

WEBVTT

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00:00:00.000 --> 00:00:03.629

Tom Leonard: The broadcast and we're just going to wait a minute or two, and see if

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00:00:04.980 --> 00:00:07.410

Tom Leonard: Some people want to join us on a Friday afternoon.

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00:00:10.260 --> 00:00:12.269

Tom Leonard: So anyone who is coming in, please.

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00:00:13.139 --> 00:00:14.429

Tom Leonard: Give me a minute or two.

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00:00:15.030 --> 00:00:19.740

Tom Leonard: And then we will get started. I've always been told I'm supposed to wait a little while.

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00:00:23.730 --> 00:00:25.800

Tom Leonard: Okay, we got some people coming in.

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00:00:30.960 --> 00:00:31.920

Tom Leonard: Okay.

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00:00:34.470 --> 00:00:39.870

Tom Leonard: I'm gonna wait just about 15 more seconds, and then we'll get started if that's okay. People

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00:00:51.420 --> 00:00:52.620

Tom Leonard: Okay, I'm

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00:00:54.420 --> 00:01:06.060

Tom Leonard: Good afternoon on a Friday. The Friday before the beginning of the school year. Um, this is something we're going to try. Things seem to be changing so fast and at times.

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00:01:06.720 --> 00:01:18.420

Tom Leonard: I, it seems like just a couple days and everything seems

to be changing on us and talking to my staff and talking to some parents reading some emails, we decided that we're going to try this, we will

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00:01:19.980 --> 00:01:33.180

Tom Leonard: We will see how it goes. If this is something that people tune in to see, we may do it on a regular basis if it's only me, and the people who are the panelists. And I think we probably will not be doing this very long.

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00:01:34.230 --> 00:01:44.670

Tom Leonard: Couple of things that you should know one we have two interpreters right now you're seeing Sonia, she will be on there for a while and in a certain point, Jane will take over.

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00:01:45.840 --> 00:01:55.860

Tom Leonard: This session is going to go for one hour we will end right around 4pm and the format of it is going to be something like this for the first 10 minutes

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00:01:56.220 --> 00:02:06.120

Tom Leonard: I'm going to have a chat with three of our illustrious principals and let them just talk a little bit about what's going on in their building and then for 10 minutes, I'm going to have

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00:02:07.200 --> 00:02:16.110

Tom Leonard: A couple central office people come in and then the rest of the time the 40 minutes will just be looking at what questions are coming up in the Q & A area.

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00:02:16.620 --> 00:02:26.040

Tom Leonard: And we'll try to answer as many as we can. And then we'll all have a weekend and then school will start next week, so

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00:02:26.550 --> 00:02:40.410

Tom Leonard: First of all, I want to introduce three principals who are with me and we're gonna start with them. Heather Meek who's at Bridge Point elementary, Dianne Carter, who's at West ridge middle school and Steve Ramsey, who is at

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00:02:41.550 --> 00:02:57.060

Tom Leonard: Westlake high school later in this soon you'll see Molly

May, who is our chief student support officer. You'll see Susan Fambrough, who is our chief learning officer and I don't go anywhere without Jeff Arnett, who is my deputy superintendent so

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00:02:58.590 --> 00:03:10.980

Tom Leonard: Heather. I was in the district today running around and I passed Cedar Creek Elementary and I the parking lot was packed and there were cars lined up and they were asking for boxes. What, what

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00:03:11.850 --> 00:03:19.470

Heather Meek: Yeah, what's going on today's. We are so excited elementary schools have started connecting with our kindergarten families.

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00:03:19.950 --> 00:03:30.900

Heather Meek: We are conducting supply pickups and we had our teachers out there, passing out materials and our teachers have been working so hard for the past week and a half really

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00:03:31.200 --> 00:03:39.750

Heather Meek: Thoughtfully putting together the supply packs and they're gathering materials anything from Math manipulative to handwriting books.

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00:03:40.140 --> 00:03:47.880

Heather Meek: And they're adding all of that to the supply pack. So that was a really exciting thing to be able to see the kids today and start to pass out those materials.

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00:03:48.330 --> 00:03:52.800

Tom Leonard: Yeah, and Heather people haven't been in your office, the hands behind you.

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00:03:53.250 --> 00:03:56.340

Tom Leonard: Yes, on the wall. Tell me about the hands on the wall.

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00:03:56.550 --> 00:04:08.880

Heather Meek: So I started here at Eanes five years ago. And the first year that I was here, I was with the fifth graders, of course, for just one year. So on the last day of school.

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00:04:09.540 --> 00:04:19.140

Heather Meek: The fifth graders that were here in 2016 put their handprints on a blank wall that is in my office. So there's 140

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00:04:19.770 --> 00:04:36.780

Heather Meek: handprints from that class and my desk. My computer actually faces that wall and there's a quote in the middle that says don't limit a child to your own learning, for he was born in another time. So that's a really special wall and yeah. Hundred and 40 hands on that wall.

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00:04:37.170 --> 00:04:43.050

Tom Leonard: Yeah, I always love it when I walk in there and you know this is something a lot of people don't get to see but um so

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00:04:43.680 --> 00:04:54.840

Tom Leonard: We'll come back to you when we get to the questions, but I just wanted to say hello to Steve Ramsey, um, what's going on at the high school. What are we getting ready for next week, or what happened this week.

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00:04:56.310 --> 00:05:05.040

Steven Ramsey: So today and yesterday we actually had a lot of our new teachers coming up to get their badges to kind of get their keys, kind of get familiar with the high school, a little bit.

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00:05:05.910 --> 00:05:08.520

Steven Ramsey: As we kind of concluded our professional development.

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00:05:09.090 --> 00:05:17.640

Steven Ramsey: That kind of go into their work days now trying to figure out exactly everything they think they're going to do with their professional learning communities as we begin remote learning on Wednesday, so

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00:05:18.180 --> 00:05:24.870

Steven Ramsey: This has been a good week. It's one of the busier weeks. But I think as a principal one of your best weeks because you actually get to see your staff again.

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00:05:25.560 --> 00:05:32.700

Steven Ramsey: Whether you're a remote or in the building. It gets a

little lonely as a principal in the summers people kind of vanish on you. And so this is a really good time to

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00:05:33.570 --> 00:05:43.200

Steven Ramsey: See your folks. Again, I know as principals we all made the effort to see each and everybody you know I went to every department yesterday and today,

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00:05:43.650 --> 00:05:50.910

Steven Ramsey: To spend time with them see him on zoom I got the spend, you know, last Thursday and Friday, we go with our new staff as well so

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00:05:51.420 --> 00:05:59.220

Steven Ramsey: Building those relationships with them and kind of let them understand about the culture of Westlake and really talking about the two new things I wanted to build core from learning

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00:05:59.640 --> 00:06:11.160

Steven Ramsey: How the best way to accomplish that. And also really talking a lot about equity and how to really make our students feel valued appreciate it and how to take care of them each and every day.

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00:06:12.240 --> 00:06:18.150

Steven Ramsey: And so I think that's been really a good week for us, we had a lot of good time with Dr. Gooden and teachers are pretty

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00:06:19.290 --> 00:06:23.640

Steven Ramsey: excited about the opportunity to build the best relationships with kids.

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00:06:24.660 --> 00:06:32.010

Steven Ramsey: And make them feel as safe as possible in all areas. So I think that's been really good had a lot of fun along the way to some departments are different.

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00:06:32.700 --> 00:06:39.630

Steven Ramsey: The science folks had games. We were playing right away, which is, I'm not a science guy, but there were a lot of science questions. That was a lot of fun.

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00:06:40.350 --> 00:06:45.240

Steven Ramsey: Some are very serious. They only want the answers. Usually someone like you Dr. Leonard, the math people don't have

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00:06:45.780 --> 00:06:51.150

Steven Ramsey: The best personality. Sometimes they were actually very lovely today and I'm pretty close to a lot of folks so...

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00:06:52.080 --> 00:06:57.990

Steven Ramsey: Got to spend time with English. They've got a great new administrator Sherry Crawford, who came to us from Frisco.

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00:06:58.530 --> 00:07:07.440

Steven Ramsey: Everybody is glad she had opportunity To come work with us. Her background is she has a bachelor and master's in English. And I realized I was probably

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00:07:08.400 --> 00:07:17.430

Steven Ramsey: Not as qualified as her to take over our English program. I think she's going to do a really good job with a new department and share bring a new life into the program and

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00:07:18.000 --> 00:07:25.830

Steven Ramsey: Making them Excel as well, especially in the area of writing and a different kind of reading curriculum. So pretty excited all the way around.

