



Larry B. Hammond, Superintendent
Board Report
June 16, 2020

Currently, our primary concern is approval of a school calendar for the 2020 – 2021 school year. With this approval, district and school administrators will continue evaluating information from the CDC, the governor's office and the local health department as we approach July. Individual administrators will continue virtual meetings in their respective groups, to include food service, transportation, finance, the Commissioner, superintendent groups as well as DPPs. It appears new information with specific guidance is not forthcoming in the immediate future. I believe it is a fair statement that none is anticipated based on recent guidance received from various meetings. Yesterday's program with Governor Beshear and Lieutenant Governor Coleman was a disappointment after being publicized as the sharing of reopening information. No new information was shared. She referenced the task force working on the issue and the anticipation of future guidance. I suppose the conclusion is for each school district to evaluate the variables to include individual peculiarities with the intent of developing an individual plan for the district.

We plan to publicize the start date approved at today's meeting and work in preparation as though the year will begin as normal. By mid-July, we intend to develop a plan to share with you (the Board) for approval/endorsement and consequently share the details with the public in a similar fashion as the re-opening of athletics plan. Evaluation will be made regarding the possibility of instruction being in person, remote or blended. The issues of cleanliness/disinfecting practices, transportation and food service will be evaluated in conjunction with instructional plans. It would be very helpful if the folks at KDE and the governor's office would address issues with funding. We realize some students are likely to not be in attendance on a daily basis. This topic has been touched upon, but no details have been set in concrete. Based on participation in the Commissioner's webcast today, it appears as though districts will be reimbursed for additional cost by FEMA. This will require detailed record keeping practices and will not occur for quite some time.

Staff will be expected to return to onsite work locations at the beginning of July. Telecommuting will be minimized while evaluating the entire system needs and balancing with individual considerations. Every effort will be made to address the various scenarios and set the appropriate example for social distancing and the wearing of masks. Enhanced efforts to practice disinfecting high traffic areas will be the expectation with the anticipation of our efforts becoming the new norm, at least for a while. We must also set the example for the community and students by wearing masks. Although we will be making plans as though the year will progress without a hitch, tentative plans must also be incorporated for the intermittent closures (which could vary from short to quite lengthy) that are likely to occur with the return of the virus throughout the year.

Discussion will continue throughout the year regarding amendments to the calendar you approve today as well as considerations of KRS 158.070 and the impact on students and staff.