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**UPPER ST. CLAIR BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**

MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2020 - 7:00 P.M.

**DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING ROOM (THIRD FLOOR)**

Notice having been advertised and posted and members duly notified, a Board meeting of the Board of School Directors was held on June 15, 2020 in the District Administration Board Room.

School Board Members in Attendance:

Mrs. Barbara Bolas, President
Mr. Patrick Hewitt, Vice President
Mrs. Amy Billerbeck
Mrs. Jennifer L. Bowen
Mr. Phillip J. Elias
Dr. Daphna Gans
Mr. Louis P. Mafrice Jr.
Mrs. Angela Peterson
Mrs. Jennifer Schnore

School Personnel in Attendance:

Dr. John T. Rozzo, Superintendent
Dr. Sharon K. Suritsky, Assistant/Deputy Superintendent
Mrs. Amy Pfender, Assistant to the Superintendent
Mr. Ray Carson, Senior Director of Operations & Administrative Services
Mr. Raymond Berrott, Director of Technology
Dr. Judith Bulazo, Director of Curriculum and Development
Mr. Scott Burchill, Director of Business & Finance
Mrs. Cassandra Doggrell, Director of Student Support Services
Mr. Bradley Wilson, Director of Strategic Initiatives
Mrs. Jocelyn Kramer, Solicitor
Mrs. Sarah MacDonald, Board Stenographer
Mr. David Mclean, Mclean Architects
Mrs. Lauren Madia, Assistant Director of Student Support Services
Mrs. Rebecca Berquist, Accounting Manager & Treasurer
Ms. Gabriella Spina, Student Board Representative

CALL TO ORDER (Bolas, School Board President)

Mrs. Bolas called the meeting to order at 9:09pm

RESIDENTS' COMMENTS (*REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS ONLY*)

LINK TO ONLINE FORM

Note: As per Guidelines for Resident's Comments, please state your name and address and limit your comments to three minutes. Social distancing and mask guidelines will also be adhered to during Resident's Comments. In light of continued health and safety concerns, the Board will offer an additional option for submitting Residents' Comments via online form (link above) or by phone in advance of the meeting. You can submit a comment via phone by contacting the Board Stenographer at 412-833-1600 x2218 on Monday, June 15, 2020 any time before 4pm. Comments submitted in advance regarding agenda items will be read at this time.

There were no resident's comments at this time.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Bolas, School Board President)

MOTION: By Billerbeck: I move that the Board approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Schnore and carried by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL LISTINGS - (Carson, Senior Director of Operations and Administrative Services)

MOTION: By Bowen: I move that the Board approve the Personnel Listings, subject to final approval by the Superintendent and Solicitor. Seconded by Billerbeck and carried by unanimous voice vote.

RATIFICATION OF DISTRICT ACTIONS TAKEN PURSUANT TO THE BOARD'S AUTHORIZATION FROM MARCH 23, 2020 ITEM B. UNDER ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT - (Kramer, Solicitor)

MOTION: By Elias: I move that the board ratify the following District Actions taken pursuant to the Board's Authorization from March 23, 2020 item B. under Administrator's Report. Seconded by Bowen and carried by unanimous voice vote.

1. Agreement with the Hughes Center for admission of 1 student - (Pfender, Assistant to the Superintendent)

APPROVAL OF ATHLETIC HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN TO RESUME SCHOOL ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO PDE AND STATE GUIDELINES - (Rozzo, Superintendent of Schools)

MOTION: By Gans: I move that the Board approve the Upper St. Clair Athletic Health and Safety Plan, as presented. Seconded by Elias and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Dr. Rozzo explained that the Health and Safety Plan was formed to resume School Athletic activities for student athletes. He thanked Dr. Deitrick, the Director of Athletics, and acknowledged that Dr. Deitrick put a lot of time and effort into preparing the Health and Safety plan. Mrs. Kramer commented that Dr. Deitrick worked with neighboring Districts to put together a comprehensive Health and Safety Plan, and that all staff and coaches will be trained on the new health and safety protocols, enhanced cleaning and disinfecting practices.

Mr. Mafrice asked about wearing facemasks during athletic competitions. Mrs. Kramer explained that students who are out in the field and engaged in physical activity will not be required to wear a mask, however they can choose to wear a mask if they wish. She also reported that if the sporting activity is forced to be moved inside, there will be multiple standards put into place; she advised that Dr. Deitrick will be working with all of the coaches prior to moving an activity indoors.