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00:07:27.120 --> 00:07:32.850

Steven Ramsey: You know, new faces at the school people are pretty happy new construction is going on with a high school

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00:07:33.900 --> 00:07:42.780

Steven Ramsey: You know the wrestling room being built, working on robotics, a little bit. Also, the new entrance to the Chap Court. So as usual, there's always something going on at the high school, which is nice to see.

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00:07:43.920 --> 00:07:51.030

Tom Leonard: Great Steve and we'll get questions. I've seen a couple coming out by now extracurricular corporate goes, we'll get to the questions in a minute.

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00:07:51.120 --> 00:07:52.620

Tom Leonard: Okay, I'm

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00:07:53.310 --> 00:07:54.210

Tom Leonard: Right in the middle.

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00:07:55.200 --> 00:08:04.950

Tom Leonard: The middle school, Dianne, you're representing both Hill Country and West Ridge for the moment. So what's going on in your in your world right now?

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00:08:05.460 --> 00:08:13.170

Dianne Carter: So honestly, a lot of what Steve said I can, I honestly can say ditto

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00:08:14.370 --> 00:08:27.450

Dianne Carter: To a lot of that as far we've, like you said, where we were so excited to see our staff again yes it was in zoom person instead of real person, but

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00:08:28.740 --> 00:08:37.530

Dianne Carter: It's great to see faces and and actually today we had a staggered schedule for teachers to come in on their work day to

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00:08:38.220 --> 00:08:49.620

Dianne Carter: If they needed to grab something from their room, real quick, or we do have some teachers that have chosen to to make some packets for their kids. Those of you who are

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00:08:50.610 --> 00:09:03.690

Dianne Carter: west ridge folks you've seen some of my communications about what's coming. We'll have a stuff pickup day next week, where if if your teachers chose to do that, then you'll be able to swing by and grab them.

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00:09:04.710 --> 00:09:15.960

Dianne Carter: So they've come up to use copy machines and get that all set. It's, it's been a little weird seeing people in in mask but but that's all right.

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00:09:16.770 --> 00:09:22.320

Dianne Carter: Some of our new people actually met for the first time in person, which was really cool.

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00:09:22.920 --> 00:09:30.030

Dianne Carter: So, you know, we're just getting that rolling and you know I'm gonna to build on a little bit of what Steve was talking about with

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00:09:30.570 --> 00:09:48.270

Dianne Carter: Professional Development and everything. I just have to say, I'm ready. I'm ridiculously proud of my staff right now because it was absolutely wonderful week of professional learning

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00:09:49.680 --> 00:09:53.340

Dianne Carter: I've heard more positive feedback than you can imagine.

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00:09:55.410 --> 00:10:07.410

Dianne Carter: At same time, it was a lot because, as you can imagine, like we're, we're not just learning the things that you would normally learn going into a new school year, but we're adding on

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00:10:08.100 --> 00:10:28.800

Dianne Carter: A lot of other things to to help our teachers make the most of our remote times. So it was a lot and I had more than one conversation with folks individually or in groups where the phrase "drinking from a fire hose" was used.

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00:10:30.120 --> 00:10:31.680

Dianne Carter: But they have

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00:10:32.820 --> 00:10:49.740

Dianne Carter: In all honesty, there's probably been sort of an emotional roller coaster because there's the excitement and then the overwhelmed and then the excitement. you know it's been a little up and down. But I will say the people I've seen today are in a ridiculously good place.

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00:10:51.090 --> 00:11:01.770

Dianne Carter: And just genuinely excited to work together as a team to do the absolute best for our kids. And we've talked a lot about leaning on each other

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00:11:02.730 --> 00:11:16.350

Dianne Carter: When you need to. And we, we hope that that's going to not just be... that's, that's something that we hope we end up modeling as a staff for our kids

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00:11:17.370 --> 00:11:26.130

Dianne Carter: And our families where we're all in this together. So we're excited. That's the, that's the key word.

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00:11:27.330 --> 00:11:37.680

Tom Leonard: Thank you, Dianne. And so what we're going to do right now. It was about 10 minutes we're gonna and I promise 10 minutes principles and we do 10 minutes central office with a couple people popping in

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00:11:38.280 --> 00:11:48.360

Tom Leonard: And then we're going to basically after that really just dive into the questions and see where they lead us. So I'd like to bring in three people right now. Molly May.

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00:11:49.320 --> 00:12:09.090

Tom Leonard: Chief students SUPPORT OFFICER Susan Famborough our chief learning officer and Dr. Jeff, Arnett our deputy superintendent. Thank you guys for spending the Friday afternoon with me. I know wasn't your choice. I basically sent you a zoom panelist invite and

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00:12:10.410 --> 00:12:15.930

Tom Leonard: You said yes, because that's what you do. Molly. I'm gonna start with you, if that's okay.

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00:12:17.160 --> 00:12:21.180

Tom Leonard: And you oversee Student Services, a wide range,

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00:12:22.290 --> 00:12:25.080

Tom Leonard: You might just a couple minutes. What's going on your world.

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00:12:25.740 --> 00:12:37.350

Molly May: Thank you, Dr. Leonard, we're actually all very happy to be here this afternoon, and as Dr. Leonard said, I'm the chief student

support officer. So underneath me are some wonderful directors, but is special education,

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00:12:37.830 --> 00:12:51.660

Molly May: dyslexia, ESL students support team process and counseling and nurses. So those groups have been really active this week kind of behind the scenes. This is the students support

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00:12:52.290 --> 00:13:03.990

Molly May: Team of Eanes ISD and so they've been looking at different ways that they're going to provide interventions for students, gathering materials as Heather said going in some of these

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00:13:04.830 --> 00:13:11.430

Molly May: Bags that the kids are picking up over the, over the next few days, really making sure that kids have the materials they need

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00:13:11.940 --> 00:13:23.910

Molly May: For those some of those very specific interventions. We've also been working really hard as a district to determine how we're going to get back on track with our evaluations. I know that's been a concern we had to really shut down

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00:13:24.660 --> 00:13:32.160

Molly May: Special Education testing, our testing for students with dyslexia in the spring, because all of the health concerns. So we've been looking at

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00:13:32.550 --> 00:13:41.850

Molly May: Different protocols. We've started just last week, some very beginning stages of bringing some kids in for special ed testing. So for the parents who

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00:13:42.540 --> 00:13:53.700

Molly May: had signed consent or even had revoked consent but knew they were going to come back in the fall. We're starting that process that also, as far as students with dyslexia, who we need to bring back into the building.

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00:13:54.480 --> 00:14:00.150

Molly May: Additionally, we have at the very beginning of the year, we need to be testing all of our ESL students who need

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00:14:01.140 --> 00:14:10.470

Molly May: that testing based on their home language survey. And so we're figuring out how to bring those kids in too. So a lot of work and the counselors have in were prepping

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00:14:10.920 --> 00:14:17.970

Molly May: lessons for our students building those relationships when the kids come back or nurses have been finalizing a plan.

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00:14:18.270 --> 00:14:27.300

Molly May: A protocol about what we do within the schools. And if we have a suspected or lab confirmed case of COVID. And we'll be rolling that plan out soon.

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00:14:27.570 --> 00:14:42.390

Molly May: So a lot of behind the scenes work. People working really hard. And again, going back to what Dianne said people doing a phenomenal job, great attitudes really positive and even remotely super excited to begin this next school year.

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00:14:43.590 --> 00:14:55.830

Tom Leonard: Great. And it looks like we're shifting on our maybe soon we may be shifting on our interpreters, you can see, Jane, I think coming into this. So those using them... you know, Molly, if you can stay there for a second.

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00:14:56.370 --> 00:15:09.840

Tom Leonard: While we're not going right to the questions right now there is one that is out there, burning, you know, with the 25% coming in on September 8. Remember we are virtual till September 8 by county rule right now.

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00:15:10.860 --> 00:15:25.800

Tom Leonard: And September 8 it's our intent to bring about 25% back and so a natural question that people are asking some people are asking if I'm in that 25%, when am I going to find that out and how will I be notified. What's our what's our timeline on there.

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00:15:26.640 --> 00:15:45.870

Molly May: So I'm going to confirm with Dr Arnett that August 21 is the date that we have that, we will be sending out a notification to

parents and either through Skylert or through somehow through skyward that they'll get notified that they are in that that 25%.

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00:15:46.530 --> 00:15:58.320

Tom Leonard: Great. Well, I'm gonna go on and will come back with other questions. I'm sure there'll be more in special services for sure, there always are. But I want to go to Susan for a minute, Susan.

