



Customizing Learning,
Nurturing Potential...
Delivering Excellence

UPPER ST CLAIR SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of School Directors

Mrs. Barbara L. Bolas, President • Mr. Patrick A. Hewitt, Vice President • Mrs. Amy L. Billerbeck •
Mrs. Jennifer L. Bowen • Mr. Phillip J. Elias • Dr. Daphna Gans • Mr. Louis P. Mafrice, Jr. •
Mrs. Angela B. Petersen • Mrs. Jennifer A. Schnore •
Dr. John T. Rozzo, Superintendent • Mrs. Jocelyn P. Kramer, Solicitor

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES

Monday, September 14, 2020 @ 7:00pm

Executive Session @ 6:00pm (Personnel, Safety & Security and Legal Matters)

District Administration Building Board Room

Notice having been advertised and posted and members duly notified, a Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Board of School Directors was held on September 14, 2020 in the District Administration Board Room.

School Board Members in Attendance:

Mrs. Barbara Bolas, President (in-person)
Mr. Patrick Hewitt, Vice President (in-person)
Mrs. Amy Billerbeck (in-person)
Mrs. Jennifer L. Bowen (virtual)
Mr. Phillip J. Elias (in-person)
Dr. Daphna Gans (virtual)
Mr. Louis P. Mafrice Jr. (in-person)
Mrs. Angela Petersen (in-person)
Mrs. Jennifer Schnore (virtual)

School Personnel in Attendance:

Dr. John T. Rozzo, Superintendent (in-person)
Dr. Sharon K. Suritsky, Assistant/Deputy Superintendent (virtual)
Mrs. Amy Pfender, Assistant to the Superintendent (virtual)
Mr. Ray Carson, Senior Director of Operations & Administrative Services (in-person)
Mr. Scott Burchill, Director of Business & Finance (virtual)
Mr. Lou Angelo, Director of Facilities and Operations (virtual)
Mr. Raymond Berrott, Director of Technology (in-person)
Dr. Judith Bulazo, Director of Curriculum and Development (virtual)
Mrs. Cassandra Doggrell, Director of Student Support Services (virtual)
Mrs. Lauren Madia, Assistant Director of Student Support Services (virtual)

Mr. Bradley Wilson, Director of Strategic Initiatives (virtual)
Mrs. Jocelyn Kramer, Solicitor (in-person)
Mrs. Sarah MacDonald, Board Stenographer (in-person)
Karsen Damon – Student Board Representative (virtual)
R.J. Shontz – Student Board Representative (virtual)

Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance
(Hewitt, School Board Vice President)

Mr. Hewitt called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05pm.

Meeting Procedures
(Kramer, Solicitor)

Mrs. Kramer reviewed the meeting procedures in regards to masks requirements and residents giving public comments.

Reading of the Mission:

Mr. Mafrice reading the following Mission:



Developing lifelong learners and responsible citizens for a global society is the mission of the Upper St. Clair School District, served by a responsive and innovative staff who in partnership with the community provides learning experiences that nurture the uniqueness of each child and promotes happiness and success.

Reading of the Shared Belief Statement #6 from Strategic Plan:

Mr. Elias read the following Shared Belief Statement #6:

We Believe that:

We believe that: A school district, staff, students, parents, and community benefit from an attitude of continuous progress and consistent practices of exploration, forward thinking, and openness to change.

Resident's Comments - (Regarding Agenda Items Only)
ATTACHED

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 by Monday, September 14, 2020 any time before 2pm.
Comments submitted in advance regarding agenda items will be shared with the Board prior to the meeting and summarized at this time.*

There were two public comments at this time.

CONVENE BOARD MEETING

(Bolas, School Board President)

Mrs. Bolas convened a Board Meeting at 7:16pm.

Mr. Hewitt reconvened the Committee Meeting at 7:36pm.

Welcome Back and Report from Student Board Representatives

Karsen Damon & R.J. Shontz

(Rozzo, Superintendent of Schools)

Dr. Rozzo welcomed back the Student Board Representatives and introduced new Student Board Representative R.J. Shontz.