MATTERS OF INFORMATION - SUPERINTENDENT & ADMINISTRATION

There were no matters of information at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved, seconded and carried on unanimous voice vote that the meeting adjourn at approximately 9:17pm.

Barbara L. Bolas, President
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Scott P. Burchill, Secretary
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Submitted by: Sarah MacDonald
School Board Stenographer

Personnel Listing

June 15, 2020

Board Meeting

ELECTION

Staff Name	Location	New Assignment	New Assignment Status	Effective Date
Anthony, Anastasia	Remote Learning	Extended School Year Program 2020 - Special Education Aide	Summer	6-15-2020 through 8-1-2020
Barr, Lori	Remote Learning	Extended School Year Program 2020 - Special Education Aide	Summer	6-15-2020 through 6-26-2020
Brosius, Elaine	Fort Couch	Nutrition Center Worker	PT	07-07-20
Davia, Michael	Remote Learning	Summer School Teachers - Special Education Teacher	Summer	6-15-2020 through 8-14-2020
Freedman, Dana	Remote Learning	Summer School Teachers - Special Education Teacher	Summer	6-15-2020 through 8-14-2020
Godla, Paulette	Substitute	Substitute Nurse	Substitute	08-18-20
Howard, Charlene	Remote Learning	Summer School Teachers - ElementaryTeacher	Substitute	7-6-2020 through 8-14-2019
Klaas, Devon	High School	Marching Band - Assistant Director	ECA	07-01-20 through 11-06-20
Luckenbach, Denise	Remote Learning	Summer School Teachers - Special Education Teacher	Summer	6-15-2020 through 8-14-2020
Malm, Andrea	Substitute	Substitute Certified Teacher	Substitute	06-12-20 through 08-17-20
Malm, Andrea	High School	1.0 Chemistry Teacher (LTS for T. Hartnett)	LTS	2020-2021 School Year
Mikolaj, Christy	Remote Learning	Summer School Teachers - Special Education Teacher	Summer	7-24-2020 through 8-14-2020
Milk, Sarah	Remote Learning	Summer School Teachers -	Summer	6-15-2020 through 8-14-2020
Nulph, RoseAnn	Remote Learning	Extended School Year Program 2020 - Special Education Aide	Summer	6-15-2020 through 7-31-2020
O'Leary, Kelsey	Remote Learning	Summer School Teachers - Special Education Teacher	Summer	6-15-2020 through 8-14-2020
Poniatowski, Kathryn	Remote Learning	Summer School Teachers - Special Education Teacher	Summer	6-15-2020 through 8-14-2020
Quinn, Sandra	Remote Learning	Extended School Year Program 2020 - Special Education Aide	Summer	6-15-2020 through 8-1-2020
Rooney, Cynthia	Substitute	Secretary	Substitute	6-12-20
Shuback, Jennifer	Remote Learning	Extended School Year Program 2020 - Special Education Aide	Summer	6-15-2020 through 6-26-2020
Stringe, Julie	Remote Learning	Summer School Teachers - Special Education Teacher	Summer	7-6-2020 through 8-14-2020
Wagner, Jennifer	Remote Learning	Summer School Teachers - Special Education Teacher	Summer	6-15-2020 through 6-26-2020
Walsh, Tammy	Remote Learning	Extended School Year Program 2020 - Special Education Aide	Summer	6-15-2020 through 6-26-2020

CHANGE OF STATUS

Staff Name	Location	Current Assignment	Current Assignment Status	New Assignment	New Assignment Status	Effective Date
Kozak, Donald	High School	1.0 Maintenance Technician		1.0 Maintenance Technician - Return to Work	FT	6-2-20
Shuey, Katherine	High School	1.0 Social Studies Teacher (LTS for D. Durkin)	LTS	Substitute Teacher	Substitute	06-12-20