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00:15:59.880 --> 00:16:07.740

Tom Leonard: I, there was a, I can't remember when I read emails anymore, but it was either this morning, or it was yesterday you sent me

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00:16:09.120 --> 00:16:11.790

Tom Leonard: The transcript of the

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00:16:13.560 --> 00:16:24.090

Tom Leonard: Staff staffs reactions or exit survey I guess exit ticket or exit survey to the professional development and I've been looking at these things for quite a few years.

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00:16:25.380 --> 00:16:27.090

Tom Leonard: They were pretty, pretty good.

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00:16:28.380 --> 00:16:40.230

Susan Fambrough: Yes, they were. And thank you so much, Dr. Leonard and we, just as everybody else has shared, are so excited to welcome our teachers back all of our returning teachers started back on Monday.

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00:16:40.620 --> 00:16:47.520

Susan Fambrough: We had a keynote with Dr Gooden our new consultant, who's helping us to build a community of trust through racial awareness.

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00:16:47.850 --> 00:16:56.880

Susan Fambrough: And we have had amazing feedback from our teachers and staff and they're really excited to get that conversation going and to really think about how we're going to

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00:16:57.330 --> 00:17:09.900

Susan Fambrough: Make sure that we we have a community of trust. We also had two days of professional development sessions and I want to give a big shout out to our educational partners and our curriculum and instruction team.

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00:17:10.200 --> 00:17:16.470

Susan Fambrough: They did a phenomenal job of creating sessions like engaging all students online.

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00:17:16.830 --> 00:17:29.460

Susan Fambrough: How do we give virtual assessments and we also have some self care sessions for teachers because just as we want to focus on our social and emotional health of our students, we want to do that for our staff as well.

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00:17:29.940 --> 00:17:36.270

Susan Fambrough: We also had a job-alike day and we had some really positive feedback from our teachers and if you don't know what that is,

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00:17:36.540 --> 00:17:46.260

Susan Fambrough: Basically it's a time where we bring all of our second grade teachers together and all of our, for example, sixth grade science teachers together and we give them time

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00:17:46.560 --> 00:17:56.250

Susan Fambrough: To look at their TEKS to think about maybe what wasn't covered at the end of last year, and what what how do we need to spiral those skills back in when we come back to school.

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00:17:57.120 --> 00:18:04.620

Susan Fambrough: But really the biggest thing for us is the relationship piece we want to figure out how we are going to be able to build relationships with our students.

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00:18:04.950 --> 00:18:12.570

Susan Fambrough: And the feedback that Dr. Leonard was talking about was that our teachers walked away feeling like they had more tools in their toolbox in order to do that.

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00:18:14.040 --> 00:18:15.180

Tom Leonard: Susan, I know this is

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00:18:15.690 --> 00:18:21.540

Tom Leonard: Your first year in this role after being principal at Cedar Creek for a couple years, and now

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00:18:21.780 --> 00:18:23.490

Tom Leonard: welcome to a new role.

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00:18:24.960 --> 00:18:33.120

Tom Leonard: Some of you know may know Dr. Jeff Arnett. Jeff's our deputy superintendent, but he really handles everything

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00:18:33.930 --> 00:18:54.390

Tom Leonard: In the operational domain and anything that I get confused on I give to Dr. Arnett or we work out together. So Jeff, technology seems to be pretty good. I know Leander had a bit of an issue the other day. we're confident that issue will not happen with us and

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00:18:55.470 --> 00:19:05.940

Tom Leonard: We're also, I know you're you're you're dealing a lot on the operation side, both with cleaning supplies masks all those types of things. What can you share what would you like to share.

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00:19:06.060 --> 00:19:12.150

Jeff Arnett: Thanks Tom. It was fun as Heather Meek said to get out and around to some of the campus. So today we masked up and

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00:19:12.720 --> 00:19:18.600

Jeff Arnett: Were there when the kindergarten parents and their children arrived to pick up their supplies, including their iPads.

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00:19:19.050 --> 00:19:29.730

Jeff Arnett: So that's an exciting moment for those children. And we saw that distribution today. Any other new students will be able to pick up their iPads prior to the first day of school if they haven't already done so.

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00:19:30.180 --> 00:19:35.610

Jeff Arnett: And speaking of technology with the bond issue that was approved by the Community recently.

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00:19:36.150 --> 00:19:44.010

Jeff Arnett: We're going to have all new iPads, for many of our students, those will be arriving very early in the fall. We had hoped that they might be here for the first day of school, but

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00:19:44.400 --> 00:19:54.510

Jeff Arnett: As you can imagine, there's quite a demand for technology worldwide right now and Apple is just a little behind on the delivery of those devices, but they should be here shortly after the first day of school.

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00:19:55.020 --> 00:20:00.120

Jeff Arnett: And then we'll be distributing to those students who will be receiving them soon after the first quarter begins.

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00:20:00.960 --> 00:20:10.350

Jeff Arnett: A lot of other new technology is coming, that will facilitate blended learning if teachers are teaching those who are in person, those who are remote simultaneously.

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00:20:10.860 --> 00:20:15.720

Jeff Arnett: We've got some new technology on the way for that as well. So just visited this morning with Eric Wright

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00:20:16.200 --> 00:20:23.250

Jeff Arnett: He's our Chief Technology Officer Eric was updating me on all the things going on in his department. And as Dr. Leonard said

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00:20:23.880 --> 00:20:32.760

Jeff Arnett: Unfortunately, one of our neighboring school districts had a little bit of frustration and challenge on the first day of school and their high school students weren't able to participate remotely.

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00:20:33.600 --> 00:20:41.220

Jeff Arnett: We've gone through all of our systems, all of our filters we feel very confident that we're not going to encounter the same obstacle.

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00:20:41.580 --> 00:20:48.570

Jeff Arnett: And all of our students are expected to be able to access their teachers and use their devices on the first day of school.

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00:20:49.140 --> 00:21:02.340

Jeff Arnett: On the operation side as Tom said while I was out on some of the campuses today. There's a lot of activity going on. Again, the bond issue provided the way for us to make some really great facility improvements.

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00:21:02.760 --> 00:21:09.750

Jeff Arnett: We've got a new Aquatic Center that is underway. WE'VE GOT A NEW WRESTLING addition to the high school, the robotics center.

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00:21:10.560 --> 00:21:17.700

Jeff Arnett: A lot of great things happening. I was at Valley View for the distribution of their kindergarten supplies and they have a new plaza that's being put in

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00:21:18.180 --> 00:21:24.420

Jeff Arnett: If you recall that bank there in front of the school, all that's being redone. It's going to be wonderful.

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00:21:24.870 --> 00:21:32.970

Jeff Arnett: And we've got good weather right now, even though it's very hot, but all these construction projects are on schedule. And we're very excited for all that to be completed.

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00:21:33.450 --> 00:21:43.020

Jeff Arnett: Just very quickly on the cleaning side, a lot of questions about air quality. And what we've done to our HVAC systems over the summer and response to

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00:21:44.820 --> 00:21:55.650

Jeff Arnett: And we're very happy with the progress that's been made. We think that students can look forward to clean classrooms, when they return and good air quality as well so

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00:21:56.340 --> 00:22:04.560

Jeff Arnett: A lot of improvement in that area. classrooms have been cleaned and as Tom said a lot of supplies are arriving the personal protective equipment.

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00:22:04.950 --> 00:22:10.800

Jeff Arnett: Masks and other things that will be used once our students and staff are fully back on campus as well so

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Jeff Arnett: We're excited for the first day of school. We're ready. It's obviously very unusual circumstances. But in spite of that, there's a lot of enthusiasm out there and we're looking forward to the start of school.

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00:22:21.990 --> 00:22:23.880

Tom Leonard: Yeah, and Jeff, I think it's also

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00:22:25.620 --> 00:22:40.500

Tom Leonard: You know, at least worth noting, you know, the passage of the 2015 bond and the passage of the bond, both of those bonds handled pretty large line item on HVAC

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00:22:41.760 --> 00:22:42.240

Tom Leonard: And

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00:22:43.950 --> 00:22:51.780

Tom Leonard: That's really kind of good for us in that you know even updating those systems over the past couple of years. So they're not antiquated systems.

146

00:22:51.780 --> 00:23:00.810

Tom Leonard: Right. But in our buildings. So what I'd like to do now. We're about 20 minutes in, I and I promised I want to get to questions. We've been trying to weave in a few that are

147

00:23:01.290 --> 00:23:06.780

Tom Leonard: That have been coming in. We've got over 200 and something people watching us this afternoon so

148

00:23:07.590 --> 00:23:18.000

Tom Leonard: Major League Baseball must not be playing at the moment, but let's see if we can bring the principals back on. If that's okay have and keep central office on as well so

149

00:23:18.390 --> 00:23:28.860

Tom Leonard: What we're going to do is going to keep this pretty informal. There are, I think, a little over 30 questions that have come in. Some of them overlap each other.

