



**Member Matters: Return to School Process
Chat Log
July 21, 2020**

12:06:30 From pkolin : where is the Q&A from the last meeting

12:07:06 From William Gaines : Webinar question. Iosco, Arenac Alcona and Ogemaw counties are lumped with the Saginaw region and assigned to Phase 4. Our actual infection level and statistics seem much more like the counties north and west of us than they are like Genesee County. Could there be a possibility of assigning our schools in Iosco County to a different region?

12:08:11 From Stacy Bogard : Hi William--I don't know the answer, but I'll see if I can get you one.

12:09:46 From Jen Smith : Are you referencing the one with the Governor? That Q&A is not complete and we've been asking the Governor for their FAQ they referenced. We've not been able to pull it all together yet.

12:10:01 From Anne Hamming : Is there any guidance about allowing the use of shields instead of masks?

12:10:18 From Barbara Read (Dexter) : Parents are still asking me about shields, too.

12:11:15 From Douglas Mentzer : A face shield is not a substitute for a facial covering, however, if a shield is to be used in order to preserve the visual communication experience or because a mask cannot be medically tolerated by an individual, the shield needs to wrap around the sides of the face and extend below the chin to protect the wearer from respiratory droplets. The individual should also maintain an appropriate social distance from other individuals.

12:11:17 From Donald Hubler : The "American Academy of Pediatrics' report 'COVID-19 Planning Considerations: Guidance for School Re-entry', contains some developed recommendations on re-entry.

12:11:33 From Barbara Read (Dexter) : Some colleges are open until Thanksgiving and then they close for the rest of the semester after that. So I wonder how holiday travel will affect Lansing's decision to start in November.

12:12:23 From Barbara Read (Dexter) : Doug, what's your source for that information on shields?

12:13:26 From pkolin : what about the presidents threats or having the money follow the student if schools do not open

12:14:08 From James Fish : What about classes held outside for 6-12 students. Still mask requirements? What about PE classes indoors and outside?

12:14:12 From Kerri Moccio : If a school board is meeting in person and has to turn people away due to the 50 person indoor limit, does the board also have to offer an option like Zoom so that audience members can participate?

12:14:28 From Jeff Brown : can you explain the Bill..cuts and then two to one replacement?

12:14:45 From pkolin : What is your recommendation for school boards to start meeting in person

12:14:46 From Douglas Mentzer : As discussed in previous Health Department Updates, Detroit Health Department, Wayne County Public Health Division and Wayne RESA

12:16:21 From Barbara Read (Dexter) : Here's an article from Bridge with information about decisions that are being made across the state if you want to make some comparisons with your circumstances. <https://www.bridgemi.com/talent-education/michigan-schools-lean-toward-returning-kids-classrooms-amid-coronavirus>

12:21:24 From Anne Hamming : John, what deadline are you giving families for selecting virtual.

12:22:04 From Wendy Rodewald : What district is John from?

12:22:36 From Michael McVey : Don, Teacher Tip: Don't forget the wait time after asking a question. ;-)

12:23:14 From Stacy Bogard : John is from Grand Haven Area Public Schools & Ottawa Area ISD.

12:23:31 From Eric-John Szczepaniak : We should *all* keep a Zoom option available, even when we all meet back in person, so that folks have more access to watch what we do.

12:23:33 From Kevin Kelly : curious how others are handling association relations in light of increased workloads and altered working conditions.

12:23:33 From Wendy Rodewald : Thank you Stacy.

12:23:44 From Jeff Brown : We are beginning to get some pressure from those who believe Masks are not needed and perhaps not healthy for children. We have no direct response yet...but will follow all State guidelines.

12:24:09 From pkolin : Are you saying no other regions can meet in person in small settings

12:25:00 From Bob Grover : Social distancing in the classroom is impossible in a face to face situation. Our association is reluctant to return with daily attendance due to this limitation even though the roadmap language does allow what's "feasible" within phases 4 and 5. In addition, how are others handling virtual instruction per request versus required (locally done or canned programming)?

12:25:09 From Barbara Balbo : What are some suggestions for addressing a board member who openly says at a board meeting they have been told and believe all the data published about Covid is fake. Then states we just need to get back to regular instruction because they don't believe any of the data?

12:25:50 From Lisa Efos : Brad, some districts are asking parents to sign waivers if they send students to sports and summer activities and even for school in the fall. Is this advisable?

12:26:07 From Joseph Passalacqua : What is the position of MASB for masks being worn? Should a district require a doctor's note for a child or teacher to not wear a mask due to medical conditions?

12:26:09 From Carrie Dorenbecker : From a small school district we have some classrooms that have 2 grades in one room. They are still only 20 student classes but we are questioning. If we decide to go back to school would we ask that all students come back knowing that are still going to have some students whose parents don't want to send students. We are concerned that teacher aren't going to be able to spend equal time on students in class and out. This could be an issue with small or larger classrooms. Does virtual learning mean that a student is streaming most of the day, etc?