REAPPOINTMENT

Staff Name	Location	Current Assignment	Current Assignment Status	Effective Date
Cain, Lisa	Department Head	Department Head (Phys Ed- Health Teacher)	PT	08-18-20
Clermont, Marc-Andre	Department Head	Department Head (French Teacher)	PT	08-18-20
Cosgrove, Matthew	Department Head	Department Head (Art Teacher)	PT	08-18-20
Cusick , Carolyn	Department Head	Department Head (Technology Ed Teacher)	PT	08-18-20
Fisher, Holly	Department Head	Department Head (Nurse)	PT	08-18-20
Hess, Elizabeth	Department Head	Department Head (Phys Ed- Health Teacher)	PT	08-18-20
Husak, Virginia	Department Head	Department Head (Librarian)	PT	08-18-20
Mosler , Jodi	Department Head	Department Head (Special Education Teacher)	PT	08-18-20
Tena, Angela	Department Head	Department Head (French Teacher)	PT	08-18-20

RETIREMENT

Staff Name	Location	Current Assignment	Current Assignment Status	Effective Date
Andrews, Bernice **	Streams	1.0 Technical Instructional Aide	FT	6-30-20
Blich, Gloria **	Eisenhower	1.0 Teacher Aide	FT	6-30-20
Majernik, Metta **	Eisenhower	1.0 Teacher Aide	FT	6-30-20
McGlaughlin, Rob **	High School	1.0 Maintenance Technician	FT	6-30-20
Osbourne, Cynthia **	High School	1.0 Teacher Aide	FT	6-30-20
Sickles, Warren **	High School/Boyce	1.0 Custodian	FT	6-30-20
Stambaugh, Jonelle	Boyce	1.0 Secretary	FT	12-1-20
Stringe, Tracey **	High School	1.0 Secretary	FT	6-30-20

RESIGNATION

Staff Name	Location	Current Assignment	Current Assignment Status	Effective Date
Stempkowski, Virginia	Substitute	Substitute Certified Teacher	Substitute	05-22-20



Memo

To: Dr. John Rozzo, USC Board Members
From: Mrs. Amy Pfender
Date: June 15, 2020
RE: Special Education Contract

I request approval of the following tuition contracts for the 2020-2021 school year:

Educational services with related services for 1 student at the Hughes Center at \$335.00/daily.

Approval of contracts/agreements will be contingent upon documentation acceptable to the Superintendent and Solicitor.

**Upper St. Clair School District
Athletic Department
Resocialization of Athletics Procedures
(Athletic Health and Safety Plan)**

INTRODUCTION

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented all Athletic Department's with countless challenges. The COVID-19 virus is a highly contagious illness that primarily attacks the upper respiratory system. The virus that causes COVID-19 can infect people of all ages. Research from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), among others, has found that while children do get infected by COVID-19, relatively few children with COVID-19 are hospitalized. However, some severe outcomes have been reported in children, and a child with a mild or even asymptomatic case of COVID-19 can spread the infection to others who may be far more vulnerable. While it is not possible to eliminate all risk of furthering the spread of COVID-19, the current science suggests there are many steps schools can take to reduce the risks to students, coaches, and their families.

The Upper St. Clair School District will take the necessary precautions and recommendations from the federal, state, and local governments, CDC, Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH), as well as the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS), and Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) to safeguard the participants and staff of our athletic programs. The Upper St. Clair School District realizes knowledge regarding COVID-19 is constantly changing, as new information and treatments become available. The recommendations below will be adjusted as needed as new information becomes available in order to decrease the risk of exposure for our staff, students, and spectators.

MANDATES

The following is mandatory for **all phases** for Middle School and High School Athletics during the COVID-19 pandemic:

1. All Student Athletes, Coaches, and Staff will undergo a COVID-19 health screening prior to any practice, event, or team meeting. The purpose of the health screening is to check for signs and symptoms of COVID-19. This location of this health screening will be announced prior to the practice or event.
2. Promote healthy hygiene practices to limit the spread of COVID-19 including:
 - a. Hand washing (20 seconds with warm water and soap)
 - b. Students should wear a face covering (masks or face shields) when feasible. (Face coverings will not be required for athletes while practicing or competing.)
 - c. Coaching staff and other adult personnel should wear face coverings (masks or face shields) at all times, unless doing so jeopardizes their health.
 - d. Use hand sanitizer.