150

00:23:29.640 --> 00:23:39.270

Tom Leonard: They're not all completely unique questions. Um, and I'm not sure how, we're really just kind of winging this guys. there has been a question asked about

151

00:23:40.320 --> 00:23:48.240

Tom Leonard: Middle School asked act you know when the kids do get in the building. Will they be able to get into libraries and that's probably one for really

152

00:23:48.840 --> 00:23:56.910

Tom Leonard: You know any of the principals are high school, middle school or elementary um you know what happens, those common areas where do we go with that.

153

00:23:57.840 --> 00:24:10.530

Dianne Carter: So, since it was Middle School. I'll jump in there first. I actually texted Mrs. Sullivan over at Hill Country just to be sure I wasn't going to tell a story for her school. And the answer is yes.

154

00:24:11.550 --> 00:24:23.730

Dianne Carter: Obviously, it won't be quote unquote normal because typically that's a place where kids gathered to work in groups and really spend some collaboration time

155

00:24:24.930 --> 00:24:29.760

Dianne Carter: There it it's not going to be a place for people to gather

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00:24:30.780 --> 00:24:36.930

Dianne Carter: It will purely be if a kid needs a book that's in the library, they're going to need to come and get it and go

157

00:24:38.160 --> 00:24:46.470

Dianne Carter: So it will not be a gathering place. we unfortunately won't be able to have those really at all.

158

00:24:47.700 --> 00:24:50.490

Tom Leonard: And Steve any difference at the high school. I'm

159

00:24:52.260 --> 00:24:56.250

Tom Leonard: In terms of libraries and those types of areas.

160

00:24:57.120 --> 00:25:07.170

Steven Ramsey: We will probably use the library and some other areas, like the Chap court as well. The ninth grade center cafeteria, probably for some ability to get classes on a bigger area.

161

00:25:07.530 --> 00:25:13.830

Steven Ramsey: To work on social distancing and in the blended model, we may have some folks like we've talked about who will be teaching remotely.

162

00:25:14.460 --> 00:25:28.470

Steven Ramsey: For the full time that we may have some of our students who have a remote teacher that may be a place for them to go do their work remotely as they watch the other teacher that may be a little bit different with the library. high school kids can sometimes move around a little bit better.

163

00:25:29.970 --> 00:25:39.420

Steven Ramsey: Than a sixth grader hanging out at West Ridge, I remember those days. So they may have a little bit of more opportunity to do their remote learning from those open areas as well.

164

00:25:39.780 --> 00:25:44.880

Tom Leonard: The One Amazing Thing I've always particularly at the high school and having been teaching.

165

00:25:46.050 --> 00:25:52.230

Tom Leonard: I worked in about eight or nine high schools over the years, you know, even when we're in regular session.

166

00:25:52.770 --> 00:26:07.560

Tom Leonard: Steve, you know, you, you know, during the lunch periods, you may have five- 600 kids free, you know, whether they're eating lunch or hanging out and they've always been able to find a place and

sometimes just get in a corner and work on what they're working on.

167

00:26:08.760 --> 00:26:18.420

Tom Leonard: And the behavior has always been outstanding, you know, among those kids and I imagine that's what you're talking about. If we have a teacher who might be

168

00:26:19.320 --> 00:26:30.090

Tom Leonard: Have an underlying medical condition, who must teach from home for a period of time, while we have a significant number of kids in school, there may be one period during the day where

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00:26:30.540 --> 00:26:38.580

Tom Leonard: They would find a spot or we would create a spot and they would work with that teacher online or get help from a teacher, be tutored by a teacher

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00:26:39.030 --> 00:26:43.800

Tom Leonard: Who is remote to the high school while they're actually in the high school and that could happen at different levels as well.

171

00:26:44.400 --> 00:26:54.930

Tom Leonard: I know it's something we've been talking about. While I've got you. Steve, if you don't mind a lot of there's several questions connected with extracurriculars okay and I know you and I talked about that a lot.

172

00:26:55.980 --> 00:27:05.250

Tom Leonard: I talked to Todd Dodge since this morning and probably last three or four days Kerry Taylor and you know with band. I had a meeting

173

00:27:06.720 --> 00:27:08.220

Tom Leonard: With that earlier in the week.

174

00:27:09.330 --> 00:27:21.660

Tom Leonard: You know they're around different ideas. Can you just talk about extracurriculars, there's several different aspects to this, but I'll leave it open to you. And if there's somewhere I think I need to fill in I will go. Okay.

175

00:27:22.290 --> 00:27:29.700

Steven Ramsey: So one of the questions did ask about with other conferences, different things at the collegiate level, are we rethinking extracurriculars at this point. No.

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00:27:30.300 --> 00:27:38.700

Steven Ramsey: We are following The Travis County Health order and we always have and always will. So, on September eighth our fall sports can begin their in-season training.

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00:27:39.240 --> 00:27:46.560

Steven Ramsey: And so that includes band, cheer cross country, tennis, Hylinw, football

178

00:27:47.160 --> 00:27:57.840

Steven Ramsey: And volleyball. So they'll begin their in-season training, they'll be in the athletic period if they're on campus and then practicing before and after school and they will have competitions at this point.

179

00:27:58.260 --> 00:28:07.650

Steven Ramsey: So it is pretty unique. I've had several questions about that. Yes. Your daughter may be a cheerleader. She may not be in the 25% group on campus but yes on a Friday night and

180

00:28:08.010 --> 00:28:16.560

Steven Ramsey: early October. She could be cheering on the sideline. So this is creating, some unique situations. And also, this is kind of new.

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00:28:17.100 --> 00:28:24.600

Steven Ramsey: The UIL as well for groups that would be in their offseason classes. So let's take a basketball softball, baseball...

182

00:28:24.960 --> 00:28:29.940

Steven Ramsey: Those coaches can actually have more access to their students in normal than during the normal year.

183

00:28:30.240 --> 00:28:35.940

Steven Ramsey: They can actually practice an hour before school or after school with skill work. So that's kind of a unique thing so

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00:28:36.270 --> 00:28:41.640

Steven Ramsey: Like I have a daughter, who's going to be trying out for volleyball. She will be going to in-season volleyball practice.

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00:28:41.910 --> 00:28:49.140

Steven Ramsey: while her twin sister is in basketball. She'll be doing offseason basketball work also before school, more than likely, so

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00:28:49.470 --> 00:28:54.030

Steven Ramsey: That's how that's kind of change. The UIL is the regulating body for high school sports.

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00:28:54.420 --> 00:29:02.130

Steven Ramsey: Right now, 1A through 4A is actively practicing in all those sports and activities I mentioned. And so they're getting a pretty good range on

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00:29:02.670 --> 00:29:13.260

Steven Ramsey: infection rates how COVID 19 is affecting all those other sports with a little less numbers of kids. So in different kind of populations just throughout the state of Texas, whether it's West Texas East Texas.

189

00:29:13.950 --> 00:29:17.700

Steven Ramsey: You know there's smaller schools in big cities like, you know, Austin and Dallas so

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00:29:18.510 --> 00:29:24.030

Steven Ramsey: Getting a nice range. They're like Lago Vista right now is practicing what might be one of the closest ones to us so

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00:29:24.600 --> 00:29:34.650

Steven Ramsey: That's kind of what's going on with extracurricular sports right now. And our coaches, they're well aware of all the rules. I know they've been communicating out as well already to their athletes.

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00:29:35.730 --> 00:29:38.910

Tom Leonard: And kind of connected to that Steve,

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00:29:41.340 --> 00:29:56.430

Tom Leonard: You know comes up a couple questions come up once in a while one if a student is online, because for a period of time. Let's say we are limited at 25% for a period of time, and they're not able to be in person.

194

00:29:58.290 --> 00:30:09.090

Tom Leonard: They still according to UIL rules right now would be able to practice before after school. Yes, they would be able to participate in contests, if those contests occur.

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00:30:09.360 --> 00:30:21.150

Steven Ramsey: Yes, the UIL said that all eligibility rules Extend to a student athlete who's in remote learning. So they'll have the normal eligibility calendar and they are eligible to participate in athletics.

196

00:30:21.720 --> 00:30:24.030

Steven Ramsey: Right. All other UIL activities remotely.

