

## Intergenerational Schools Board of Directors Special Meeting

Held Jointly with TIS, LIS & NWIS

Thursday, January 7, 2021

Zoom



THE  
Intergenerational  
SCHOOLS

A COMMUNITY OF LIFELONG LEARNERS

Board Attendance:	TIS	NWIS	LIS
Sarah Trimble	Present	Present	Present
Erika Adlakha	Present	Present	Present
Lynn Carpenter	Present	Present	Present
Tiffany Brazelton	Present	Present	Present
Stacy Miller	Absent	Absent	Absent
Bob Nicolay	Present	Present	Present
Mark Olson	Present	Present	Present
Mark Charvat		Present	
Jonathan Holody			Present
Lee Trotter	Present		
Molly Wimbiscus		Present	
	7/8	8/9	7/8

Staff:	Organization
Brooke King	Executive Director, IGS
Molly Toussant	Director of Education, IGS
Sarah Alonso	Director of Network Operations, IGS
Amy Cascio	Project Manager, IGS
Rachel Hanni	Director of Operations, LIS
Matt Cox	Director of Operations, TIS
Andres Perez-Charneco	Director of Operations, NWIS
Silvia Kruger	Principal, TIS
April Maimone	Principal, NWIS
Shawn Hallowell	Principal, LIS
Somadina John	Assistant Principal, TIS
Kristin Miracle	Assistant Principal, LIS
Nancy Szilagyi	Assistant Principal, NWIS
<b>Guests:</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Dr. Jeff Jaroscak	ESCLEW, TIS Sponsor
Matt Rado	CMSD, NWIS & LIS Sponsor
Nichole Collins	Intergenerational Cleveland
Dr. Maier	Metro Health Medical Center
Doug Mangen	Mangen & Associates

Meeting was officially called to order at 8:02am by Sarah Trimble, Board Chair.

### Board Action

Trimble/King

Ms. King reviewed the Remote Learning Plan Amendments that were approved at the regular board meeting on December 8, 2020.

**Amendment 3:** From this date forward, the School will follow Cuyahoga County Board of Health recommendations for K-12 remote learning when issued.

**Amendment 4:** In mid-January, if community cases plateau or decline, the Board will consider some form of re-opening during the State's Public Health Assessment Level Red, beginning and not sooner than January 19, 2021. This will require a Special Board Meeting in early January, 2021 assess the status of community spread in Cuyahoga County.

Ms. King then presented the Principals' proposed exceptions to the current plan for each of the three schools.

- Near West would like to offer only 4-day in person learning or fully remote learning, eliminating the 2-day hybrid option. This is estimated to lead to one classroom having less than 6ft distance (class would

have a 5ft distance) between students and staff. Final parent selection will determine the actual numbers and distancing.

- TIS-East would like to change the minimum of 6ft distance to a minimum of 4ft distance between students for 4 of their classrooms. This is due to parent demand for in person learning.
- Lakeshore would like to phase in their student population instead of having everyone back on January 19, 2021. The teachers would return to the building the week of January 18<sup>th</sup>. Special Education students, students with attendance issues, students experiencing homelessness, and Emerging Stage students would return the week of January 25<sup>th</sup>. All in person students will be back in the building the week of February 1<sup>st</sup>. As well, all students will either be hybrid or remote.

Ms. Trimble was curious as to why Near West would eliminate the hybrid option for families. Ms. Maimone, Near West Principal, stated that a number of families only selected the hybrid option because they did not want to take a space away from a family that needed four days. The decision was made to offer the four-day option to all. Offering four days to families is also easier on the teachers when it comes to planning. Ms. Maimone was seeking approval for this change, after which she would gauge family response.

Mr. Nicolay stated that it seems Lakeshore teachers have a greater concern about being back in the building and wondered if it was due to safety concerns. Also, can Lakeshore also go to four days for families like Near West. Mr. Hallowell, Lakeshore Principal, stated that they are choosing to phase students in so the teachers have time to be sure they know what they are doing when all students are in the building. Lakeshore cannot do fully four-day (no 2-day) option because their classrooms are smaller than Near West's, however, they may want to amend the minimum spacing requirement as they resurvey families for their in person choice.

Dr. Wimbiscus thanked the Principals for their thoughtful response and appreciates they are not following a blanket approach. She supports the plan at Near West and believes the goal should be to have the students back 5 days a week. She asked if the Wednesday cleaning day is still needed since there will not be a changing of student's mid-week. Ms. King explained that yes, the Wednesday cleaning is still needed and it is considered a half instructional/make-up day for students, and a half day for professional development and planning for staff.

Mr. Holody stated that the Cuyahoga County Board of Health Stay at Home advisory is not an order and he believes that we should not interpret it as such, and schools should be open. He firmly believes that all three school should be open 5 days per week for all students as soon as possible.

Dr. Maier clarified that it is an administrative decision on the spacing of students in the classroom, however when students are spaced closer together **the quarantining responses are different**. She advocated for the most amount of spacing possible for the students in the classroom, but also advised that students could safely sit less than 6 feet apart as long as all other protocols are strictly followed, and that many schools have had less than 6 feet of spacing and no transmission due to the other measures in place. She explained that this is a 'swiss cheese' approach, and that although no measure is 100% fail proof (has holes), when multiple measures are combined, it creates a more effective overall plan to prevent transmission.

Ms. Brazelton wanted clarification on the message that went out to parents at TIS-East proposing that in person school end at 1:30pm. Ms. Kruger explained that this was a proposal to move specials to online at the end of the day, however, families were not in favor of the initial inquiry, so the times will remain as they currently are.

Ms. Carpenter asked if the schools had any information how private and parochial schools are operating when staff become ill. Dr. Maier stated that the schools will have cases, and will need different quarantine protocols for each classroom based on the spacing in each.

**Motion to approve the proposed exceptions to the Remote Learning Plan:**

- **Near West is authorized to offer 4-day and remote only.**
- **Lakeshore will phase in its opening over a period of 2 weeks.**
- **All three schools are authorized to reduce minimum spacing within classrooms to no less than 4 feet, with all efforts focused on increasing spacing toward the 6 feet goal wherever possible.**

Motion: Molly Wimbiscus (NWIS) & Bob Nicolay (LIS & TIS);

Seconded by: Lee Trotter (TIS) & Tiffany Brazelton (LIS & NWIS)

**Motion passes unanimously for NWIS**

**5 to 1 for LIS, Jonathan Holody opposed.**

**5 to 1 for TIS, Lee Trotter opposed.**

Mr. Olson had to leave the meeting prior to the vote, but did express that he supports a minimum of 6ft distancing in all classrooms and any spacing below that could open the schools up to unnecessary liability.

Dr. Wimbiscus asked if the schools had considered having in-person families sign waivers. Multiple members discussed the need for consulting with the insurance company to better understand any coverage related to COVID. Mr. Charvat stated that we need to be prepared and covered. Ms. King stated that the Administration will speak with the insurance company and our attorneys regarding waivers and exact coverage and will send out the findings to the Board members. Ms. Adlakha strongly encourages the use of waivers for all in-person students.

Ms. King stated that we will need to have another special meeting the week of January 11, 2021 to discuss student waivers and any additional exceptions to the Remote Learning Plan.

**Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 9:19am

**Trimble**

Next Regular Board Meeting Scheduled

**Wednesday February 24, 2021**

**The Intergenerational School**

***There will be a special board meeting scheduled the week of January 11, 2021***

Minutes prepared by Sarah Alonso, Director of Network Operations:

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Signed by Lynn Carpenter, Vice Chair:

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*Lynn Carpenter*

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