

Re-Opening Committee Meeting Minutes 8/6/21

Next Meeting 8/12/21

Date of Meeting: Friday, August 6, 2021

A review of the most recent guidelines, rates of cases, and other information shared from the Putnam County Department of Health was reviewed.

It was also explained that new guidance will be coming from NY state ed. The Superintendent was just informed of this five minutes prior to the meeting.

Questions were posed to small breakout groups about the following:

Returning to in person

How to handle students with medical needs

Masking vs. Choice

How quarantine instruction will be handled

Screener use

Cleaning/Disinfection

Social distancing

Transmission and testing

Training

Breakout Rooms provided responses in the Padlet and offered the following takeaways:

Carry over the things that were working last year

Students need to be in person as much as possible

Hybrid and remote instruction should be the last resort

Need to be very clear and transparent with the community

Home instruction for students with medical needs should be reviewed and additional time may need to be allotted outside of the one hour daily for K-4- and 2-hour daily mandates

Screener should be re-structured to allow for multiple children on one (is there a system that can do this?)

+other feedback for questions is on Padlet

A member asked why we need to use the screener at all?

It may be mandated. We are waiting for more guidance.

Vaccination status came up. Can we require this information? This is being explored with legal

A member asked if the school year will be delayed since it is already August. Response was no, we will open on time.

A member asked about text reminders for the app. This will be looked into.

A member asked what the rate was for children hospitalized in Putnam County. Also, how many children are getting the virus from unvaccinated parents? This has been asked to the local Dept. Of Health- awaiting reply.

A member asked about masks, and if they can be optional. This has been asked to the District Physician- waiting for a response.

A member asked if teachers will be mandated to wear masks? This has been asked to the District Physician- waiting for a response.

A member asked if funding due to a contingency budget would have an impact on offering instruction to students who are not able to attend school in person. The response was that would need to look at our federal stimulus funding or reserves to fund this need since through 504 accommodations we would be mandated to do so.