Karsen thanked the Board for having the student representatives back at the meetings. She gave updates on the District's Arts Programs, as well as noting that the students have been so positive about the remote/hybrid learning and are happy to be back in school seeing each other and the teachers. R.J. gave an update on the District's Athletics Programs, as well as noting that students have helped distribute over 4,000 free lunches with the District.

Dr. Rozzo thanked Karsen and R.J., noting that is great to have them back in the meetings. He explained that their feedback is very important to the District and also very critical as the District makes future decisions.

Superintendent's Report

(Rozzo, Superintendent of Schools)

a. District Update

(Rozzo, Superintendent of Schools)

Dr. Rozzo gave updates on the District reopening. He noted there has been an uptick in students going from remote to hybrid, across the board, at all levels. He advised that the District is attempting to make the transitions as quickly as possible. Dr. Rozzo also advised that the goal of the District is to return to 5 day in-person instruction and planning for that return will need to encompass all stakeholders and groups. He noted that he hopes the return is sooner rather than later and that updates will be provided to the Board and community. He advised that the District has reconvened the reopening teams and is collecting feedback. The District will thoroughly vet everything that is required to transition students

back to 5 day in-person instruction. Dr. Rozzo also noted that live-streaming has been a great tool for all District events, and will not just be available in the interim, but well into the future. Live-streaming events will allow for everyone in the community and abroad to be able to watch District events. He advised that he appreciates the efforts of the teams and looks forward to sharing more details with everyone in the near future.

b. Request Approval of School Board to Cast Votes for PSBA Office Elections
(Bolas, School Board President)
(Consent Agenda)

Mrs. Bolas gave an update on the approval of the School Board to cast votes for the PSBA office elections. She asked the Board members to contact her with any questions.

The motion at the Board meeting will be filled in with specific names. The Committee will recommend approval.

Administrator's Report
(Rozzo, Superintendent of Schools)

a. Request Approval of the following Contracted Transportation Agreements:
(Carson, Senior Director of Operations and Administrative Services)
(Consent Agenda)

Mr. Carson reviewed the Contracted Transportation Agreements.

The Committee will recommend approval, to be placed on the Consent Agenda.

- Agreement with Mlaker Transportation for contracted transportation services for a term of August 19, 2020 - June 30, 2021, to be billed monthly, per diem, per bus at \$349/each day operated and the attendant cost of \$152/per day.
- Agreement with First Student, Inc for contracted transportation services for a term of September 8, 2020 - June 30, 2021, to be billed monthly, per diem, per bus at \$257.76/each operated and the attendant cost of \$0.00/per day.
- Agreement with Mlaker Transportation, Inc. for contracted transportation services for a term of August 31, 2020 - June 30, 2021, to be billed monthly, per diem, per bus at \$195.00/each day operated and the attendant cost of \$90.00/per day.

- Agreement with Mlaker Transportation, Inc. for contracted transportation services for a term of September 8, 2020 - June 30, 2021, to be billed monthly, per diem, per bus at \$195.00/each day operated and the attendant cost of \$0.00/per day.

b. Request Approval of the below listed Student Support Service Agreements/Contracts

(Doggrell, Director of Student Support Services/Madia, Assistant Director of Student Support Services)
(Consent Agenda)

Mrs. Madia reviewed the Global Wordsmiths Language Services Agreement and the 2020-2021 Waterfront Learning Services Contract and Mrs. Doggrell reviewed the Contracts/Agreements with The Watson Institute, Pittsburgh Pioneer Program, Southwood Psychiatric, Hope Learning Center and Wesley Spectrum Services.

The Committee will recommend approval, to be placed on the Consent Agenda.

- Global Wordsmiths Language Services Agreement for Language Interpretation Services and Language Translation Services.
- 2020-2021 Waterfront Learning Services Contract for Allegheny County Schools for certain flexible virtual education program opportunities for students enrolled in the District.
- The Watson Institute Education Center South: Tuition for one student placement at \$50,498 (full year).
- Pittsburgh Pioneer Program: Tuition for one student placement at \$39,600 (full year)
- Southwood Psychiatric Hospital: If services rendered, five hours per week of educational homebound instruction at a daily rate of \$90.00 additional cost for necessary related services.
- Hope Learning Center: Psychological assessments and evaluations at \$600.00 per evaluation and gifted evaluations at \$450.00 per evaluation. Additional services provided at \$75.00 per hour.
- Wesley Spectrum Services: Creative arts programming provided once a week at \$125.00 per hour.

