

Safe School Reopening Task Force
Leadership Steering Committee

June 11, 2-3 p.m.

Attendees: Shelley Redinger, Dr. Bob Lutz, Mark Anderson, Adam Swinyard, Jerrall Haynes, Gwen Harris, Jennifer Keck, Kristy Mylroie, Megan Read, Jeremy Ochse, Rebecca Powell, Tricia Kannberg, Katie Kenlein, Stephanie Busch, Cindy Coleman, Michelle Jenner, Steve Fisk, Oscar Harris, Shawn Jordan, Brad Read, Jeremy Shay. Not in attendance: Dawn Seidell, Andre Ramsey

Discussion: After introductions and many thanks to everyone for participating, Dr. Anderson articulated the purpose of the committee, and highlighted the day's task: to provide insights on the topics outlined for study by the various subcommittees. It was noted that some items run through the steering committee may require further discussion with the Spokane Education Association (SEA).

Dr. Lutz, County Health Officer, expressed concerns about potential disparities in how COVID will play out in the population, and that many students may see a full year of academics lost. That will have both short- and long-term ramifications, so we must figure out ways to move forward.

Dr. Swinyard acknowledged there are many details to think through, and that much will be based on guidance from OSPI. He explained the process of having the Leadership Steering Committee receive regular reports and recommendations from the various subcommittees, each of which has chairs and co-chairs:

- Safety & Operations
- Elementary Education
- Secondary Education
- Special Education
- English Language Development
- Intervention Services
- Technology Support & Access
- Full Distance Learning Option
- Athletics & Activities

There will need to be thoughtful choreography because of the overlap of information among subcommittees; topics don't function as silos. We will post and share notes from each subcommittee.

OSPI released guidelines this morning – a long, detailed document without a lot of specificity in parameters. A big theme is the support for face-to-face instruction. Language alludes to doing the best you can. We will work hard to determine what is realistic and doable within the constraints of staffing and facility space.

It is important for us to work closely with the SEA to navigate the best way of supporting staff.

The OSPI guidelines requires districts to have a continuous learning plan in place in case we need to close school again. This is something we have been working on and will continue to refine, including a universal platform for distance learning.

SPS has many staff who are in a high-risk age group for COVID. We will be looking at specific ways to support those staff.

Dr. Redinger acknowledged we will have many questions for OSPI as we are able to spend more time understanding their guidelines.

Dr. Swinyard noted that childcare is not specifically addressed in our subcommittees' key questions, but is an important overlay for all our conversations. SPS is a cornerstone of the economy, and parents need a safe place for their kids to be while they are at work. Dr. Anderson added that we may need to convene a community group to focus just on child care.

Dr. Swinyard walked the group through [the key questions set forth for each subcommittee to research](#), included on the School District's web site where information will be shared on the Task Force work.

Committee members suggested each topic be considered alongside how we support all students and assure access and success. Any school calendar changes needed would need to be bargained.

The group voted on the most convenient time for weekly Thursday meetings – they will be at 1 or 2 p.m.

The meeting adjourned promptly at 3 p.m.