3. Intensify cleaning, disinfection, and ventilation in all facilities
4. Encourage social distancing through increased spacing, small groups, and limited mixing between groups, when feasible
5. Educate Athletes, Coaches, and Staff on health and safety protocols
6. Require that anyone who is sick to stay home
7. Follow the plan for a student or employee who gets sick
8. Regularly communicate and monitor developments with local authorities, coaches, staff, and families regarding cases, exposures, and updates to policies and procedures
9. Athletes and Coaches MUST provide their own water bottle for hydration. Water bottles must not be shared. Disposable cups will not be provided.
10. Personal protective equipment (PPE) will be used as needed and situations warrant, or determined by local/state governments. These items include gloves, face masks, and eye protection.
11. Identify staff and students who may be at a higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 due to underlying medical conditions such as:
 - Age 65 or older
 - Lung disease, moderate-severe asthma
 - Serious heart conditions
 - May be immunocompromised
 - Obesity
 - Diabetes
 - Kidney or liver disease

PHASE 1 (Pennsylvania Yellow Phase)

- All school facilities must remain closed as per PA State Guidelines.
- Athletes and Coaches may communicate via online meetings (Zoom, Google Classroom, etc.)
- Athletes are encouraged to participate in home workouts including strength and conditioning.
- Athletes and Coaches should follow all guidelines set forth by the local and state governments.

PHASE 2 (Pennsylvania Green Phase)

Pre-workout Screening:

- All coaches and student athletes will be screened for signs/symptoms of COVID-19 prior to any workout or event. (See Appendix for COVID-19 Screening Form)
- Screenings will include a temperature check and questioning to each person for COVID-19 symptoms. These responses should be recorded and stored to provide a record.
- Attendance should be recorded for contact tracing reasons.
- If individuals participating in sporting activities show symptoms, have a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher, or are sick, they must be sent home.

- Any individual with suspected positive COVID-19 symptoms should not be allowed to take part in workouts.
 - Student athletes will need to contact parents/guardians for immediate pick-up
 - Parents should contact their primary care provider or other appropriate health-care professional for guidance.

Limitations on Gatherings:

- Coaches and athletes must maintain appropriate social distancing at all times possible, including in the field of play, locker rooms, sidelines, dugouts, benches, and workout areas. During down time, athletes and coaches should not congregate.
- Gatherings shall not exceed 50% of the total occupancy permitted by law for the facility or no more than 250 total individuals (whichever is less), including coaches per field or court.
- Sports-related activities are limited to student athletes, coaches, officials, and staff only. Spectators will not be permitted.
- The addition of visitors and spectators will be contingent upon future health conditions within the state and local communities.
- No locker room use for out of season workouts will be permitted. Locker room use will be minimized during in season events.

Facilities Cleaning

- Adequate cleaning schedules should be created and implemented for all athletic facilities and common area to mitigate any communicable disease
- Athletic Facilities should be cleaned prior to arrival and following workouts and team gatherings, with high touch areas cleaned more often
- Weight Room Equipment should be wiped clean after each individual's use
- Appropriate clothing/shoes should be worn at all times in the weight room to minimize sweat from transmitting onto equipment surfaces

Physical Activity

- Coaches must review and consider the CDC guidance to modify practices and games to mitigate the risk of spreading the virus. This includes focusing on individual skill building versus competition and limiting contact in close contact sports.
- Personal items should not be shared. This includes clothing, towels, and pinnies.
- If equipment must be shared, all equipment should be properly disinfected often during practice and events, as deemed necessary.
- Hand Sanitizer should be used periodically, as resources allow
- Spotters for maximum weight lifts should be stationed at each end of the bar

Hydration:

- All athletes, coaches, and officials must bring their own water and drinks to team activities.
- Team water coolers for sharing through disposable cups are not allowed.

- Fixed water fountains should not be used.

OTHER GUIDANCE:

Primary Point of Contact

- The Upper St. Clair School District has designated Ray Carson as the District's primary point of contact for all questions related to COVID-19.
- Contact information for Ray Carson is: 412-833-1600

Transportation

- Modifications for team transportation to and from athletic events may be necessary based on current Pennsylvania Department of Education guidelines.
- This may include:
 - Reducing the number of students and coaches on a bus or van
 - Using hand sanitizer upon boarding a bus or van
 - Social distancing on a bus
- These potential modifications will be determined by the school district, bus companies, Department of Education, State and Local governments.

Social Distancing during Contests/Events/Activities

- Sidelines/Bench Area
 - Appropriate social distancing will need to be maintained on sidelines or bench area during practices and events, as deemed necessary by the school, PIAA, state and local governments.

Who should be allowed at events?