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00:30:24.780 --> 00:30:32.850

Tom Leonard: And again, I think the only thing I want to make sure and this this relates to a lot of things. A lot of this is all where we stand today.

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00:30:33.720 --> 00:30:42.900

Tom Leonard: I find, make sure that's clear. If you would have gone two weeks ago and asked where the Big 10 was it would be a different place than they are today.

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00:30:43.650 --> 00:30:57.690

Tom Leonard: So could this change. Yes. Could UIL change this. Yes. Could the county, add some rules right now, we cannot do strength and conditioning camps and Travis County until September 8

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00:30:58.350 --> 00:31:08.940

Tom Leonard: But we do have we've heard that that might actually change and loosen up because of where we are in terms of the different stages in the county. In fact, we've even

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00:31:10.320 --> 00:31:19.500

Tom Leonard: got everything ready should, should the county change

some of the rules we would adjust. So we want to be flexible and adaptable in that domain.

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00:31:20.460 --> 00:31:24.510

Tom Leonard: Jeff, can you come in and this could also be Molly as well.

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00:31:24.840 --> 00:31:42.720

Tom Leonard: And maybe a little more clarity on when we inform the 25%, you know, I imagine some of those will be conversations with parents by phone. In some cases, you know what we're talking about it because and in other cases, yes, it might be through email. Can you clarify that a little bit.

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00:31:43.950 --> 00:31:49.740

Jeff Arnett: Or Molly. I'll start if you want me to. As parents know we just completed the survey

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00:31:50.190 --> 00:31:56.670

Jeff Arnett: Very early this past week. So by Tuesday principals, were already working with the responses.

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00:31:57.060 --> 00:32:05.130

Jeff Arnett: And then overlaying that with the criteria that we have discussed publicly. So they have a pretty good idea which students would initially be allowed to return.

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00:32:05.670 --> 00:32:13.950

Jeff Arnett: We need a few more days because we want to be absolutely certain of that the principals are being very thoughtful and their review of student needs as well as parent responses.

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00:32:14.460 --> 00:32:19.470

Jeff Arnett: And so we want to make sure that we're ready for that notification and that we can

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00:32:19.950 --> 00:32:33.990

Jeff Arnett: Allow as many of those students who meet that criteria to come back into the building, who wish to do so right now tentatively we're planning on notifying families on or about Friday, August the 21st. We think that we will be ready for that communication.

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00:32:36.660 --> 00:32:39.390

Tom Leonard: And Molly any follow up on that, or you're good, I think.

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00:32:40.050 --> 00:32:48.900

Tom Leonard: That okay I'm looking through some of the questions and team members if you see, you want to jump on. Go ahead. I'm trying to read.

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00:32:49.800 --> 00:32:51.510

Heather Meek: There was a question about attendance.

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00:32:51.720 --> 00:32:56.160

Heather Meek: Attendance taking and just when during the first three weeks. How would we be taking

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00:32:56.160 --> 00:33:08.160

Heather Meek: Attendance. The question was specific to fourth grade, but I'm going to address all the grade levels. So in grades three through five attendance will be taken when a student logs on at 12:45

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00:33:08.940 --> 00:33:16.140

Heather Meek: kindergarten through second grade is a little bit different. According to TEA guidelines and students are

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00:33:16.860 --> 00:33:25.260

Heather Meek: Online. Not as much in there being taught asynchronously. So to get credit for attendance for students K through two

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00:33:25.710 --> 00:33:36.210

Heather Meek: The child must engage either in our learning management system or with a teacher, one time per day. And the teacher will take attendance at whatever time that is for K through two

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00:33:37.710 --> 00:33:49.950

Heather Meek: There's one more question, too, about when will the class list for kindergarten or I'm sorry, elementary students be released. those lists will be released in Skyward at 10am on Monday.

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00:33:50.580 --> 00:34:00.390

Heather Meek: And later on that day on Monday, our teachers will be sending out our back to school orientations specific to the grade level. So be watching for those as well.

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00:34:02.760 --> 00:34:07.170

Steven Ramsey: Right, I can add to that a little bit. Heather for one of the questions about back to school nights.

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00:34:07.530 --> 00:34:18.360

Steven Ramsey: at the secondary level all of our secondary teachers are going to make videos, kind of like the elementaries. ours will be posted and ready for viewing on the 28th of August.

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00:34:18.750 --> 00:34:22.050

Steven Ramsey: That way it gives us about a week and a half or any kind of schedule changes.

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00:34:22.500 --> 00:34:32.940

Steven Ramsey: That way you don't have to go back and forth and look for it, but they'll be posted on their websites on the 28th for the secondary that's West Ridge, Hill Country and the high school, but we will not have back traditional back to school nights.

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00:34:34.320 --> 00:34:39.900

Tom Leonard: Right now there are some questions that are being asked that are really departmental

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00:34:40.860 --> 00:34:45.660

Tom Leonard: At the high school science department, you know, how are you going to do labs when they're remote

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00:34:46.050 --> 00:35:01.320

Tom Leonard: And there is one, you know, since are so many athletic and extracurricular, you know, if we if this proves to be something we think of value. I may do one where we bring in Todd Dodge and Kerry Taylor and some of those people in that domain.

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00:35:02.670 --> 00:35:20.550

Tom Leonard: In a future one of these just question answer sessions but Steve, I know there's been some talk about you know labs and I know there's also some conversation about, you know, can a teacher teach from the building while we are remote

228

00:35:21.630 --> 00:35:32.730

Tom Leonard: Maybe Jeff or someone might can answer that. Or I can I can I can lean in on that one. If anyone wants to take that. But I think I'll start with you, Steve. Um, you know, obviously a

229

00:35:33.630 --> 00:35:43.950

Tom Leonard: Lab, sure, kind of hands on activity as are some of our some of our other classes as well. What's our teachers departmental thinking about some of those things.

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00:35:44.460 --> 00:35:53.760

Steven Ramsey: So in science They did some in the spring. So they felt like they have a good model on how they feel like they can adapt and modify and improve

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00:35:54.120 --> 00:36:04.920

Steven Ramsey: Is the fact that you can do a lot with data and then the teachers at some point, you know, after the 31st, you can answer that question, they'll be in the rooms where they can actually conduct experiments.

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00:36:05.280 --> 00:36:11.250

Steven Ramsey: For some of the students start on the eighth, it will be on campus and for the ones will be home, they'll actually be able to see them in person.

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00:36:11.550 --> 00:36:20.310

Steven Ramsey: And they'll be able to zoom and talk to their other partners probably that are doing the lab. So it'll be more interactive. You have the spread of information through

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00:36:21.360 --> 00:36:26.670

Steven Ramsey: You know, spreadsheets, all the stuff you can do through iPads, all of our amazing technology they feel like they can make those

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00:36:26.940 --> 00:36:32.370

Steven Ramsey: Obviously not The hands on experience but still very valuable. So they can actually see the experiments. See what can happen.

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00:36:33.000 --> 00:36:36.870

Steven Ramsey: They can talk about the observation, that's one thing I heard from the science teachers observing

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00:36:37.350 --> 00:36:48.480

Steven Ramsey: Part is probably one of most critical ones. That's where you gain the most knowledge and so they'll actually be able to observe the labs and see what's happening. And hopefully have a, you know, be able to partake in it, and verbally, so

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00:36:49.440 --> 00:36:56.790

Tom Leonard: So you've got you've got the situation where, if there's one kid and maybe partnered with a kid who's remote and they can share and discuss and

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00:36:57.930 --> 00:37:04.500

Steven Ramsey: We have lab partners traditionally anyway. So I think that's how. They'll pair them up is to make sure those students at home was getting a valuable experience as well.

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00:37:04.860 --> 00:37:13.260

Tom Leonard: Right. And I knew at the middle school and high school in science classes. There are, there's been some simulation type software, we've been using in the past. Yes.

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00:37:15.390 --> 00:37:22.470

Tom Leonard: Dissecting frogs is a little different when you're doing it on an iPad than in person. It doesn't smell as bad.

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00:37:22.920 --> 00:37:38.220

Tom Leonard: But there is some, but there are some simulation software that is actually pretty valuable. And I've even seen that in engineering and electronics courses where kids use those types of things in terms of circuits and things of that nature. Um,

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00:37:39.450 --> 00:37:41.580

Tom Leonard: Where else should we go I

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00:37:42.630 --> 00:37:47.880

Tom Leonard: Anyone see a question that they would like to jump on Susan, I think you're coming in, go ahead.

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00:37:48.750 --> 00:37:58.320

Susan Fambrough: Thank you, Dr. Leonard and there was a question about specials. so specials will be taught live synchronous and and it is expected that students would log on.

