

Special Board of Education Meeting
Wallkill Senior High School Auditorium
Thursday, February 4, 2021
7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

At 7:02 p.m. the meeting was called to order by President Joseph LoCicero in the Senior High School Auditorium.

Members Present

Mrs. Anderson
Mr. Bartolone
Mrs. Crowley
Mr. Frisbie
Mr. LoCicero
Mr. Palen
Mr. Petrocelli
Mr. Spencer

Members Absent

Mr. Conor Warren [Student Board Member]

Also present were Superintendent Castle, Assistant Superintendent Devincenzi and Athletic Director Masopust.

Discussion:

Mr. Masopust, the District Athletic Director, presented to the Board a Return to Play Plan for higher risk sports, specifically JV and Varsity boys' and girls' basketball. He reviewed several areas of the Return to Play Plan, including, but not limited to, timeline for the season, forms that are required to be completed, basic structure for practices, transportation, Section IX spectator and mask policies and a review of the health and safety protocols and procedures. Mr. Castle and Mr. Masopust answered clarifying questions from Board of Education Members (Mr. LoCicero, Mr. Bartolone, Mrs. Crowley, Mr. Frisbie, and Mr. Palen).

Public Comment:

A community member asked if Section IX had come up with testing protocols for officials prior to working a contest. Mr. Masopust informed the community member that officials are not required to have a COVID-19 test prior to working a contest but are required to complete health screening survey prior to working any contest and will have their temperature taken before entering the building.

Mr. Castle and several Board of Education members thanked Mr. Masopust and the committees for all their hard work.

2. Approve Resolution – Higher Risk Winter Sports

Mr. Spencer moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the New York State's Re-Opening Guidance for Sports and Recreation activities categorizes sports/activities as lower risk, modern risk, and higher risk; and

WHEREAS, on January 22, 2021 Governor Cuomo announced that sports categorized as higher risk sports will be permitted as of February 1, 2021 as permitted by the local health department; and

WHEREAS, on January 27, 2021, the Ulster County Department of Health (UCDOH) issued its guidance on higher risk school sports in Ulster County; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2021, the UCDOH issued new guidance on higher risk school sports and stated that the new guidance replaces the January 27, 2021 guidance; and

WHEREAS, effective February 1, 2021, and until otherwise indicated, student-athletes are permitted to participate in K-12 sponsored sports categorized as higher risk in Ulster County provided the specific requirements of the January 31, 2021 UCDOH requirements are met; and

WHEREAS, UCDOH requires each board of education and/or the Superintendent to approve or certify the school district's participation in each higher risk sports.

NOW THEREFORE, the Wallkill Central School District Board of Education hereby approves the participation in the following higher risk winter sports for the 2020-2021 winter season: Girls Basketball and Boys Basketball at the Varsity and JV levels permitting students in grades 12, 11, 10, 9, and 8 to participate subject to compliance with the UCDOH guidance and other New York State and/or NYSPHSAA guidance pertaining to COVID-19.

Motion seconded by Mr. Bartolone and carried 8 – 0.

3. Close Meeting

At 7:50 p.m. Mr. Spencer moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion seconded by Mr. Frisbie and carried 8 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Devincenzi
Clerk Pro Tem