- Grouping of individuals into tiers from essential to non-essential:
 - Tier 1 (Essential) – Student athletes, coaches, contest officials, event staff, medical staff, security personnel
 - Tier 2 (Preferred) – Media
 - Tier 3 (Non-essential) – Spectators
- Only Tier 1 and 2 personnel will be allowed to attend events until state and/or local governments lift restrictions on mass gatherings.
- Seating areas, including bleachers, must adhere to social distancing requirements of at least 6 feet of spacing for anyone not in the same household. To assist with proper social distancing, areas should be clearly marked. Adults should wear face coverings (masks or face shields) at all times.
- Once state and/or local governments lift restrictions on mass gatherings, caregivers or spectators will be prohibited to enter the field of play or bench areas.

Overnight/Out of State Events/ Events in COVID-19 Hot Spots

- The Upper St. Clair School District will evaluate each event and follow all local/state government guidelines on a case by case basis.
- Every consideration must be taken as to not expose students to unnecessary or potential high risk exposure by traveling outside of the region.

Other Important Information

- Activities that increase the risk of exposure to saliva must not be allowed including chewing gum, spitting, licking fingers, and eating sunflower seeds.
- Avoid shaking hands, fist bumps, or high fives before, during or after games and practices. Limit unnecessary physical contact with teammates, other athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators.
- If multiple events are to be held at the same facility, adequate time shall be scheduled between contests to allow for facilities to be cleaned and disinfected, and to minimize interaction between athletes.
- Sports complexes with multiple fields may operate simultaneous games or practices on fields within a complex only if social distancing can be maintained.
- Establish protocols to limit entrance and exit traffic, designating specific entry to and exits from facilities with clear signage.
- Stagger pick up and drop off times and locations for practice and events.
- Ensure that athletes are not congregating while awaiting pick up and to ensure congregation or crowding does not occur on drop off.
- Parents dropping off and picking up athletes should remain outside of athletic facilities. Parents should not enter the facility.
- Concession stands or other food must adhere to Guidance for the Restaurant Industry.
- When restarting competitions, start by limiting games, scrimmages, and matches to teams in the region first (PIAA District 7 and District 8 only). Can expand beyond regional play if COVID-19 cases continue to stay low.

Positive Cases and Coaches, Staff, or Athletes Showing COVID-19 Symptoms

What are the signs and symptoms of COVID-19?

- Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. The symptoms may range from mild to severe. (See CDC Fact Sheet in Appendix)
- Symptoms may include:
 - Fever or chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Sore Throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea

What to do if you are sick?

- If you are sick or think you are infected with the COVID-19 virus, STAY AT HOME.
 - It is essential that you take steps to help prevent the disease from spreading to people in your home or community.
 - If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop a fever and symptoms, call your healthcare provider for medical advice.
- Notify the school immediately (principal, athletic director, school nurse, athletic trainer, and/or coach)
- It will be determined if others who may have been exposed (students, coaches, staff) need to be notified, isolated, and/or monitored for symptoms
- If a Positive case of COVID-19 is diagnosed, contact tracing will be implemented with the assistance of local health professionals and the CDC and DOH.

What to do if a student or staff become ill with COVID-19 symptoms during practice, event, or during transportation to or from an event?

- Make every effort to isolate the ill individual from others, until the student or staff member can leave the school or event
- If student, parent/guardian will be contacted immediately, and arrangements will be made for the student to be picked up
- The ill individual will be asked to contact their physician or appropriate healthcare professional for direction
- The facility where the sick individual was present will need to be disinfected immediately.

Return of student or staff to athletics following a COVID-19 diagnosis?

- Student or staff must provide written medical clearance from their medical doctor or CRNP
- Return to athletics can begin once the individual is determined by a medical doctor or CRNP to be non-contagious, fever free (without fever-reducing medicine), has vast improvement in respiratory symptoms (cough, shortness of breath), and experiences no vomiting or diarrhea.

EDUCATION:

- Staff, Coaches, Parents, and Athletes will be educated on the following (through posters, flyers, meetings, emails, phone calls):
 - COVID-19 signs and symptoms
 - Proper ways to limit exposure to COVID-19 (hand washing, cough in your elbow, disinfecting touched surfaces, social distancing, etc.)
 - The content of this Return to Sport Guidelines Document
 - Any pertinent COVID-19 information released by DOH, local governments, NFHS, and PIAA.

