



**Classical Charter  
School Association**  
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## CCSA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**July 30th, 2020**

**6:30 pm – 8:30 pm**

**Zoom video conference only in accordance with social distancing best practices  
Meeting ID: 143 772 849 Password: 300774 Ph: 312-626-6799**

**1. Call to Order** - Mr. Broeckert called the July 30th, 2020 meeting of the Classical Charter School Association (CCSA) Board to order.

**2. Roll Call** - Mr. Bomann, Mr. Dugal, Mr. Broeckert, Ms. Roe, Mr. Cotti, Mr. Shober, Ms. Vanryzin, Mr. Sanchez, and Ms. Meisel

**3. Welcome Guest Attendee(s)** - A large attendance gathered for the July 30th CCSA board meeting which comprised of a total of 85 participants (teachers, parents, board members). Due to the high numbers in attendance, individual names were not recorded.

**4. Classical School Mission: *Building a just and excellent educational foundation***

**5. Public Comment** - High level summaries of responses captured below from public.

- Sara Schroeder - gratitude for countless hours staff and board members have put into content for discussion tonight, there is no win-win here and nothing will be ideal
- Jess Crownhart - completed pro/con list of options - concern for families unable to make am/pm schedule, concern for staff health and burn out, going back to school will look different than it typically does regardless of schedule
- Stacey Foley - appreciation for countless hours put into laying out options, personal choice would be am/pm but feels it is difficult to choose an option that is different than the AASD plan - thorough working groups detailing out plans and is nervous with us being different
- Melissa DeVantier - thanks to board and staff, don't envy anyone in these roles, as parent and former board member - differences between Classical and typical AASD schools (buses, teachers in front of students, basement, etc) would consider which plan would compliment virtual model the best, thinks that is am/pm would do that. concern with mask wearing all day and limited availability of recess
- Brittany Sellers - Parent of 2 younger students (k / 2) obviously am/pm model is not ideal for working parents (she is stay at home) so would work fine for her. appreciate this model offers all students K-8 to be able to attend each day for a few hours. concern with children wearing masks all day. question - if we wanted to homeschool just for this year, would they be allowed back in next year or would they need to reapply. Mr. Bomann - would lose spot due to state statutes per DPI. Mr. Broeckert confirmed if own program or other school DPI rules would apply. If a Classical program would be eligible.
- Lisa Cronin - for those with multiple students, is there a way to plan with other schools for days at school? Request put into Mr. Bomann.
- Melissa DeVantier - is there a way to build a social media group to help facilitate child care options? Mr. Bomann - shared that AASD is discouraging car pooling.
- Hieu Bourke - working parent with 2 students - am/pm would not work given work schedule, wouldn't be able to leave work to pick up and drop off. kids are old enough to stay home. With am/pm would we have enough time to deep clean the school before the next group? Mr. Bomann - 4 ½ hours to clean building if 1 person, looking into options to have staff volunteer to help.
- Jim Rademaker - excited for am/pm option, works well for their family
- Tina Ray - both working parents and am/pm wouldn't work, not aligned with wearing masks, looking to understand what other options there are other than doing a private school

- Brian Heimerman - would appreciate a virtual/learn from home option
- Jane Stevenson - like am/pm model but can appreciate how that would be difficult for working families
- Sudheshna - is virtual model still an option? if so, would school cover all subjects or what would be covered?
- Madhuri - parent of 2 students (k/1) if Classical goes the am/pm route can we accommodate being on same schedule. Mr. Bomann - yes, households would be together
- Mrs. Richling - 8th grader at Classical - interested in an am/pm - nice that students would be able to be at school each day. if parents particularly needed a full day option, would it work to let a handful opt for a full 2 days among an am/pm schedule.
- Abbie Grosskreutz - wants to know what teachers want, trusting of staff and want to ensure pressure isn't put on staff
- Eric - point of clarification, in reading communication there is confusion whether there is a 100% virtual option while staying with Classical. with am/pm option, would instruction be the same between for both am and pm or repetition?
- Nancy Tsai - working person at hospital and unable to manage am/pm option, education would suffer for her child and not be able to successfully manage virtual. son received covid over summer at daycare and worried that with not offering full day it will amplify overall exposure given children will be in daycare situations.