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00:37:58.650 --> 00:38:05.940

Susan Fambrough: And. And the reason for that is we want to build a relationship between the specials teacher and those students, but with the class as well.

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00:38:07.170 --> 00:38:15.840

Susan Fambrough: And there was also another question about Spanish immersion and we are so fortunate we have Jerry LaMirand, who has just come back to the district and

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00:38:16.110 --> 00:38:24.420

Susan Fambrough: And also you're Yurelli Williams, who's our educational partner and they oversee our Spanish immersion program and they have been meeting with

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00:38:24.840 --> 00:38:34.050

Susan Fambrough: With their Spanish immersion teachers. We have a couple of new resources that we're using with our with our Spanish immersion students

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00:38:34.380 --> 00:38:50.190

Susan Fambrough: They had some very intense training with Ophelia, who is the director of Spanish immersion for Utah, the whole state of Utah. So we've, we've got some things going to make sure that we have a really rich experience with our Spanish immersion students in the room and remote environment.

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00:38:51.300 --> 00:38:55.950

Tom Leonard: Thanks, Susan, um, you know, there's a question here. I have not seen yet.

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00:38:57.090 --> 00:39:00.090

Tom Leonard: Then I've been seeing a lot of questions and

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00:39:01.740 --> 00:39:18.000

Tom Leonard: I think I'm going to try to answer it for the group but Jeff, you're going to let me know if I'm wrong. The question is, will zoom backgrounds be allowed for a remote student, you know, and we think we know what a zoom background is if you don't, I'll give you one of me in a second.

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00:39:19.290 --> 00:39:29.130

Tom Leonard: But the i i think the concept is we're fine with whatever the zoom background might be that somebody might use. Am I correct

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00:39:29.790 --> 00:39:33.420

Jeff Arnett: As long as it's appropriate. There are some

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00:39:34.710 --> 00:39:45.570

Jeff Arnett: Provisions in our student handbook that do address how students need to be attired or what their background might look like, what would be appropriate or inappropriate.

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00:39:46.110 --> 00:39:52.620

Jeff Arnett: Not too dissimilar to what the expectation we would have of students if they're coming to school in terms of how they present themselves.

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00:39:53.130 --> 00:39:59.820

Jeff Arnett: So as long as it's appropriate. One of the interesting things about zoom, as we've all learned is that it gives you a glimpse into

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00:40:00.630 --> 00:40:12.450

Jeff Arnett: each individual's personal or home environment. And that can be a way for everybody to develop those relationships and as long as that background is appropriate, then yes, they would be allowed.

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00:40:13.140 --> 00:40:21.330

Tom Leonard: And I that's kind of what I thought the answer would be, and even though there may be some dress requirements. It's a

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00:40:22.410 --> 00:40:32.010

Tom Leonard: Whether they're wearing shoes or not, not, probably our biggest concern if they're remote at this moment in time, I would imagine so. I mean, there

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00:40:33.210 --> 00:40:35.910

Tom Leonard: It just, that is where it is I'm

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00:40:36.690 --> 00:40:47.340

Molly May: Tom if I can follow up on it a few things. A few questions. And then also, one thing about the background. When thing that we do encourage our students to have their camera on when they're

264

00:40:48.000 --> 00:40:58.470

Molly May: In a zoom meeting and that way we know that they're engaged. We know that they're present. However, we also understand, just like we as adults Sometimes things go on in the home situation.

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00:40:58.740 --> 00:41:09.690

Molly May: And a student needs to turn off their camera for a reason, or something's going on. So we just ask that you, as parents, you know if there's things going on or a student feels very uncomfortable on the camera.on

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00:41:10.230 --> 00:41:17.880

Molly May: But you have discussions with this with your teachers and your staff and, you know, we can work with kids again on a virtual background, maybe something that's

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00:41:18.630 --> 00:41:25.650

Molly May: You know, makes them feel more comfortable than having, or maybe because there's four kids in the house that's

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00:41:26.010 --> 00:41:37.650

Molly May: Zoom and it's just easier for them to have a virtual background. So just make sure you encourage your kids to speak with their teachers, if, if there are some issues around being on zoom so that they feel comfortable and safe in that environment.

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00:41:38.550 --> 00:41:41.160

Molly May: In addition, there's just a few other questions I wanted to

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00:41:41.610 --> 00:41:48.630

Molly May: To answer so specifically related to special education. There was a question about the temporary individual continuity plan.

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00:41:48.840 --> 00:41:58.440

Molly May: And if your students not in special education. You don't know what that is, it's okay. But if they are you received this plan last spring. And you also receive a plan, those are

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00:41:58.680 --> 00:42:03.870

Molly May: Set to go out by August 28. Some have already gone out, there'll be going out over the next couple weeks.

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00:42:04.230 --> 00:42:13.710

Molly May: And these plans really are just a summary of what that remote learning environment looks like what supports that we are able to provide if there's anything that we need to

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00:42:14.010 --> 00:42:19.950

Molly May: Be doing differently. But again, that is just that's the plan if that's okay with you and everything

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00:42:20.850 --> 00:42:31.980

Molly May: Is working That's great. However, if you feel that you need to call an ARD meeting to discuss things further and you are always welcome as a parent call an ARD meeting. And so, please, please feel free to do that.

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00:42:32.430 --> 00:42:35.910

Molly May: There's also several questions around positive

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00:42:36.420 --> 00:42:45.840

Molly May: Cases of COVID and communication around that. As I mentioned at the very beginning of the meeting. We have a plan that will be going out very soon. That kind of outlines that

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00:42:46.020 --> 00:42:52.980

Molly May: Several of the questions is a we have alluded to all the changes and definitions that have gone on through the summer and

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00:42:53.370 --> 00:43:00.030

Molly May: Different rules and regulations that we're supposed to follow. So we've been updating this guidance document all summer.

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00:43:00.360 --> 00:43:09.960

Molly May: But knowing that school is getting ready to start and we're going to have students in the building, September 8 we will we will get that finalized so that parents understand

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00:43:10.410 --> 00:43:24.600

Molly May: What's expected if there, if there is a positive case and the communication that's going to go out and what that looks like. And we are not as a school OFFICIALLY DOING contact tracing as defined

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00:43:25.680 --> 00:43:44.220

Molly May: But we are doing what what the county is now calling case review reporting for school based exposure. So we will be a lot, letting people know if there's a case in then what that looks like quarantine time periods isolation time periods and communicating out that very clearly.

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00:43:46.050 --> 00:43:54.870

Tom Leonard: Great. And, you know, there's a couple of questions connected to stay out, you know, teaching in the building on when can they come in the building. There's even one that kind of says

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00:43:56.220 --> 00:44:01.470

Tom Leonard: How will the 25% staff returning to the building be chosen and

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00:44:02.490 --> 00:44:15.180

Tom Leonard: We're really not choosing staff to come in the building. What we're and I'll let I'll let somebody jump in if they want. I think Jeff is going to try to answer it better than I, I, our general our general feeling right now is that

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00:44:16.860 --> 00:44:28.080

Tom Leonard: While we are completely remote. Okay, we are allowing our teachers to teach from their home or from wherever. They've got good Internet access and they can teach

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00:44:28.530 --> 00:44:35.100

Tom Leonard: Um, and that would be for the first two to three weeks now. We have told staff, if they feel it is more

288

00:44:35.580 --> 00:44:51.660

Tom Leonard: Conducive to them or easier for them to teach in the building, you know, in a room and and teach their online courses from the building. They would just have a conversation with their principal and HR and we'll just make sure they're there. We want to keep the numbers

289

00:44:52.740 --> 00:45:07.620

Tom Leonard: As low, kind of low, just to make sure we keep people as healthy as long as possible because that gives us sustainability. That said, when we get to the week before September 8 we believe a significant amount of our staff will be in the building, getting ready

290

00:45:08.700 --> 00:45:16.860

Tom Leonard: Making sure their classes are ready and they will be teaching remote from their classroom. There is an exception and the exception would be

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00:45:17.820 --> 00:45:28.140

Tom Leonard: Any staff member who are working with a physician has submitted documentation to us that they or someone close and their family has an underlying medical condition.

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00:45:28.560 --> 00:45:46.140

Tom Leonard: And then we would make the appropriate accommodations for that staff member least that's where we're going right now. So it's not like we'll hit a certain point, we may have 25% of the students in the building. When we hit September 8 but we may have 70 to 80% of our staff in the building.

293

00:45:47.280 --> 00:45:48.510

Tom Leonard: Jeff for

294

00:45:50.850 --> 00:45:56.040

Tom Leonard: Any color you want to put on that, that I haven't explained well and offering as much detail.

