

POPLAR SCHOOLS

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DEBRA J MCGOWAN
Chairman

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Trustee

LANE DEHNER
Trustee

AGENDA Special Board Meeting Tuesday, April 28, 2020 6:30 PM

*****Due to the Governor's guidelines, crowd space is limited to ten individuals. Please join us via the [Virtual Board Room](https://www.uberconference.com/room/danschmidt). Or, go to: <https://www.uberconference.com/room/danschmidt> *****

1. Call Meeting To Order
2. Recognition of Guests
3. Public Comment- 5 Minute Courtesy Limit per Topic

The Poplar Schools' Board of Trustees welcomes public comment on issues and concerns. This is the point in the meeting for comments on matters not already on the agenda. Comments on agenda items will be accepted when that item comes up during the meeting. Interested persons may also submit views in written form to the Clerk or Superintendent prior to the meeting and those comments will be brought to the attention of the Board during the meeting.

4. Informational Items
 - 4.1. Superintendent's Report
5. Action Agenda
 - 5.1. Unforeseen Emergency
6. Items of Interest
7. Adjournment

The mission of Poplar Schools, in cooperation with parents and community,
Is to develop exemplary citizens through enthusiastic and knowledgeable
Guidance and instruction in a culturally rich environment.



Agenda Number 5.1 Unforeseen Emergency

POPLAR PUBLIC SCHOOLS 9&9B

BOARD AGENDA FACT SHEET

MEETING DATE: 28 April 2020

SUMMARY: *Summary taken from Bea Kaleva email to her clients...*

“So you have three options: stay closed, fully open or provide some mix of the two. There are pros and cons of both, so be prepared to at least have an answer if you are asked to speak coherently about it!

1. Fully Open –The guidance requires schools to consult the “Reopening Considerations” which are useful, but may be difficult to fully implement. For example, if you can only have one student per seat on the bus, how will you transport students to school in a timely and cost effective manner? Could you reasonably implement social distancing in a building that does not have any extra classroom space to spread out smaller class sizes? You know there will be many people who will not send their kids back to school, so will you continue to allow some sort of distance learning and who will monitor that? I’m not trying to discourage any option but please review all these questions carefully.
2. Mix of the Two – I know some schools are considering bringing students on to campus a few days a week, and doing virtual learning a few days of the week. Plan on consulting your staff before you consider this option to identify and plan for any potential obstacles, including how to continue on site special education services in light of the Reopening Considerations. It may not be feasible to expect a certified staff member to plan for and implement in person instruction as well as plan for and implement a virtual instruction platform, so you need to be prepared to negotiate how you will implement this with your bargaining units.
3. Staying Closed – The easiest solution logistically, but you need to consider your community and what is in the best interest of your students. Keep in mind if your Board chooses to stay closed, and it has to be them to make the decision, you need to make sure you comply with the guidance and Montana law. The Governor references Section 20-9-806, which states:

20-9-806. School closure by declaration of emergency. (1) (a) Except as provided in subsection (2), if a school is closed by reason of an unforeseen emergency that results in a declaration of emergency by the board of trustees, the trustees may later adopt a resolution that a reasonable effort has been made to reschedule the pupil-instruction time lost because of the unforeseen emergency. If the trustees adopt the resolution, the pupil-instruction time lost during the closure need not be rescheduled to meet the minimum requirement for aggregate hours that a school district must conduct during the school year in order to be entitled to full annual equalization apportionment.

(b) At least 3 school days or the equivalent aggregate hours must have been made up before the trustees can declare that a reasonable effort has been made.

(2) The board of trustees may close school for 1 school day each school year because of an

unforeseen emergency and may not be required to reschedule the pupil-instruction time lost because of the unforeseen emergency.”

SUPERINTENDENT’S ADVICE: I recommend the sample motion.

SAMPLE MOTION: *"I move that the board of trustees declare an unforeseen emergency within the meaning of that term as set forth in Title 20, Chapter 9, Part 8, to become immediately effective and to continue through June 30, 2020. This motion is based on COVID-19 risks; in recognition that the Governor's waiver of student instruction time will expire on May 6,2020; and, in recognition that the Governor's April 22, 2020, Directive implicating Executive Orders 2- 2020 and 3-2020 specify that elected school boards and their districts that adopt their own declaration of emergency will continue to receive all state funding, including transportation funding."*

	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Other
McGowan						
Marottek						
Dupree						
Dehner						
Crowley						