

League of Women Voters of Pullman Observer Report

Name of Agency: Pullman School Board **Special Meeting** Date: 4 November 2020

Observer Reporting: Ndambuki Length of Meeting: 1 hour 4 minutes **Zoom**

Members Present: Jim Evermann, Allison Munch-Rotolo, Susan Weed, Amanda Tanner, Nathan Roberts, Bob Maxwell, Roberta Kramer, Diane Hodge, Joe Thornton, Michelle Hyatte (Lead Nurse), Chris Skidmore (New Director Whitman County Board of Health)

Members Absent: none

Others Present (e.g., media, public): No public joined via zoom as previously signed up

Business pertaining to League Positions or topics of interest:

Responsible Use of Public Funds:

- Amongst the information provided to the Board were **updates on the district's insurance provider**
- All Board members had been given copies of all communications through emails about the **re-opening date**

Quality of Instruction:

- Clarkston and Walla Walla are suspending in-person classes at the secondary level
- 1.5 million in-person students, 5000 schools, dashboard that Skidmore shared via chat with school board (https://statsig.co1.qualtrics.com/public-dashboard/v0/dashboard/5f62eae4451ae001535c839#/dashboard/5f62eae4451ae001535c839?pageId=Page_1ac6a6bc-92b6-423e-9f7a-259a18648318)
 - **3% of schools' outbreaks contained spread in schools and dropped to 2% when narrowed to primary schools only**
 - Likely that the state guidance in response will loosen some; that will likely align to what Previous Public Health Director, Troy Henderson had recommended
- Themes
 - Need for **transparency in communicating**, agree on a specific metric, **public health messages**
 - Minimize risk
 - Provide flexibility
 - Emotional and Mental Health
 - Survey of Teachers of K-2
 - Divided between now before Thanksgiving, first of the year
 - Start/holiday/start again awkward
 - Community split
- Superintendent raised issue that knowing whether or not there are **enough subs** until they need them
- **The Board voted 3 in favor and 2 opposed to setting the start date for in-person re-opening plan of January 4th, 2021.** The meeting was adjourned.