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00:45:56.370 --> 00:45:57.840

Jeff Arnett: Tom that covers it. Yeah.

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00:45:58.560 --> 00:46:03.120

Tom Leonard: I'm you know there's a there are questions and I'll, I'll take this on you know

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00:46:05.160 --> 00:46:12.780

Tom Leonard: So we know by the county right now for the first three weeks, we are going to be remote could that change.

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00:46:13.770 --> 00:46:27.360

Tom Leonard: I have been told by them that they are not going to change that. But I haven't heard anything right now that county order stands and that will be through September 8 I'm at that point.

299

00:46:28.980 --> 00:46:35.400

Tom Leonard: We don't know if they're going to put a limit, whether it be 25% 50%, we're not absolutely sure.

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00:46:35.910 --> 00:46:43.830

Tom Leonard: But we think it's prudent to bring in a small number to make sure we get our protocols in place. Make sure we can sustain it.

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00:46:44.340 --> 00:46:57.870

Tom Leonard: And make sure we're bringing in those kids who really need to be in person. First I'm going to try to decide that. And we've already shared the criteria we'll be using the question always comes up, how long will you be there.

302

00:46:59.100 --> 00:47:10.560

Tom Leonard: Will you be is that going to be for a total of five weeks or is that going to be a total of three weeks or a total of four weeks and and the answer, The honest answer is we're not sure

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00:47:12.840 --> 00:47:13.710

Tom Leonard: Right now.

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00:47:15.090 --> 00:47:19.380

Tom Leonard: If we're hopeful. If we are doing well in the area

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00:47:20.460 --> 00:47:26.910

Tom Leonard: If we are able to sustain well at 25% and we are able to maintain that without having

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00:47:28.020 --> 00:47:37.230

Tom Leonard: Teachers get ill for having kids have to self quarantine or teachers or staff have to self quarantine that puts us in a diminished ability to operate.

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00:47:37.860 --> 00:47:44.310

Tom Leonard: I'm assuming everything is going well, we may push that up and be able to start bringing in a higher percentage along the way.

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00:47:45.000 --> 00:47:55.890

Tom Leonard: Right now, depending on the level, it seems that we're at about 60 to 70% depending on the level more around 60% who want to be in person at the elementary

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00:47:56.700 --> 00:48:10.590

Tom Leonard: Higher at the middle and even higher at the secondary. So that's what we're watching right now. Now at the same time, when I say we could go up in terms of percentages. I'm not going to say there isn't a chance

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00:48:11.760 --> 00:48:21.120

Tom Leonard: Just like in March when the governor said you are going to go remote within the county, said just a couple weeks ago that we would be remote for the first three weeks.

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00:48:21.570 --> 00:48:28.950

Tom Leonard: I cannot assure you that that wouldn't come from a governmental agency in the middle of September. So it's something we don't know.

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00:48:29.760 --> 00:48:41.010

Tom Leonard: What data are we using to make those decisions. We are trusting the county health officials. That's what we're doing right now. That's the data we're using and trying to make sure our protocols are

313

00:48:41.520 --> 00:48:53.820

Tom Leonard: as effective as they can be with a small number, because I think once we get rolling And once we get up and running The last thing they want to do is do it poorly and have to shut down.

314

00:48:55.320 --> 00:49:08.400

Tom Leonard: And I think Steve, Heather, Dianne right now. We think

we're pretty well staffed right, we're in a good situation. I know some school districts have lost staff recently people have resigned.

315

00:49:09.030 --> 00:49:17.910

Tom Leonard: Of course, we always have some turnover between retirements and people moving from different areas. That's always been the case. But right now, we're pretty stable with our staff.

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00:49:19.500 --> 00:49:24.420

Tom Leonard: I'm seeing heads not still got to try to find some people here or there may be or we're okay.

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00:49:25.650 --> 00:49:26.340

Tom Leonard: Steve or Molly answer.

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00:49:27.090 --> 00:49:36.150

Steven Ramsey: Yeah, we're fully staffed, we have all of our normal teachers on board. schedules went out yesterday. Same

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00:49:36.630 --> 00:49:44.220

Steven Ramsey: Thing seemed to go pretty well with that, uh, you know, one thing to, you know, throw out there because we are pretty transparent is the number of staff that

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00:49:44.640 --> 00:49:52.290

Steven Ramsey: Will have, you know, medical documentation exemptions, you know, that's something we have to work through and that's one thing we're doing right now as we get looked forward to

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00:49:52.680 --> 00:50:04.110

Steven Ramsey: Let you know who the first 25% will be let in next week. So that is one thing is principals are all definitely looking at this medical documentation keeps coming in how we can best serve our students and the staff.

322

00:50:05.220 --> 00:50:17.670

Steven Ramsey: remains on campus to make it the safest and the key word that Dr. Leonard keeps using that I think is definitely one that I'm using with my principal friends throughout the state is already sustainable.

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00:50:18.540 --> 00:50:24.720

Steven Ramsey: Who can you have in the building? Can the folks that are working remotely, can you sustain this for as long as possible?

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00:50:25.350 --> 00:50:29.610

Steven Ramsey: With the situation. So I appreciate that very much. The board has kind of endorsed that as well. So

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00:50:29.940 --> 00:50:39.420

Steven Ramsey: I think that's probably one of the most important things to take away is that we've got the staff. It's a matter of where they aren't... kind of putting the puzzle pieces together. Now to make sure that all of our students are serviced.

326

00:50:40.710 --> 00:50:52.890

Molly May: Let's say Dr. Leonard special education is still looking for some staff. We're down a few teachers and some teaching assistants, it's not unusual for us to start the year down some teaching assistants.

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00:50:53.820 --> 00:51:00.060

Molly May: But that that we are we are still looking, but we are still getting applications in every week.

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00:51:00.930 --> 00:51:05.400

Tom Leonard: And I know our sub support has come up a little bit, but it's still and about

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00:51:06.090 --> 00:51:13.590

Tom Leonard: A third to maybe a little more than a third at what it usually has been and we do have some information on our website, if anyone's interested in that.

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00:51:13.950 --> 00:51:21.690

Tom Leonard: Jeff, I've made you a co host, there's a question about safety precautions and masks. So I'm gonna, I'm not going to make you go to that right away.

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00:51:21.960 --> 00:51:39.180

Tom Leonard: But I think you know the slide I'm talking about that has the CDC rules on Travis county's current rules and the the rules because I now know this is a question that's being asked about. So if

you can dig that slide up. Oh boy. He's fast.

332

00:51:41.310 --> 00:51:45.090

Tom Leonard: So Jeff. Do you want to talk to this briefly if that's okay.

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00:51:45.900 --> 00:51:56.250

Jeff Arnett: Well, as I think we've tried to point out in various presentations We are carefully watching a lot of different directive and advice from different agencies.

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00:51:56.790 --> 00:52:03.870

Jeff Arnett: And there's a Centers for Disease Control. There's the Travis County Health order the Texas Education Agency or TEA

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00:52:04.320 --> 00:52:12.900

Jeff Arnett: They've come out with their own recommendations. So what we have to try to do is distill all that down into what is feasible

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00:52:13.470 --> 00:52:23.310

Jeff Arnett: For Eanes ISD and we're taking all of that into account some of the directives will supersede others like Travis County Health order, we would feel like.

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00:52:23.730 --> 00:52:32.580

Jeff Arnett: That's probably the one that we need to go to first that's often based upon the Centers for Disease Control sometimes TEA takes that into consideration as well.

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00:52:33.000 --> 00:52:40.590

Jeff Arnett: But we have to try to figure out, okay, which one is the greater priority for us which one is a recommendation versus a requirement.

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00:52:41.070 --> 00:52:48.180

Jeff Arnett: And you can see where we've landed we've determined that every student every staff person every individual

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00:52:48.690 --> 00:52:55.770

Jeff Arnett: In our buildings on our campuses will need to wear a mask and that also applies to those who are bus riders.

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00:52:56.400 --> 00:53:02.550

Jeff Arnett: social distancing - We're going to do everything that we can to try to maintain social distancing, to the extent possible.

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00:53:03.060 --> 00:53:14.760

Jeff Arnett: And that will be more difficult as we allow more students into the building and ultimately if we get somewhere north of 65% closer to 100%

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00:53:15.330 --> 00:53:20.970

Jeff Arnett: Those who want to return when they do, then it's going to be harder to maintain social distancing

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00:53:21.330 --> 00:53:30.480

Jeff Arnett: We are cleaning diligently. There's a lot of cleaning that's going on. We're set up to clean the in between classes during the school day after hours.