Business & Finance

(Burchill, Director of Business & Finance)

ATTACHED

- a. **Review of Financial Statements for the Period ending August 31, 2020.**
(Consent Agenda)

Mr. Burchill reviewed the Financial Statements for the Period ending August 31, 2020.

The Committee will recommend approval, to be placed on the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Mafrice and Dr. Gans asked questions regarding the Financial Statements.

Committee Reports

(Hewitt, School Board Vice President)

Dr. Gans gave a report from the PTC. She advised that there is a PTC meeting on September 17th at 7:00pm. She noted that the meeting will be virtual and registration is required. A link to register for the meeting is available on the District website.

Resident's Comments - (Regarding Any item)

ATTACHED

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 by Monday, September 14, 2020 any time before 2pm. Comments submitted in advance regarding agenda items will be shared with the Board prior to the meeting and summarized at this time.

There was one resident comment at this time.

Dr. Rozzo reported that comments were also submitted, prior the Meeting, via the District's Google Form. He advised that the majority of the comments were in regards to advocating for a return to 5 day in-person instruction. He noted that the comments will be shared with the Board and available on the District website.

In regards to returning to 5 days of in-person instruction, Dr. Rozzo noted that the District continues to work with the Health Department. He advised that the District is hopeful that the guidelines can be changed, as a change would be needed to accommodate a return to 5 days of

in-person instruction. He explained that the District will be asking more questions and looking for better answers in the coming weeks.

Matters of Information - Superintendent & Administration
(Rozzo, Superintendent of Schools)

a. Parent Teacher Council Meeting (virtual) - Wed. September 16th @ 7pm
(Rozzo, Superintendent of Schools)

Dr. Rozzo reported that, as Dr. Gans mentioned, PTC will hold its meeting on September 16th at 7:00pm. He noted that it is great to be back with the PTC group, and great to hear updates from across the District. He advised that he, Dr. Suritsky, Mrs. Pfender, Mr. Carson and Mrs. Madia will also be participating and giving updates from their respective areas.

b. Statement Regarding Keystone Exams
(Madia, Assistant Director of Student Support Services)

Mrs. Madia gave an update regarding Keystone Exam testing, noting that the District will not be conducting a mass testing session, which was originally scheduled for Spring 2020. She advised that the District will ensure that families are aware of all of all of the pathways to graduation.

c. Announcement Regarding School Lunch Program
(Burchill, Director of Business & Finance/Madia, Assistant Director of Student Support Services)

ATTACHED

Mr. Burchill and Mrs. Madia gave an announcement regarding the School Lunch Program. They noted that meals are available to all children, who live in Upper St Clair, up to the age of 18 years old. Mr. Burchill personally thanked Mrs. Madia, Ms. Lindhurst and all the volunteers who helped with meal distribution. He advised that there was a very successful first meal distribution and he received great feedback. Mrs. Madia reported that the District will continue to monitor the number of families that are participating. She noted that families should complete a meal order form if they plan to pick-up a meal. She advised that the District is working to ensure they have an accurate count, so there is very little food waste.

Ms. Schnore advised that is she is happy to be able to volunteer and distribute meals, noting that a lot of work went into making it a smooth event.

d. Announcement Regarding Executive Session
(Hewitt, School Board Vice President)

Mr. Hewitt announced that Executive Session was held at 6:00pm for Personnel, Safety &

Security and Legal Matters.

Adjournment

It was moved and carried by unanimous voice vote that the meeting adjourn at approximately 8:08pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah MacDonald
School Board Stenographer



Customizing Learning,
Nurturing Potential...
Delivering Excellence

Memo

To: Dr. John Rozzo, USC Board Members

From: Scott P. Burchill *SPB*

Date: September 14, 2020

RE: FINANCIAL SUMMARY AND PRELIMINARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED AUGUST 31, 2020 (PRELIMINARY AND UNAUDITED)

Financial statements for the General Fund, Capital Reserve Fund and Construction Fund for the period ended August 31, 2020 are enclosed for your review. The first Cafeteria Fund report will be for the period ending September 30, 2020. The reports reflect the realized revenues and expenses incurred from July 1, 2020 through August 31, 2020. Of note, the General Fund revenue is behind last year on a percentage basis. The difference between years can be attributed to a timing difference of real estate tax deposits. A deposit of \$8.8 million was processed on September 3, 2020.