12:27:10 From Lisa Efos : What should districts say in response to union protests about returning to in class learning?

12:29:50 From Carrie Dorenbecker : If returning to school what are some solutions that you have to providing lunches to students while maintaining social distancing, etc? Additionally, if we do remote learning are we required to supply lunches to students at home?

12:30:05 From Christopher Lewis : also called vlac

12:30:14 From William Gaines : Which teachers teach which depends on teacher risk and teacher ability to skillfully handle on line instruction in our small rural district

12:30:31 From Louise Blasius : Are any schools screening all students and how are they doing it?

12:30:57 From Louise Blasius : How do you know when your region changes phases?

12:31:23 From Lisa Efos : I know you are waiting for some answers from the Governor before releasing the Q and A from that meeting, but is there any way you could release the questions and comments, even if there are some unanswered questions that remain?

12:31:44 From Barbara Read (Dexter) :
<https://www.virtuallearningacademyconsortium.org/> Here's a link for VLAC. It's a good program and I used it for my son in sixth grade. He's a 2020 senior this year, and I would recommend the program as an option for in-district remote learning with a certified local teacher.

12:31:48 From Jen Smith : The Governor will announce when the region changes phases and in the past an executive order has followed.

12:33:43 From Brad Banasik : MASB's updated FAQs on virtual meetings:
https://www.masb.org/portals/0/About_MASB/COVID19/COVID19FAQsUpdated%203_24_20.pdf and
https://www.masb.org/portals/0/About_MASB/COVID19/MASBFAQsforVirtualMeetings_040320.pdf

12:34:02 From Jen Smith : Lisa Efos: we have Views From the Capitol on Monday with MDE. We will aim to put out a Q&A with the info available to us later that week. Some of the questions raised in the Governor webinar will be directed to MDE.

12:34:39 From Anne Hamming : What are the rules around school closure/non-closure if there is a case. Example: A sixth grader who has no contact with kids in other buildings? Would just that buldign close?

12:34:43 From Lisa Efos : Thank you. Will you include all the comments too?

12:35:17 From Anthony Berthiaume : Maybe this is a philosophical issue, but does anyone else view a parent/student who chooses 100% virtual because they feel unsafe at school but still be allowed to participate in athletics and/or other clubs?

12:36:12 From Carrie Dorenbecker : We have heard conversations about sports, classrooms, etc. If schools plan to go back to school has anyone had conversations about band programs/classes/etc.

12:39:14 From Shelley Ovink : Perhaps a teacher who is unable to work with a mask could be dedicated to on line only

12:39:49 From Lizabeth Ensing : I am concern about our special needs students wearing mask-

12:40:20 From Christopher Lewis : what are districts doing in regards to if a teacher gets sick and whether they will have to use sick days for the 14 day

12:40:28 From Bob Grover : FMLA or other options currently available is for 12 weeks. Beyond that become leave of absence (unpaid)? Do you have to allow use of sick time during FMLA (CBA and board policy considered)?

12:40:44 From Laurie Oldford : for schools that are doing 100% online learning, are they doing this for a marking period? semester? are they re-evaluating after a certain amount of time?

12:41:51 From Denise Dufort : something to think about-ask parents to have students begin to 'practice' wearing masks for short time building u to longer periods of time to prepare for wearing once they return to physical classrooms

12:41:58 From Howard Baron : Does any district have a great idea on how to do mass morning medical and temperature check-in?

12:42:49 From Howard Baron : Is there an App that help with that?

12:43:02 From Christopher Lewis : if you are not doing temp checks and requiring parents to do this in morning... any liability for district

12:44:31 From Michael Murphy : It is my understanding that social distancing is not required on busses, yet is required in the classroom. Has anyone developed a strategy to address the potential problem this may create other than running busses all day?

12:45:48 From Doug Muxlow : We are looking at a "Covid" virtual Option which allows parents the ability to re-enter in-person school at a point of phase change or comfort. There will be some hoops to jump through. We Plan to use an online platform that allows our teachers to align content being taught and available for support. This "covid" option would allow for athletics but would expect athletes to following school and phase requirements.

12:47:34 From Laurie Oldford : what is the best way to hold kids accountable for online learning?

12:49:05 From Lisa Efros : Brad, how are you interpreting the mandatory mask wearing "mandate" and the "strong recommendation" that 6-12 students wear masks? Is the mandate, which occurred after the roadmap, controlling?

12:50:30 From Christopher Lewis : band camp was canceled but no plan yet for fall yet

12:50:57 From Jennifer Cook : bloomfield is doing marching band camp now with precautions/instrument sleeves

12:51:13 From Megan Walter : One thing that my district mentioned was a possibility was, for instance, in the middle school, we would have the kids stay in the classrooms and the teachers would exchange to help avoid contamination in the hallways.

12:52:40 From Christopher Lewis : is it possible to get that research Mandy sent to all of us

12:53:11 From Kevin Luokkala : Brad, how are you interpreting the mandatory mask wearing "mandate" and the "strong recommendation" that 6-12 students wear masks? Is the mandate, which occurred after the roadmap, controlling?

