

Board of Education  
Norway-Vulcan Area Schools  
300 Section Street  
Norway, MI

Electronic Meeting  
March 27, 2020

The Board of Education of the Norway-Vulcan Area Schools met via Google Hangout in an Electronic Meeting on Friday, March 27, 2020.

Board Members Present:  
Cory Heigl; President, Bill O’Brion; Vice-President  
Jan Van Gasse; Treasurer, Jenny DeDecker; Secretary,  
Brady Gustafson, Wendy Mattia and Mark Rietveld; Trustees

MEMBERS PRESENT

Board Members Absent:  
none

MEMBERS ABSENT

Administrators Present:  
Louis Steigerwald; Superintendent

ADMINISTRATORS  
PRESENT

Administrators Absent:  
None

ADMINISTRATORS  
ABSENT

Others Present:  
none

OTHERS PRESENT

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 P.M.  
by President, Cory Heigl.

### **Approval of Agenda**

99. Motion by J. Van Gasse supported  
By B. O’Brion to approve agenda

Motion Approved 7-0

### **Correspondence**

none

### **Public Participation**

none

### **Action/Discussion/Information Items**

a. What changed today: Governor Whitmer’s statement  
Important to remember that no official action has been taken in regard to her statement. Governor says it may be unlikely for school to restart, but there is no official action at this point.

b. Current expectations based upon today’s developments

- i. #1 this is happening statewide and is not just in Norway, Dickinson County, or just the U.P. We are all looking for answers. Everyone in the state is in this same situation.
- ii. There is a dramatic difference between a temporary closure and a shutdown with months of the school year remaining.
- iii. Many, many questions to which every district and school in the state will need answers regarding the potential end of this school year and the start of the 2020-2021 school year. Wanting a better look at federal rulings before they make decisions.

1. Among those, but not limited to:

- a. Graduating seniors. Efforts are being made to make sure this happens. Potential funding for kids if necessary. Looking at equanimity when it comes to on-line learning.
- b. Graduation ceremony. Still up in the air
- c. Credits for grades 8-11 students relative to the expectations of the MMC. Not all schools are in the same place with the MMC. When we restart the school year, we need to start where we left off with needs for remediation and attempts to bring everyone up to speed. Legislation understands this and recognizes this issue.
- d. Staff evaluations. Waiting for legislation to give directive.
- e. The third grade reading law.
- f. Impact on special education students. Services will carry over into next year.
- g. Kindergarten roundup. Big question for right now. As the situation permits.
- h. Scheduling for next year. Joe, Erin, and Lou will meet next week for focus on this point.
- i. Scholarships. Due dates for these have been extended. Conversations will be held as situation permits.
- j. Continuing lessons this school year. Potentially a hybrid for next year. Staff will begin having meetings next week.
- k. Budget expectations for the coming school year. We may fall under federal funding, but it has not been declared yet. Unknowns at this time.

l. How to address the fact that, come next year, students will have been out of school for six months and will be missing parts of the curriculum. Need to attempt to get kids caught up for next year. We will begin to tackle this issue as a school in the next days and weeks to come.

m. Athletics. Everything is cancelled as of right now. IF the school year is over, spring sports and activities will also be cancelled.

n. Other school activities. Awards ceremonies, banquets, prom etc...doubtful at this time. We will make adjustments as we can.

o. At this point, same info from many sources in hopes that we will be paid for the entire school year. Also pushing for these days to be forgiven. We have no formal answers at this point. We should have more info in the next week or two.

There being no further business before the Board, President Cory Heigl adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM

ADJOURNMENT

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Louis Steigerwald, Superintendent

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Cory Heigl, President

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Jenny DeDecker, Secretary