

RESOLUTION
JEFFCO PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
AFFIRMING JEFFCO PUBLIC SCHOOLS FUNDAMENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 epidemic caused the Governor of Colorado to declare a state of emergency and close schools for in-person instruction in March 2020 through the remainder of the 2019-20 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Department of Education announced many related statewide waivers in response to the COVID-19 pandemic including a waiver to minimum instruction hours and contact day requirements outlined in state statute; and

WHEREAS, the Board assigned the superintendent in board executive limitation policy EL-14, *School Year Calendar*, the responsibility to prepare and adopt a district calendar that meets or exceeds the number of instruction/contact days required in state statute; and

WHEREAS, Board executive limitation policy EL-14 requires Board of Education approval to reduce the number of instruction/contact days; and

WHEREAS, health officials from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and Jefferson County Public Health anticipate the imposition of health orders and guidance that will significantly impact the traditional operations of Jeffco Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, the superintendent has developed and is actively adjusting a proposed calendar for the 2020-21 school year based upon the best information provided by the aforementioned public health agencies with full knowledge of our district mission and the reliance of our families and local economy on in-person schooling; and

WHEREAS, possible calendars for the 2020-21 school year may include portions of remote learning and professional development which could decrease the number of in-person instruction/contact days; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes the disparities that exist across our community that were intensified by the public health impacts of COVID-19 and affirm the goal of Jeffco Public Schools to promote equitable learning opportunities when developing plans for the 2020-21 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education recognizes the need of the district calendar to responsively adapt to the unforeseeable impacts of COVID-19 during the 2020-21 school year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of Jeffco Public Schools, that:

1. Our mission to provide a quality education that prepares all children for a successful future is best achieved by providing in-person instruction by a highly skilled, caring educator; consequently, the superintendent shall maintain contingency plans to temporarily move to remote or hybrid learning as needed and restore in-person learning to the greatest extent possible and practical during the 2020-21 school year.
2. We acknowledge the obligation to provide education in the safest manner possible; consequently, the superintendent shall observe and comply with applicable public health orders and guidance.
3. To accommodate family safety concerns, the superintendent shall provide a remote learning option for all students and provide for clear and specific procedures for in-person social distancing, personal

hygiene, symptom screening/testing and custodial cleaning practices as necessary and aligned with local public health standards.

4. We value extra-curricular activities and athletics which should be offered to the fullest extent possible consistent with public health orders resulting in an understanding that student, staff and public safety remain a priority and may require temporary suspension of athletics and extra-curricular activities.
5. The superintendent shall provide the Board of Education with timely information and changes as school opens and throughout the school year related to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on learning and activities in Jeffco Public Schools as described in board executive limitation policy EL-11, *Communication and Counsel to the Board*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if public health conditions cause an alteration to the school calendar as determined by the superintendent, the Board of Education approves the ability of the superintendent to reduce the number of instruction/contact days during the 2020-21 school year in accordance with board executive limitation policy EL-14, *School Year Calendar*, and consistent with the aforementioned priorities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the superintendent or his designee is hereby authorized to request any related waivers from the Colorado Department of Education as necessary to accommodate the aforementioned terms and conditions.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 17th day of June, 2020.

(SEAL)



Susan Harmon
President, Board of Education

ATTEST:



Stephanie Schooley
Secretary, Board of Education