GENERAL FUND

	2020-21	2020-21 through August 31, 2020		2019-20	2019-20 through August 31, 2019	
<i>(in millions of dollars)</i>	Budgeted	Actual	% of Budget	Budgeted	Actual	% of Budget
Current Real Estate Revenues	\$59.53	\$34.10	57%	\$57.29	\$41.39	72%
EIT	\$5.67	\$0.48	8%	\$5.67	\$0.15	3%
All Other Local Revenues	\$3.53	\$0.26	7%	\$4.17	\$0.35	8%
State Revenues	\$18.33	\$3.14	17%	\$18.10	\$2.74	15%
Federal Revenues	\$0.48	\$0.00	0%	\$0.38	\$0.01	3%
All Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	\$0.03	\$0.00	0%
Total Revenues	\$87.540	\$37.98	43%	\$85.640	\$44.64	52%
Expenditures	\$87.800	\$10.67	12%	\$85.640	\$10.16	12%
Revenues less Expenditures	(\$0.260)	\$27.31		\$0.000	\$34.48	

Balance Sheet	As of August 31, 2020	As of June 30, 2020 <i>(unaudited)</i>
Cash and Marketable Securities	\$39,357,691	\$17,766,352
Total Assets	\$43,076,812	\$21,592,178
Total Liabilities	\$6,301,935	\$11,920,901
Nonspendable Reserves	\$0	\$208,959
Adjustment to Fund Balance	\$27,312,559	\$420,390
Fund Balance	\$9,462,318	\$9,041,928

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

	Budget 2020-21	2020-21 through August 31, 2020	Budget 2019-20	2019-20 through August 31, 2019
Revenues	\$270,000	\$14	\$267,000	\$806
Expenditures	\$305,000	\$23,490	\$395,442	\$104,523
<i>Net</i>	<i>(\$35,000)</i>	<i>(\$23,476)</i>	<i>(\$128,442)</i>	<i>(\$103,717)</i>

	As of August 31, 2020	As of June 30, 2020 <i>(unaudited)</i>
Cash and Marketable Securities	\$128,171	\$176,872
Total Assets	\$128,171	\$176,872
Total Liabilities	\$50,777	\$25,225
<i>Total Reserves</i>	<i>\$77,395</i>	<i>\$151,647</i>

CONSTRUCTION FUND

	Budget 2020-21	2019-20 through August 31, 2020	Budget 2019-20	2018-19 through August 31, 2019
Revenues	N/A	\$3,412	N/A	\$37,944
Expenditures	N/A	\$169,355	N/A	\$1,072,630
<i>Net</i>		<i>(\$165,943)</i>		<i>(\$1,034,686)</i>

	As of August 31, 2020	As of June 30, 2020 <i>(unaudited)</i>
Cash and Marketable Securities	\$1,968,306	\$2,258,545
Total Assets	\$1,968,306	\$2,258,545
Total Liabilities	\$975,620	\$1,066,122
<i>Fund Balance</i>	<i>\$992,686</i>	<i>\$1,192,423</i>

BUDGET TRANSFERS

According to the Pennsylvania School Code, budget transfers cannot be recommended and approved until October of each year. Therefore, the first budget transfers will be presented at that time.

BILL LIST

The Bill Lists will be presented at the September 28, 2020 board meeting for your review and approval.



MEMO

To: Dr. John Rozzo, USC Board Members

From: Scott P. Burchill

Date: September 14, 2020

RE: Matters of Information > School Lunch Program

Traditionally, public schools operate under the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) when school is in session. On August 31st, the USDA released nine (9) nationwide waivers related to the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and the Seamless Summer Option (SSO). One of the waivers allow School Food Authorities (SFA) and approved community organizations to serve all children and students, ages 18 and under, in their community through December 31, 2020 or until funding runs out.