APPENDIX

RESOURCES FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information on wearing or making a mask,

visit: <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Stop-the-Spread.aspx>

For more information on COVID-19, visit the Department of Health’s website, www.health.pa.gov, or the

Help is available, contact the Crisis Text Line by
texting **PA to 741-741**

Date Created: 4/30/2020

RESOURCES:

NFHS: Guidance for Opening Up High School Athletics and Activities
(per update on May 2020)

Centers for Disease Control – “What You Should Know About COVID-19 to Protect Yourself and Others”

PA Department of Health – “Phased Re-opening Plan by Governor Wolf”

PUBLIC COMMENTS

JUNE 15, 2020

Kelly Rackley

1180 Polaris Circle

I would request that the board please consider the severity of the mental health of our youth. My twin boys are scheduled to start their 6th grade year at Fort Couch this August. They are both good students and active in the community. One of my boys has been diagnosed with anxiety, ADHD and OCD. his twin brother has been a typical 12-year-old who loves spending time with his friends and being active in sports. While both boys had initially adjusted to the online learning, I'm seeing over time the longer-term effects it's having on both. Individually so! My son who has been clinically diagnosed has had his struggles, but we handle those. It's his twin brother, the child I DIDN'T have to worry about, that I find myself worrying the most about as we enter month 3. He's retreating. He's quieter than normal. He's not the same boy. The longer this goes on, the more increasingly I worry. He can't be the only kid experiencing this. He's a quiet and more reserved kid to begin with, BUT if something concerns him he tells us. He's just not talking. He doesn't seem to care much anymore. I worry about him, but also about the mass number of other kids who are also not dealing with this. I watch and listen to what mothers say on social media. Grown women are struggling. How can we expect our youth to handle it any better?! These children need their lives back. We did what was asked! We stayed at home! We flattened the curve! Our numbers showed testament to that fact. It's imperative to our children's health both physically and mentally to return to normal! They need socialization and contact in many forms. We need to reintegrate them back into their normal lives. The numbers speak for themselves. The mass community have not been affected by this pandemic. Yes, people died, but so have many others from other forms that aren't being mentioned for one reason or another. I know of more passings from cancer this year than of COVID19. Our children need to get back to their normal lives. Sooner rather than later.

Respectfully,

Kelly Rackley

Tara Kennedy

829 Somerville dr

Thank you for your service to our community. I am asking (begging) that school returns to brick and mortar this fall. The toll on my children Jordan (daughter)8th grade and Judah(son) 10th grade has been immense. The academic disconnect and the lack of face to face teaching will have ramifications that will carry through their life time. The emotional challenges that have never been an issue are presenting due to online learning. Judah and Jordan need to see their teachers, fellow students, and ancillary staff. They need, need, need, to be able to return in the fall to in-person classrooms. I know these are difficult times, but please - the solutions have shown to be more detrimental than the virus.

Jon Killion

801 Somerville Dr

In regards to the 2021 school year, my daughter is entering kindergarten at Eisenhower. Having in-school teaching is crucial at her age as well as the socialization skills. I hate for her first school experience to be based on an online curriculum, missing out on all the experiences of being in school, riding the bus, eating lunch in the cafeteria, meeting new friends, learning new things everyday. I plead with you to understand the ramifications of our youth, if you do not let them back into school.

Thank you,

Jon Killion

Elizabeth Reitz

1343 Old Meadow Rd

My comment is regarding how instruction should be carried out in the fall. If we are doing remote instruction to any degree, I ask that live, direct instruction be the focus of the curriculum. The current arrangement of videos prepared by teachers is not ideal for learning. I understand we were all unprepared by the changes that were necessary to make for this school year and USC did a good job of quickly responding to the need for online learning. But for the fall, I ask for more interactive, small group face time with teachers. The videos do not engage our kids, and without discussion of the material I am concerned that little learning is occurring. Thank you.

Sheela Raju

2340 Norton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15241

Dear Directors,

I am a mother to 2 children and we live in USC, and according to me, the opening of the schools in fall should be driven purely on the basis of overall safety and not for the purpose of boosting the economy or for appearing normal.

I feel that this impatience and over enthusiasm to open up the economy is putting everyone's lives and well-being in danger.

I hope that the respected members of the Board will take everything into consideration.

