidelines and strive to watch our own "air time."
3. We commit to hearing all voices and we value the ideas, experiences, and perspectives of all stakeholders.
4. We assume good intentions and we are polite, even when we disagree.
5. We come prepared for discussion—we do our homework.
6. We value feedback that is supported with evidence.
7. We speak up when we do not feel good about a decision before that decision is made.

MINUTES

Open Session:
1. Call to Order 7:08 pm
2. Roll call of members – Eric Nilsson, Cam Bull, Brian Boyer, Joni Dunlap and Pat Macias were present.
3. Public Comment

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:
This time is for members of the public to offer comments on agenda items or non-agenda items. For agenda items, members of the public will be allowed up to three (3) minutes per presentation not to exceed twenty (20) minutes in total and for non-agenda items: no individual presentation shall be for more than three (3) minutes and the total time for this purpose shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes. Ordinarily, Board members will not respond to presentations and no action can be taken. However, the Board may give direction to staff following a presentation.

1. Discussion/Action Items

9.1 Discussion/Action Consider Approval of Revised School Reopening Plan, 2020-21  7:15 pm

Becky Brown summarized the reopening plan. We will continue with distance learning through Per. 3 and 4. In-person learning would begin Jan. 19, 2021. Teacher training days would be Jan. 12 -15th. We decided to implement hybrid learning, instead of Edgenuity on Jan. 19, 2021.

Becky Brown wanted to clarify from the board meeting docs shared before this meeting, she stated there would be “mandated staff testing” however that is incorrect. She would remove the word “mandated” and replace it with “recommended” staff testing.

Becky Brown shared that distance learning has been stressful to teachers. Hybrid learning is as well. The feeling from teachers is that Edgenuity is terrible, and not the Inspire way.

Cam Bull shared a problem that surfaced with Butte’s hybrid is when the students participating in the hybrid don’t come to class in-person because they can stay home if they are sick. It can easily be abused. A few attendance issues may come up. It can get tricky, because you don’t want sick kids on campus.

Joni Dunlap said it would be nice to have the wisdom from the teachers doing hybrid early on. A check in with the board at each board meeting up to Jan. would be great. Also, we may need to invest in additional staff to assist teachers with the hybrid: paraprofessionals, student teachers, aids, etc. Someone to run chat for teachers. Cam Bull agreed and said there are two aids and a teacher in each zoom for Butte’s hybrid.

Eric Nilsson asked Joni Dunlap about teacher movement and if there are ways for the camera to follow the teacher. This way the students zooming can see the teacher moving about the classroom. She said there is technology to address this issue, but due to COVID we are restricted with teacher movement.

Brian Boyer said he feels the plan is solid, but we need to acknowledge that the more we interact there is a risk for getting sick. He wondered what the plan would be when someone gets sick. Becky Brown said Butte County Public Health has put out a detailed flow chart showing what to do if a student or staff gets sick. It is a crystal clear step by step guide.

Brian Boyer asked what happens if we go back to in-person learning, and then our county goes back into the purple tier. Becky Brown said we can stay open, but if that were to happen, she would like to go back to the board to ask for their input.

Eric Nilsson asked for hybrid clarification. Becky Brown said she had a meeting with five teachers that are willing to take on a pilot hybrid. It could be a possible M/W and Tues./Thurs. cohort of five students. Priority would be given to SPED students and students with tech issues. It would be up to the teacher to identify those students. All students and teachers would sign an agreement stating an
understanding of our new safety protocols. Teachers would take students through a plan of understanding of our new practices.

The hybrid pilot classes will happen between now and January. Pat Macias asked when we may start hybrid. Becky Brown said approximately in the middle of Per. 3, two weeks from today. We would do a slow hybrid rollout: Spanish, band, dance, English chemistry, and creative writing. We could say for Per. 4, we encourage one teacher from each department to try a hybrid class. Families can opt in or out of the hybrid blocks for in person Jan. 19th. Cam Bull asked if we had set pick up and drop off times. Becky Brown said yes there are certain times for this.

Becky Brown shared that teachers are already planning CIF in person. Debbie Travers is planning an outing to clean up the park. Student government had a few ideas for some activities. They would like to get together to plan activities for the rest of the year. However, there would be potential for possible cross mingling of students.

Jarrah Myles said it is tricky, the students want to be in person. But the groups/clubs want to meet in person. Students are burned out with distance learning. The kids are putting pressure on us. They are desperate to be in person.

Joni Dunlap said at the parent meeting it seemed like the parents were positive with being able to opt in or out. She feels that the clubs interacting might cause concern for parents.

Becky Brown said parents feel good about the 1x8 schedule. If we decide we cannot open it up to clubs we need to be clear about our decision. Joni Dunlap said maybe the clubs can be a separate cohort from the hybrid cohort. With flu season coming on, we might be able to try it.

Becky Brown shared it could be hard to do. Someone has to monitor who is in the different cohorts. She said there may be overlap with clubs, with this soft opening there may be cross contamination. Jarrah Myles suggested maybe the kids participate in 1 or 2 clubs in person. Then do some others via distance learning.

Eric Nilsson said the surveys were helpful. He is wondering about the 10-15% that felt unsuccessful with the 1x8 plan. Becky Brown said from the comments they stated there were home situations which made it hard to focus, tech issues, and difficulties juggling the different tech teachers are using.

The surveys will help teachers identify which kids to bring on campus. Eric Nilsson said Catherine Sullivan's email brought up concerns with classes such as singing, dancing etc. and students being able to continue on throughout the year. Jarrah Myles said she finds the kids that are active in the arts, do so on their own time also. She is trying to match kids up with a sponsorship to be able to continue outside class throughout the year. Cam Bull said her daughter took Spanish with our 1x8, but feels if she doesn't do a club she may not retain it.

Kate McCarthy joined at 8:00 pm., and Eric Nilsson had to leave the meeting at that time.

Kate McCarthy asked how we will know if the pilot is successful. Becky Brown said we could ask students to take a survey. We can also see how attendance is affected. Kate McCarthy asked what the
school is after/looking for. Brian Boyer said we are trying to provide assurances to parents and students. Can we be safe? Joni Dunlap said the pilot allows us to see how the return will work on a small scale, before we return on Jan. 19th. Becky Brown shared we cannot control everything, even though we may want to. We need to be clear to parents that we are doing everything we can to be safe, but we cannot control everything.

Cam Bull motioned to adopt the revised plan to be implemented as a pilot and official on Jan. 19. Joni Dunlap seconded it. Ayes: Pat Macias, Brian Boyer, Joni Dunlap, Cam Bull, and Kate McCarthy. It passed unanimously.

1. **Announcements**

1. **Adjournment 8:08 p.m.**