Upper St. Clair School District is considered a School Food Authority. The District implemented the COVID-SSO site program, beginning on September 8, 2020, offering meals to all children living in the District. The Food Service Department will operate under this program until December 31, 2020, or funding is no longer available.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

September 14, 2020
Committee Meeting

Louis Oliverio
1725 Hunters Path Lane

While it is my intention to speak Monday evening at the meeting during Residents' Comments, I wanted to supplement my remarks with a written position statement concerning the current situation:

1. REAFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR AUGUST 17 HYBRID RECOMMENDATION: The choice to move to hybrid option on August 17 was the correct one. In hindsight, I still believe that to be the case.

2. HYBRID IS A TRANSITORY STEP TO INCREASED IN-PERSON OPPORTUNITIES:

Hybrid is a Transitory Step to increased in-person opportunities and is expected to continue for the near term. For the coming weeks, our students that have chosen to attend school in-person will continue to do so under the hybrid option, a fact that is acknowledged even though I would strongly prefer the availability of a 5-day in-person option. I understand the need to recognize the guidance from the Department of Education and the need to learn more about the impacts of 5-day in-school and the current situation regarding community spread as time goes on. Starting with the hybrid option in lieu of a 5-day plan was a wise choice to enable USCS D to gain knowledge about an unprecedented situation.

3. REMOTE DAYS HAVE NOT BEEN WITHOUT GLITCHES BUT THE DISTRICT STAFF AND

EDUCATORS HAVE BEEN RESPONSIVE. There certainly have been some issues with the remote learning days thus far. They are issues that the Administrative and Educational teams promptly addressed, but observing my children at home making the best of a challenging situation reinforces my belief that a full 20-21 academic year without a 5-day option will be detrimental their educational development. It is my hope, in looking out for the best interests of my children, that by taking pragmatic and gradual steps--baby steps if you will--USC can move to increase in-person time and safely transition to a 5-day option (barring a calamitous situation with COVID). It is about this plan and these steps that I will be focused as a parent.

4. IT IS A MARATHON AND NOT A SPRINT TO REACH 5-DAY IN PERSON. I do not expect any kind of rapid transition to a 5-day option being made available--I realize that this will be a marathon to get to that point, not a sprint. I will support the Administration with every positive step forward, be it a stride or a baby step.

5. ROADMAP FOR INCREASED IN-PERSON AND ULTIMATE RETURN TO 5-DAY. There is a lot of anxiety among many people, myself included, about what can be done or what will need to be done for a full-time option to be available to students. It is my hope that a roadmap that establishes this route--as difficult as that route might be--will be set forth in the near term to provide all stakeholders with a better understanding of the situation, recognizing that there are still many unknowns and there is no historical example to draw from in these circumstances. I know that neighboring school Chartiers Valley had issued a step-by-step guide that provides some timelines/dates along a critical path to tentatively consider increased in-person days. I hope that a similar critical path may be considered for USCS D to the extent viable.

6. EVALUATING POTENTIAL PHASE-IN APPROACH BEGINNING WITH LOWER GRADE LEVELS

AND MOVING FORWARD. From my general observations and understanding, it appears that the lack of a 5-day option is hurting students in the lower grades more directly and that as students reach upper grades, the ability to function in a hybrid model or fully remote is improved. For example, I am concerned that my daughter in 5th grade receives a relatively small amount of synchronous education on her remote days compared to my son in 7th grade. I recognize that given resource constraints and the grade level, this may be appropriate or the best that can be done--so this is by no means a criticism--but it reinforces why I continue to advocate for a focused return on more days in school as conditions permit. Thus, if

there is a way to develop a plan to gradually transition to increased days in school for the students, a reasonable approach may be to implement it starting with lower grades and moving gradually to upper grades to afford the District time to phase this in safely.

7. PEER REVIEW FOR GUIDANCE AND IDEAS. I hope that the District will glean as much information as possible from other Districts that have been able to implement a 5-day option. I realize that Peters Township had to close the high school for one week due to 2 COVID cases, but my understanding is that Grades K-8 have been able to continue for 5-day learning uninterrupted and without any substantial difficulties for the first 3 weeks. If this is still the case 2 weeks from now and there is a 5-week period to evaluate, perhaps it can be instructive in implementation of a plan for USC.

