Hello! This town hall and the accompanying chat is being recorded and will be available on OSBA's COVID-19 webpage at https://www.ohioschoolboards.org/coronavirus.

You can access the Reframing Education site at the following link: http://reframingeducation.org/

Most of our parents in Hillsdale want their children back in. We are getting more pushback on mandatory face coverings when they do. Sports practices are continuing at this point.

Do you think there is any circumstances where the OSHAA would recommend delaying or cancelling sports short of an order from the Governor? They seem dead set against being seen as delaying sports for health considerations.

Our parents are concerned that Cincinnati schools have switched to the first five weeks being totally virtual and will our district do that too, since we are totally surrounded by them. We don’t know if we will do that and are leaning against it since we do not have bussing and are able to spread our students out better. The other thing our parents are concerned about is the not knowing- kindergarten and middle school orientations haven’t been announced, there is no supply list (on purpose).. they just feel a little lost. Some questions I can’t answer for them because we don’t know yet.

The American Academy of Pediatrics was insistent that it was far better for kids to be in school with 3ft distance than to be at home. They said the risk of kids catching and spreading COVID-19 is very low and worth facing vs the negatives of online school. Are they willing to back this stand with parents and teachers questioning 3ft distancing, even with masks?

We have parents on all sides of this debate. A small vocal group blowing up social media, planning protests, etc. And sports, yes lots of frustration, especially with OHSAA.

Thank you for having us today.

Why did the ESC decide to prohibit “typical” preschoolers from attending the ESC preschools when they are operate in districts where the K-12 are opening 5 days / week?

Our "big protest" had 10 people yesterday. At our Talawanda Board meeting Monday night, we voted to go online for everyone for the first quarter with the opportunity to evaluate at 5 weeks- we also supported continuing athletics as we have been doing as well as marching band-Mary Jane.

We have a group actively vocalizing they want money back since schools are not in school everyday!!!! They don't understand that the teachers are still working whether as blended or all remote.

We has equity trading just yesterday and the day before, so I noticed the equity on there too!

If there are additional questions on the framework after today, I can be reached at Burford@oesca.org or via phone at 614-846-3855.

You can contact me at Karen.rose@mercercountyesc.org with any questions or for follow-up information.
Karen Rose: Thanks for your time today!
Susie Lawson: Thank you Craig and Karen
Any insight about the threatened (or real) lawsuits by some parents to get schools open, perhaps full-time?
Eric S. Brown: What about lawsuits that will be filed when kids and staff get sick? We've heard about potential lawsuits from parents who would like to see their schools reopen in-person, but have yet to see the complaints. We will continue to monitor and provide updates, as they become available.
Nancy Brown: At this point, the Ohio General Assembly has introduced, but not enacted, legislation on possible immunity related to COVID-19 exposure. We are following that bill. In the meantime, make sure you are consulting with your local board of health as you develop your reopening plan consistent with the ODE and ODH guidance documents. Districts may also want to consult with their legal counsel.
Sara Clark: Thank you. We are doing both.
Would that immunity in the Senate legislation affect worker's comp claims?
Jennie Hardin: It would somewhat depend on how immunity language is written, but most likely it would not affect workers compensation.
Van Keating: Jennie, is OSBA considering taking a position on the bill to provide immunity for COVID-19 related claims, assuming the bill moves? I would hope that we would not support such a bill just to limit possible exposure. Depending on how the bill is written, it could very well be irresponsible and allow reckless conduct.
Eric S. Brown: Ralph, can you briefly explain the reason OSBA Legal decided to participate in the case about claims for criminal conduct without a conviction?
Nicole Piscitani: On the federal liability bill that is included in the stimulus bill we are monitoring it right to see what the language is.
Eric S. Brown: The OSBA legal assistance fund received a request for an amicus brief in the case. While Buddenberg did not specifically involve a public school, the case was one involving an employment situation that can easily be repeated in any school district.
Ralph Lusher: Check out OSBA's podcast for current topics while the town hall is on a break. https://www.ohioschoolboards.org/osba-podcasts
Angela Penquite: Thank you all!
Eric S. Brown, Columbus: Lee, special guests, and OSBA staff- Thanks, Thanks Thanks!!! See you in September!
sally.green: Thank you everyone!!!