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00:53:30.960 --> 00:53:35.040

Jeff Arnett: So those regimens. And those protocols are already in place and we're ready to go.

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00:53:35.490 --> 00:53:43.980

Jeff Arnett: contact tracing will contact trace within the school?
Molly can probably speak to this better than I can. Because she's so closely involved with the nurses

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00:53:44.340 --> 00:53:51.480

Jeff Arnett: But outside the school. We have to rely on other entities as well. Molly, I'll let you talk about contact tracing and temperature screening.

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00:53:51.990 --> 00:53:57.060

Tom Leonard: And Jeff. We can go away from this screen, I want to say one thing about the masks as well.

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00:53:58.260 --> 00:53:59.880

Tom Leonard: But we don't need the screen up for this.

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00:54:02.220 --> 00:54:16.740

Tom Leonard: I guess you know there will be some situations and Molly, When I flipped to you been contact tracing. It's also on masks, there will be some situations where we will not use masks and we will have to use shields. In some cases, for certain situations with certain kids I

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00:54:17.100 --> 00:54:26.520

Tom Leonard: Think we've kind of said that that will be exceptions made on if it's necessary for the help, or the educational piece that we're trying to do with the child.

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00:54:27.150 --> 00:54:34.380

Tom Leonard: Remember the masks are, you know, to the to the word that Steve said that's our best chance for sustainability.

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00:54:35.310 --> 00:54:46.380

Tom Leonard: Particularly as we get more and more people in the building, who are closer to one another. The mask gives us our best chance that if the viruses in our buildings. If someone walks in, who has the virus.

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00:54:47.370 --> 00:54:54.690

Tom Leonard: Because often, they may not even be showing any symptoms they may not have a temperature, they may be. We've been told, just

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00:54:55.380 --> 00:55:02.700

Tom Leonard: They don't may not know they have an issue going on. Yeah, they could be spreading the virus. by having people wear masks, We

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00:55:03.360 --> 00:55:13.680

Tom Leonard: protect as many people as possible and stay sustainable as long as possible. Molly or Jeff I said I'd throw it to you. So I will. I didn't want to cut you off. But I wanted to make sure at least said that. Go ahead.

357

00:55:14.100 --> 00:55:26.310

Molly May: Yeah. So in terms of the contact tracing. Again, we're not doing what the formal definition of contact tracing is but we're doing a case review and then reporting for school based exposure. So that will be

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00:55:27.180 --> 00:55:41.490

Molly May: When we know of a positive case or a presumptive positive case there will be a protocol to follow. parents will be notified there's time time schedules for quarantining or isolation based on

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00:55:42.720 --> 00:55:47.430

Molly May: Based on the scenario that occurred. And so our nurses will be

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00:55:48.180 --> 00:55:59.310

Molly May: Working with school administration to get that communication out when, if we have a positive case on one of the campuses and as far as temperature screening we

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00:55:59.670 --> 00:56:09.720

Molly May: Are not going to be screening for temperatures for every staff member that comes in or students. the guidelines are that staff and students are both supposed to be

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00:56:10.110 --> 00:56:21.960

Molly May: Self screening and there will be, I mean, I think most people are aware of the symptoms list. And so people should be, you know, determining in the morning if they have any of those symptoms and then not coming to school.

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00:56:22.560 --> 00:56:31.500

Molly May: If a student is exhibiting those symptoms and absent, they may get a phone call to follow up to see if this is a possible COVID

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00:56:32.460 --> 00:56:40.890

Molly May: Case. So we really are going to be doing the best that we can to track all of this, we have an obligation, when we do have a positive case to contact

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00:56:41.700 --> 00:56:46.320

Molly May: County Health and so we will be doing that and we will be giving them all of our data.

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00:56:46.710 --> 00:56:53.250

Molly May: So we have some protocols in place to be able to do this to try to keep people safe when we know things happen.

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00:56:53.610 --> 00:57:03.330

Molly May: They're having a lot of questions about why why we're not taking temperatures, it's, there's a lot of, you know, reasons, a lot of it to just coming into the building and trying to take everybody's temperature

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00:57:03.690 --> 00:57:13.800

Molly May: And we're limiting access to buildings So we don't have people coming in everywhere that will slow down, you know, kids coming into school for taking temperatures

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00:57:14.100 --> 00:57:20.850

Molly May: There's also, unfortunately, you know, if you're on the bus or in the car and it's hot and you get out your temperature can

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00:57:21.210 --> 00:57:31.080

Molly May: Read inaccurately based on, you know, or if you just come in from outside, and it's like 106 degrees outside. So we really are asking

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00:57:31.590 --> 00:57:44.850

Molly May: For everyone again, for sustainability, to be monitoring themselves and making the best decisions for themselves and the rest of the community so that we can open safely and get kids back as soon as possible.

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00:57:46.860 --> 00:57:55.440

Tom Leonard: Thank you. Um, we're going to give someone sees one question that's burning to them. I know there's a lot of questions and

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00:57:56.910 --> 00:58:00.510

Tom Leonard: also getting some comments of people are least thankful that we're doing this.

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00:58:01.590 --> 00:58:11.100

Tom Leonard: And maybe we'll do it again. I just wanted to do something. I was just going to try and see what happened. And if it worked. While we do it again maybe bring some different principals different times.

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00:58:12.240 --> 00:58:21.330

Tom Leonard: Anyone see one more question they want to try, or should I do some conclusions here because we're reaching our one hour time limit.

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00:58:23.640 --> 00:58:32.910

Tom Leonard: We okay and I know there were some questions connected to, you know, facilities, you know when's the pool going to open. When's all this and I push those to the side, just because they are

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00:58:34.650 --> 00:58:37.650

Tom Leonard: I mean it's, I'm excited that that's going to get done, but

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00:58:39.060 --> 00:58:50.130

Tom Leonard: It's not going to get done in the next week or two, it's it's months and months and months off. So we'll, we'll get to those types of questions to get that information out later. I know we have a groundbreaking for that coming up soon.

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00:58:50.820 --> 00:58:56.820

Tom Leonard: So I think I'm just going to conclude with a couple statements and then I'll let everyone just say goodbye. But, uh,

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00:58:58.020 --> 00:59:05.940

Tom Leonard: You know, this is, this is not perfect for anyone. This is not what we want. I will tell you that we do want to get kids in the building.

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00:59:06.300 --> 00:59:21.870

Tom Leonard: We just had a convocation The other day, virtually was amazing. Just to see how you know and how it is when kids are really interfacing with one another, and it is just we were using clips from past convocations and kids singing and dancing and playing in the band and

382

00:59:23.100 --> 00:59:33.810

Tom Leonard: That's what we want. That's we got in education for we didn't get into education to be remote and we're going to get there as soon as we can, but we're gonna get there safely and we're get there in a way that we can sustain it.

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00:59:34.830 --> 00:59:48.480

Tom Leonard: We have a lot of advantages in this district all of our kids have technology, a lot of districts around us are not going to have devices until November, yet they are going to be remote as well for the first three weeks, at least so

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00:59:49.890 --> 00:59:58.020

Tom Leonard: I think what we need to do is sometimes is to take a deep breath, realize we need to be kind and understanding with one another. Try to be resilient.

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00:59:58.770 --> 01:00:14.220

Tom Leonard: Because this is a time where the kids are relying on us to be calm, not to get excited, not to be anxious and to be the stable people in their lives. And if we do that, and we take this slowly and take this, Well, I think we're going to be okay.

386

01:00:15.960 --> 01:00:18.990

Tom Leonard: Jeff, did you want to say something. Are you okay, okay.

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01:00:19.050 --> 01:00:29.430

Jeff Arnett: No, I, I would just commend our principals. They have all worked so hard to support their staff and we know that we've got great communities around each of our schools.

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01:00:29.970 --> 01:00:40.410

Jeff Arnett: That kind of support and teamwork, I think, has what has enabled us to get ready for the first day of school. So thank you to our principals. Thank you to our community. It really has been a collaborative effort.

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01:00:41.940 --> 01:00:51.480

Tom Leonard: And thank you to the 200 to 300 people that joined us today. I know we didn't get everyone's questions answered. We do have a website with frequently asked questions we'll keep adding to that and

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01:00:52.740 --> 01:00:54.420

Tom Leonard: I hope you all have a great weekend.

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01:00:55.980 --> 01:01:11.040

Tom Leonard: Hope you all stay healthy and I am really looking forward

to getting back into the school year and I hope the kids will be anxious to meet their new teachers and let's get this. Let's get this show on the road. Thank you. Have a great weekend.