8. RECORDING OF TEACHER INSTRUCTION. One suggestion that I have is whether it is possible for recordings to be made of lectures done remotely. My understanding is that there is some issue about recording Zoom meetings with children--restrictions that certainly make sense if that is the case--but the reality is that due to internet outages, incorrect links, or other technical snafus, children, including my own, have missed and will continue to occasionally have issues signing in for remote days. If recordings can be made available, it may help ease the stress of children and parents if they encounter issues.

9. EASE INTO TRANSITION TO 5-DAY BY ADDING ALTERNATING WEDNESDAYS? In addition to potentially a gradual move to 5-day over time beginning with the elementary schools, another suggestion that was shared in the community and that appeared reasonable was to phase in Wednesday being a third day on an alternating basis for the hybrid groups. If this is logistically viable, it may not be a bad idea, although I already recognize and am appreciative of the extraordinary efforts each of the educators in USCSD are making to deliver the current educational model.

10. A SAFE, INFORMED METRIC BASED ON LOCAL/SUBURBAN TRANSMISSION DATA. This situation continues to be difficult and anxious time for many of us because metrics that may suggest a broader reopening are measured based upon factors that are both beyond our control and seemingly removed from what is going on within the Township. For example, in Friday's Allegheny County Health Department COVID report, 57 of the 100 cases were from individuals aged 19-24 who contracted the virus. This is likely due to activity that occurred in areas far removed from Upper St. Clair; yet pursuant to the state guidelines, our path to 5-day learning is frustrated by these events. I believe that it is reasonably prudent for a district, in addition to the pure county metrics, to examine metrics within Upper St. Clair or metrics accounting for the South Hills, which has a much different risk factor for spreading the virus than what may exist on Carson Street or in Shadyside or Oakland. I hope that the guidelines, being recommendations and not strict mandates, affords some flexibility to make an informed but more customized risk assessment.

11. POTENTIAL TARGET BENCHMARK: BEGINNING OF SECOND MARKING PERIOD. My question is whether it is possible, assuming that COVID numbers remain steady or gradually decline, particularly with incidents within the Township, to set a reachable goal to begin a transition process to additional in-class days by the beginning of the 2nd marking period. From my observations thus far, knowing that more information will be available in the next 2 weeks, I am hoping that it is possible that more concrete plans may be able to be shared with the public in early October. Again, this may be overly optimistic and aspirational, but I respectfully request that consideration be given to evaluating where USCSD might be able to be when the first marking period ends. I know that any plan to gradually transition to 5-day in-class learning will take time to implement, which is why I am making this communication now, although I recognize that we have just completed 6 days of education.

12. APPRECIATION FOR THE LONG HOURS SPENT TO DATE. On September 10, when my children were able to attend school in person, was one of the best days of the year for me personally and for them as well. I want to thank the Board, the Administrative Team, the Educators, the IP/tech staff and everyone else for opening the schools and providing a positive learning experience amidst a difficult time. However, I continue to be concerned about the possibility of the students going this entire academic year without returning to 5-day learning.

13. "TAKING HITS AND MOVING FORWARD". I realize the road to 5-day in-person learning will not be easy, but the important thing is to keep moving forward. As I recall from the 2006 movie Rocky Balboa, "it ain't about how hard you hit, but about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward" (sic) and no quote more aptly applies to the current situation. The District, like everyone else, has endured a lot of hits—frankly, a lot of families in this District are really hurting and the inability for their children to attend school 5 days a week has added to their stress. Everyone involved, from every employee of USCSD to every parent has had to work exponentially harder just to have the opportunity to reopen the school doors—and as a parent, I am grateful for all the work that has been done and that will continue. There will be more setbacks in the future, but I am confident that with each setback, the District and this Community will emerge stronger and we will continue to be a leader in delivering top-quality education to the students of this District.

14. CONCLUSION: MOVING CONFIDENTLY INTO THE NEXT STEPS. I will steadfastly continue to advocate, as I consistently have, for a roadmap to return to 5-day in-person learning, but I will always continue to have confidence that the best choices will be made to navigate through this difficult time.