## 6. Items for Approval

- **Meeting Agenda** - Mr. Shober motioned to approve the meeting agenda, Mr. Dugal seconded the motion, and all were in favor.
- **Meeting Minutes (7/21 & 7/23)** - Ms. Vanryzin motioned to approve the 7/21/2020 and 7/23/2020 meeting minutes. Ms. Roe seconded the motion and all CCSA board members were in favor.
- **Physical-Distancing Learning Model Proposal**
  - Options
    - District Model
      - K-4 full day, 5 days 3 cohorts
      - 5-8 AA/BB schedule with Wednesday sanitization
    - AM/PM
  - Safety
    - safety of children being left at home, not all family situations are the same
  - Quality of Content
  - Accessibility for all families
- Opening Comments - High level summaries of responses captured below from CCSA board members and Mr. Bomann
  - am/pm curriculum - 2 ½ hours (800-1030, 1030-1230 break, 1230-300), must maintain middle school number of hours with other schools so would limit us to 2 ½ hours. Reading class 1 to 1 ½ hour in an effort to teach both grade level and advanced so 2 ½ model would only consist of reading and math and supplemental work sent home - harder to lean on district for help given it is a different model
  - district model - would enable a bit more curriculum time but would introduce a bit more rotational time for logistics, addition of one more teacher per grade level that would be assigned to role (assignments due Aug 12) - district will help facilitate and staff this model
  - safety for staff and students
  - quality, quantity of learning, accessibility, level of safety, compatibility to virtual
  - 4 areas: content, staffing, health of students and staff, convenience of parents
  - am/pm option easier to staff with Classical teachers and not rely on other AASD teachers
  - Mixing of students a concern
  - details put into the AASD plan was well thought out and consulted with key health officials
  - just about 70% of teachers surveyed preferred the am/pm plan
  - want a plan that gives options to families
  - concern around legal liability for board and school if go against district plan
  - mental and physical safety in addition to COVID health concerns
  - unsure how Classical navigates virtual in parallel with district or am/pm plans
  - District plan avoids an unnecessary logistical barrier for some families
  - AM/PM plan provides daily contact with students in grades 5-8
  - district plan introduces safety concerns of students not wearing masks at lunch and having both more students/class and in a few cases using smaller, non-traditional rooms as classrooms

- the district plan requires 50% more teachers in K-4. Achieving this goal with no additional funding may not be feasible requiring a high percentage of students to enroll in virtual learning and losing minimal teachers with health concerns. At Classical, it means at least 1 non-classical grade level teacher/grade (K-4).
- **Open Discussion - High level summary of discussion**
  - Clarification on legal liability - if am/pm model is voted in, it would be pending final approval from AASD
  - middle school teachers would have all of Wednesday to prepare virtual and in person content for district plan
  - teachers will not be able to manage virtual and in person classrooms simultaneously
  - discussion around how specials teachers could be leveraged during either district or am/pm models
  - need to manage details around how to navigate lunch for students that have free or reduced lunches/breakfast
  - if class quarantines for 14 days, then teachers would transition to virtual teaching format

Motion to close discussion - Mr. Sanchez motioned to close the discussion, Mr. Shober seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Concluding Statements were made by the CCSA Board.

A motion was made by Mr. Dugal to move forward with the am/pm model for the 2020/2021 school year at Classical School. Mr. Cotti seconded the motion. The vote was 5-3 in favor of the motion: Broeckert (no), Dugal (yes), Meisel (no), Sanchez (no), Roe (yes), Cotti (yes), Shober (yes), VanRyzin (yes).

- **Educational Alternatives**
  - Virtual Learning
    - potential to live broadcast through Canvas platform to students virtually - some question on whether video could be recorded or not due to legal reasons
  - District Virtual Learning plan - district curriculum
  - Homeschooling - would require creativity to make this feasible with teacher support

## 7. Board Discussion Items

- **Identify action items for next week's meeting**
  - **Family communication**
  - **Physical-distancing challenges**
  - **Virtual learning curriculum modifications**
    - 3 options
      - Using any available resources to devote to virtual learning
      - Synchronous and asynchronous learning
      - Support provided to families by partnering with AASD and participate in virtual plan
  - **other board business**
    - Mr. Bomann to take the lead on building out administrative details with staff
    - Mr. Bomann will contact the AASD district about approving the am/pm plan.

## 8. Public Comment

- Raj Dugal - thanks everyone for time invested
- Mr. Bomann - difficult decision for board, appreciate all time board and teachers and parents have put into this work.

**9. Motion to Adjourn** - Mr. Sanchez made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Dugal seconded the motion, and all CCSA board members were in favor.