12:53:13 From Stacy Bogard : Yes Christopher--we'll share all of the chat comments. I'll get them posted on the website later this afternoon.

12:54:46 From Bob Grover : Which trumps what...the EO mandating masks r the roadmap allowing optional for K-5?

12:55:03 From mandy stewart : https://www.nfhs.org/media/4029952/preliminary-testing-report-7-13-20.pdf?fbclid=IwAR1iGUgy_dp dFNfJpP55hl4uFBC5wmKYwhBkgGmG5Laqp7kIS4cPoErIC9A
- Link to study

12:55:49 From mandy stewart : <https://academicalliance.com/see-how-one-school-is-rehearsing-within-pandemic-guidelines/> - Sample Marching Band guide

12:57:19 From Carrie Dorenbecker : Some classes that were requested by my kids as a parent were classes that would be a challenge to do remotely. For instance, an industrial arts class, or a mentoring, etc. Has anyone had discussions about whether kids schedules will be altered to make sure that all classes can be completed remotely.

12:57:35 From Howard Baron : Thx, Don!

12:59:54 From Laurie Oldford : Port Huron is considering block scheduling for high schools. 2 hour blocks of 3 classes each day. Preventing kids from having to go into hallways numerous times.

13:00:48 From Lisa Efros : Has there been a plan to hold these collaborative board webinars on a regular basis? I think they are tremendously helpful. Can we get a regular day and time for scheduling purposes?

13:01:59 From Stacy Bogard : Hi Lisa--we're looking to book them once a month (toward the end of the month). We should have a calendar through the end of the year in next week.

13:02:30 From Lisa Efros : Until school starts, can we have weekly webinars?

13:03:44 From Brad Banasik : Any legal questions that I wasn't able to answer, please email them to me at bbanasik@masb.org.

13:04:19 From Howard Baron : Things will be coming together over the next few weeks up until the end of September. These sessions will be good until things settle down.

13:05:31 From Dawn Kalkman : Agree. I take a lot of things from these webinars back to my district for consideration. Weekly or biweekly meetings would be beneficial.

13:05:44 From Stacy Bogard : The next webinar is a Views From the Capitol on Monday, July 27 at noon with MDE staff, including State Superintendent Michael Rice. You can register here:

<https://melg.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEscumhqzovGtE7Y7M9pNGW34s2no9aUPVW>

13:06:16 From Wendy Rodewald : I really appreciate these webinars. It helps me as a board member to listen to different districts when viewing my own districts plans and bring different ideas to our team. I also feel informed with why our administrators are making decisions. Thank you

13:06:43 From Stacy Bogard : Also, register for a COVID-19 panel at the Summer Institute on Aug. 14 from 12:30 -3:30 p.m.:
<https://www.masb.org/TrainingEvents/OtherEvents/DetailsPage/tabid/568/ArticleID/1423/2020-Summer-Institute-Live-Online-Webinar.aspx>

13:06:53 From Jen Smith : Legislative questions can come to me at jsmith@masb.org, although can't promise solid answers!

13:11:58 From Lana Ford : Thank you again for the webinar. Very beneficial.

13:12:43 From Lisa Efros : The more webinars the better, in my opinion.

13:14:58 From Pamela Forton : We will be allowing our virtual students to have access to counselors, extracurriculars, etc. and will include lunches.

13:15:03 From Laurie Oldford : port Huron has provided lunches for all students since March 15. they will continue to do that if online learning is implemented

13:15:17 From Donald Hubler : FYI, today has been designated as "Homework Gap Action Day", supporting the FCC's E-Rate program.

13:16:33 From Jen Smith : Please be sure to share your concerns and issues as you work on your plan for the new year with us. We want to know what guidance you need or things that need to be addressed legislatively. More often than not the issue you face, is faced by many others, as you can tell from this conversation!

13:17:12 From Pamela Forton : Not decided yet but leaning toward end of marking period.

13:17:34 From Wendy Rodewald : Our Superintendent said it would happen at semester at this point.

13:20:48 From Lisa Efros : Anyone with an online and in person plan have an online curriculum? What are AP class offerings?

13:23:07 From Anthony Berthiaume : What is the current seat time waiver cap?

13:24:58 From Carrie Dorenbecker : Thank you to everyone for input and information. Very helpful. Have a great day.

13:27:27 From Megan Walter : Thank you for doing this! This is very helpful!

13:27:36 From Shelley Ovink : Thank you.

13:27:51 From Wendy Rodewald : Appreciate the time from you and your team.

13:28:00 From Barbara Read (Dexter) : Thank you!!
13:28:06 From Holly Spencer : Thank you!
13:28:13 From Kimberly Becker : Thank you all!
13:28:15 From Pamela Forton : Thanks!
13:28:16 From Sue Murawski : Thanks MASB. Another outstanding program!