Respectfully submitted,

Louis M. Oliverio

Kathleen Reeder
2452 Kings lane

I believe that Upper Saint Clair is doing the best they can with the whole hybrid model. But I wish we had a choice, as parents, to have our child in school five days a week. It's hard for teachers and students to make the necessary connections, remotely, that are critical for Learning to take place.

Karen Lucca
214 Brookside Blvd

I want to thank everyone for getting our children back in school. We all live in USC because we know it is the best school district in Pittsburgh and everyone's efforts to get our children back in the classroom is really appreciated. Both of my boys have said that learning online is much harder than in school and they have a harder time paying attention. My 2 questions are what is the plan to keep increasing the number of days they are in school as opposed to online learning. Are we talking weeks or months? Also will parents have the option to send their children 5 days a week and the others can stay remote/hybrid

Joyce Falsetti
2301 Hidden Timber Drive

2301 Hidden Timber Drive

Administrators, board members, teachers and staff,

I support USC SD 100% including the administration, teachers, staff and support personnel. The COVID plan that was created is clear, concise and thorough. I cannot imagine the time, communication and collaboration that was involved to generate and initiate such a plan.

I will not go into statistics, data and analysis of COVID. I know you are all well aware of those facts. I just want to inform you that I am very supportive of the students returning to a 5 day in-person school week as soon as possible. I truly appreciate the patience and kindness the teachers have demonstrated during online learning. However, as perfect as online learning is in USC there is no comparison to the superior education USC offers. I fear the long-term effects of a diminished education and emotional and mental stress will far outweigh the risk of COVID. Our children have sacrificed so much already. If parents have any apprehension in sending their children back to school than they can continue full remote learning. The majority of us are willing to send our children back to school, full-time. This virus is here to stay for the unforeseeable future. We have to learn to live with it without causing more collateral damage.

Thank you,
Joyce Falsetti

Anne Dittoe
2337 Weston Drive

Good afternoon: I would like to request that the district investigate options for providing learning support for hybrid students with IEPs and 504s for their remote learning days. For many students with disabilities, it is very difficult for them to learn in a remote environment. It would be worthwhile to investigate a way to provide support for these students. For example, could they attend additional days in-person or go to an in-person (socially distant) district location for remote learning with paraprofessional assistance? Thank you.

Carrie Fick
1919 Murdstone Rd

Hello, Thank you to the board for all of the tough decisions you are having to make. I have a few concerns....

1) The World Health Organization recommends that people do NOT wear masks for exercise. My 6th grade son told me that everyone has to wear masks during gym class, even when running 40 yard dashes. I am concerned for the health of the students, and recommend as many mask breaks as possible (which according to Gov. Wolf's order, has no limit). Interfering with a child's respiration is under the description of child abuse, and this is how I see it. My daughter's blood oxygen level decreases after she wears a mask. Our bodies are meant to function at 98% blood oxygen level, not 95%. Increased CO2 in the blood leads to a more acidic body (health problems/cancer).

2) I read the ingredients and side effects of all of the specific cleaners that are being used to sanitize the school. I am concerned about the short-term and long-term effects these may have on the students. There are private schools in the area that are using Bactrokill by Bactronix, which contains chlorine dioxide as the disinfectant. Chlorine dioxide is perfectly safe, and does not have dangerous side effects. Obviously, I am not aware of the cost of these different products. But since our custodians, teachers, students and staff are in the building all day, breathing the air and touching the surfaces, reducing side effects from cleaners should be a top priority. The custodians would be the ones most susceptible to this, so I hope they are wearing special masks that prevent them from breathing these vapors. I would love to help the district find less toxic disinfectants and cleaners.

3) My 5th grade daughter says it is difficult for her to see through the plexiglass at her desk. Since the kids are wearing masks, can we please get rid of the plexiglass? The plexiglass does not surround the child, it is in front of them. So it seems like an unnecessary barrier. I realize that these were initially purchased so that the children would not need to wear masks prior to the governor's order.

4) Since the students are losing so much class time this fall, can we cancel the spring testing?

5) Do the bus driver's masks interfere with their vision/driving? There are shields that cover only the bottom part of the face, which I think would be more appropriate.

6) For the whole health of the children, I am a strong supporter of them being back in school 5 days per week.

Thank you for your time. I appreciate your passion for the kids.