Tracey Ruffner

2672 Rossmoor Drive

Please, Please, Please allow the children to return to school in the Fall. As increased sanitizing is needed, so is face-to-face education and interaction. Being in the school buildings is important to better focus and support families, along with socialization.

Anne Dittoe

2337 Weston Drive

I urge the school board to plan for in-person school attendance this fall. For students with IEPs and 504 plans, this is especially critical. Thank you for your support.

Heather shields

1553 ALLISON DR

We need our schools back. All 3 of my boys LOVED, past tense, school. This online schooling is taking a toll on them, their childhood, their future- as now they are hating any talk of "Pick up your ipad and take attendance!". They are not thriving, they are depressed, they are missing social skills opportunities, sports that teach them so much, and it's become all too much. PLEASE open up our schools- the numbers are PROOF- we are risking this entire generation of USC kids for what??????? Our youth need their school days back. I chose USC for many reasons and believe you will do the right thing which is to restore their schooling for the sake of so much mental health at a crucial age, which MOST are suffering.

Maria Simbra Burkett

2276 Glendale Dr

I am writing to express SUPPORT of CONTINUED REMOTE LEARNING in the new school year.

Why I oppose in-person instruction:

Even as coronavirus case numbers fall, the pandemic is not over. Over the summer, families will relax social distancing, travel to a variety of locations, and endure unknown exposures. When the students reunite in the fall, the microbiological milieu will be particularly risky.

While only the rare child will come down with severe illness, people around them may be more susceptible. Note that Sweden, which did not shut down its schools, has one of the highest per capita death rates in the world.

If you do reopen the schools, I hope, for the safety of the staff and students, masks and barriers between students would be required. I hope that cleaning would increase in frequency and rigor. I hope that contact tracing capability and a quarantine plan would be in place in case of infection. I hope children who come down with coronavirus would not be vilified.

However, I have noticed even adults aren't able to comply with social distancing. They speak loudly and do not mask consistently. I anticipate it will be difficult to enforce masking and distance precautions on school buses and in a classroom setting.

The inevitability of a case or outbreak of coronavirus needs to be addressed. Recognize the disruption this will bring -- entire classrooms (students and staff) will have to stay home for two weeks (or longer depending on symptom duration), and rounds of testing may be required for students and families. This could occur multiple times through the school year for the same or different classrooms and school buildings.

Why I favor remote instruction:

Remote instruction keeps everyone's germs to themselves, and there are academic and developmental benefits that I have directly observed in my own household.

Much to my surprise, my daughter in sixth grade has THRIVED in on-line school. She has grown in

independence and initiative and self-assessment. She is able to pace herself. It gives structure to her day.

I do not perceive that she misses out on social connection. She interacts with friends by text and video chat after her school assignments are completed. Sometimes they do crafts or watch movies together. Even these activities add to the structure of her day.

Work and business activities are moving to the virtual realm, and I suspect, for good. How to operate their is an important life skill for kids to master. I view remote learning as a step to further this competency.

I empathize with the parents who find remote learning for their children challenging for a number of reasons. They make it loud and clear. I understand the situation is not ideal for everyone.

Consider surveying parents on their preferences. Perhaps if the remote option were offered to those who request it, this would help to decrease the number of children in the classrooms, should you decide to reopen the schools.

I appreciate the difficult decision before you. Thank you for considering my concerns.

Maria Simbra Burket

Wendy fleming

281 Johnston rd

Please send kids back without masks!! There are very little-known cases of kids getting this virus. The mental health of our kids is just as important as their physical health. Not to mention how bad it is for your health to wear a mask in the first place. Thank you for your consideration!

Debra Levy

428 Cadberry Court

The children need to be back in school, full time with their friends. Until there is reason to believe there is another outbreak, I would think bringing them back to as close to normal would be best. Of course, more emphasis on hand washing, staying home if your sick and extra cleaning of the school make sense, but they seriously need to be back to normal.

Sidd Mukherjee

385 Oaklawn Drive

This is regarding the proposed fall reopening for the new school year:

1. How will physical distancing be ensured in the classrooms, cafeterias and corridors?
2. What is the policy on mask usage in the school premises.
3. Is there a plan to move to a hybrid instruction model - in which part of the curriculum will be delivered online?
4. Is there a mechanism in place to do contact tracing?

Thank you

Sincerely

- Sidd Mukherjee