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Board Connections

A brief review of the highlights from the most recent meeting of the Board of Education. For a complete look at the agenda, please visit www.menifeeusd.org.

October 13, 2020

Governing Board Studies ‘Commitment Form’ Results

Interim Superintendent Gary Rutherford presented a Report of Findings using data gathered earlier this month from MUSD parents and employees in a comprehensive on-line survey. The purpose of the study was to gauge parent and employee commitments to instructional models to complete the 2020-21 school year, given the restrictions of a pandemic. The general findings follow, with a full report of detailed results to be released soon.

<i>Which instructional model best meets your needs?</i>	Parents (58.4% responded)	Employees (65.7% responded)
Continue in Distance Learning+ Model to complete the 2020-21 school year	21.7%	19.7%
Continue in Distance Learning+ then transition to an On-Campus Model as soon as it is deemed safe to do so	78.3%	80.3%

For families and staff members selecting the On-Campus Model, additional information was collected:

<i>Which On-Campus model best meets your needs?</i>	Parents (78.3% of sample)	Employees (80.3% of sample)
Continue in Distance Learning+, shift to a Hybrid Model and then to a Traditional Model when it is deemed safe to do so	34.8%	11.8%
Continue in Distance Learning+ and move directly to a Traditional Model when it is deemed safe to do so	43.5%	68.5%

The results were consistent when comparing parent and employee subgroup findings from Grades TK-2, Grades 3-5, and Grades 6-8. The only exception was found in the Preschool sample, where parents preferred an On-Campus model that included Hybrid instruction as a stage before returning to a traditional program.

Adopting a Plan to Reopen Schools

Following study of the stakeholder survey input, consideration of public comments, and a review of current guidance from local and state health agencies, the Governing Board took the following action:

Continue to offer Distance Learning+ until it is safe to return to a Traditional Model (with safety enhancements in place).

The Board further directed staff to:

- Closely examine Distance Learning+ and implement enhancements for continuous improvement.
- Continue the implementation plan to bring Moderate/Severe and Mild/Moderate special education programs back to 5-day a week on-campus instruction, with the first cohort group starting on October 19th. This cohort is allowed to return to campus under strict guidance from local/state health agencies.
- Design and implement a communication plan to share the guidance in MUSD’s ‘School Reopening Handbook’ to educate and reassure students, parents and employees as they prepare to return to campus.
- Continue to advocate for guidance from state and local officials that is clear, specific, and addresses the critical and compelling needs of California’s students and Local Education Agencies.
- Continue to study effective alternative models for On-Campus instruction in the event the district receives guidance or direction that a full return to traditional instruction will be significantly delayed.

Governing Board: Jackie Johansen . Kyle Root . Kenyon Jenkins . Robert “Bob” O’Donnell . Reg Bennett

Interim Superintendent: Dr. Gary Rutherford