**Environmental Health and Safety Labor-Management Group**

Review of Purpose: To fulfill Article 12.1.3 of the MFT Teacher Contract Joint Committee: (new contract inclusions 19-21 for Teachers Chapter)

a. **Membership**: The Minneapolis Federation of Teachers and the District will establish a joint committee consisting of members of the Minneapolis Federation of Teachers Environmental Health and Safety Committee and representatives from the District’s Office of Environmental Health and Safety, Facilities, Office of Equality and Civil Rights, Operational and Security Services Department, Division of Human Resources, and other groups the committee deems appropriate.

b. **Meetings:** The committee will meet a minimum of three times per year and thereafter as needed. The committee will post the minutes and agenda of all meetings online.

**c. Purpose:** The purpose of the committee shall be to cooperatively review statistics of reported complaints and corrective actions taken by the District and solves problems involving but not limited to

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| Accident and injury reduction | Forklift safety | Pests such as cockroaches, ants, wasps, mice and rats |
| Asbestos | Hearing conservation | Playground safety |
| Blood borne pathogens | Indoor air quality | Radon |
| Chemical hygiene | Infectious disease | Recurring Mold |
| Chemical sensitivity/allergies | Infectious waste | Respiratory protection |
| Chemical storage | Lead in construction and water | Technology education (ergonomics) |
| Compressed gas | Lockout/tag out | Underground storage tanks |
| Emergency preparedness | Minnesota Right-to-Know |  |
| Employee safety and security | Noxious fumes |  |

Attendance 11.17.20 at 5:03 pm start:

**MPS Management Present**:

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| Maggie Sullivan, Senior Human Resources Officer | Rochelle Cox, Assoc Superintendent, Spec Ed | Karen DeVet, Chief Operations Officer |
| Alicia Miller, Senior Assoc Labor Relations/Employee Relations | Amber Spaniol, Director Nursing Services | Lee Setter, Manager Environmental Health and Safety |
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**MFT Teachers Present**:

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| Angie McCracken, LSN **CHAIR**, Steward | Mike Leiter, MFT Business Agent | Jane Swatosh, MFT Business Agent |
| Beatrice Benda, LSN, Minutes Recorder, Steward | Susan McNaughton, Dowling, Co-Steward | Katy Tharaldson, Hale Art Teacher |
| Paige Whitney, Seward Speech/Lang |  |  |

**MFT ESP** (**Education Service Professionals) Present:**

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| Bonita Jones, MFT Business Agent | Catina Neal, ESP 2nd Vice President | Ma-Riah Moody,ESP 1st Vice President |
| Laura Frykman, Dowling Co-Steward | Stacey Gurian-Sherman, ESP Member at Large (on ESP Board) |  |

**Warm Welcome** to the MPS Management team present!

Posting of approved minutes can occur between Recorder and Maggie Sullivan, HR for the ‘public’ posting, thank you Maggie!

**Review of Summer Task Force** by Angie McCracken due to Covid 19 Response Planning, Building Concerns, including Survey of Priorities sent to membership of both MFT Teachers and ESPs trying to identify staff concerns Likert Scale 0-5. **Will add this to agenda for 12.15.20** to discuss. Additional labor comments included: Fears of return to In Person; Are the standards from our contracts being met?

**Discussion:**

Labor Member had questions that were asked to be **deferred from this meeting** (beyond scope) and Maggie Sullivan invited that person to contact her directly with the stated concerns of Sick Leave of Emergency Childcare (ECC) Workers/quarantine needs and determining risk to health.

Labor Member had questions re: availability of the K N-95 for those staff (like SEAs or Special Ed teachers who help with ADL-Activities of Daily Living, toileting and feeding). **Seeking extra protection for staff** **than what at present is offered during the Covid 19 Pandemic**.

LS, management responded about nationwide Supply Issues, MPS is purchasing as it is available. Following 7.20 [MDH](https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/directsupport.pdf) guidelines at present. [Online ordering access](https://minneapolispublicschools.sharepoint.com/sites/Operations/SitePages/Environmental-Health-%26-Safety.aspx); FAQ section coming to the EHS website.

Labor Member responded that in early Oct, the CDC finally committed to the [aerolization](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-covid-spreads.html) risks, and that as of yet, **MDH has not adjusted** any of their local guidance to reflect this inclusion of risk. Also asked about a **variety of educational approaches**, especially for staff who are English Language Learners and for varied learning styles (Safe Schools presentations may not be enough to achieve compliance with intent of PPE).

AS had different viewpoint than Labor Member on present MDH protocols.

Labor Member: Would appreciate ability to **review statistics** of those needing to quarantine. Inquired about LIST of Standards.

AS: Shared viewpoint of needing to protect staff/student health info confidentiality so ‘dashboard’ during Emergency Child Care is not viewed as needed.

LS: Building status: A mechanical engineer summer of 2020 evaluated all systems and provided recommendations that EHS has been working diligently to obtain/place.

HVAC Filters Goal is MERV 14 (HVAC= heating, ventilation, air conditioning). Increased start and stop times to allow more air cleansing via this system. Attempting to maximize air flow to minimize residual Covid virus particles in circulating room air.

Portable HEPA Filters will be needed at a portion of sites

Priorities have been: Emergency Child Care-in session now, Elementary, then Middle School and High School settings, from the MDH plan.

“Isolation” Rooms for Persons Under Investigation (PUI, of being + with covid): LS invites direct contact with more detailed questions. May need HEPA Portable Units in these areas.

LS did discuss Fit Testing option, stating it is possible for those requesting this.

Labor Member spoke to perceived risks to staff/students related to Communication and Dispersal Plans for the PPE to ECC. Who are the building Covid Leads referenced in some emails (seems to vary)?

LS offered to address the supply issues—contact him

RC offered to work with Principals and “Program Coordinators”.

**In conclusion**: Appreciation for the dialogues and updating expressed by Labor.

**Next meeting 12.15 at 5 pm**. Survey review/discussion. Review actions.