

ID	Start time	Please enter your comment below:
1	7/12/2020 9:20	As a teacher, I really want to return to school. I miss my kids, my colleagues, and my job. But I have some big concerns for the health and well being of all. My hope is that if we return parents will take the precautions seriously and not send sick kids to school or fight us on district guidelines set forth to protect all. I have faith that our district will do what they believe is the right thing - they've shown us that they have our best interest at heart. I want to stress though that my concerns are big ones at this point based on local numbers of infection and some community members refusing to take precautions seriously.
2	7/12/2020 12:53	Please take special consideration of the special needs population. Distance learning is a disaster for children with special needs. It's hard enough for a parent to teach curriculum, let alone take the place of a trained therapist. The loss of a few months was extremely hard for my son, and we can't even imagine what it will be like for him to not have the social, emotional, academic interaction that in person school provides. This will be a massive disservice to this generation that will takes years to undo. There are many teachers willing to go back. Those that don't want to should be in charge of the students who want to stay home. One size does not fit all here.
3	7/12/2020 15:45	I do not feel safe returning to school when class size will not be reduced or minimized, where social distancing will not happen. I think the safety of students and teachers is being overlooked. We can not sit and eat inside a restaurant but we are expected to have full classes, mine ranging from 35-60. I have not heard anything in regards to the locker rooms where 250 girls are in there each period. Are we required to use our own personal devices for distance learning? My school computer does not have a camera for me to use in lessons. Will PE and dance teachers require students who are actively engaged in exercising to wear mask? Does weather change mask restrictions? Can students share equipment? Will we as teachers be notified when students test positive for COVID or will it be confidential and we have no idea of exposure? If I am exposed, do all 700 girls who were in the locker room that day have to quarantine? Will hazard pay be addressed? I am not sure what the right answers are but I know that I do not feel safe opening the school with the minimal requirements that have been outlined.
4	7/12/2020 18:45	I oppose reopening of schools in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This pandemic is an unfortunate reality that is plaguing our nation and is impacting our county at record levels. We have zero data that supports the reopening of schools during this pandemic. However, we have data that supports distance learning to be the only viable option for schools during this pandemic. With numbers surging above 1,400 covid-19 cases in one day in Riverside County. With 100% of ICU beds being occupied due to the pandemic throughout Riverside County. The reality of fatalities surging across our country in all age groups is nightmarish. With refrigerator trucks being used as mobile morgues is also a reality. I have communicated these concerns with all Murrieta Board of Education officials and provided data supporting these concerns. It is my educated and professional conclusion the only viable option is distance learning. Unfortunately our levels of education in the classroom can be sacrificed as allowable. It is recommended as the healthy alternative in lieu of classroom instruction. We (as parents, public officials and voters) should not allow the Murrieta Board of Education to allow Teachers, students, and staff to be acceptable casualties. As a firefighter for nearly twenty years my job comes with inherent risks. Having been exposed to covid-19 daily I have taken precautions that are unthinkable. I have unclothed in my garage, purchased a cot to sleep in my garage and isolated myself from my children on numerous occasions. Being a firefighter we risk our life's to save a life. Firefighters and EMS workers have died due to covid-19 which has been an unfortunate reality. Education is important, education needs to be our priority. The public education system should not provide options. Much like the civil rights movement the ideology is arguably the same. Providing options in education provides the conclusion that your personal beliefs will allow to attend a school if it is desegregated or not, if people of religious belief differ from yours or now if you are believed to have contracted covid-19? People of color, Hispanic and Black communities stand at a higher risk of contracting covid-19 than other ethnicities. Socioeconomic status is also contributing to the issue of options in regards to meals and childcare. Meaning that if parents can't provide meals or obtain childcare outside the public school system are now led to believe the best option is the classroom during a pandemic. The premise of options provides the idealism that contracting covid-19 is also an option in our community. Unfortunately politics have weighed into a public health emergency and into our education system. Relying on experts to make decisions for elected leaders has seemed to be the liability catch all for leaders. Especially when the answer seems rather logical and ethical not to return. Leaders and elected board members unwilling to make decisions without political cover of experts have proved to also be incorrect, incomplete and misleading. Experts that have consistently aligned with political leaders in lieu of science are flawed. Public health experts that have utilized factual evidence and science to support the greater good of people are consistent with remaining on a distance learning plan. Murrieta board of education members upon the reopening of schools should ensure that liability insurance policies are appropriately funded, worker's compensation is adequate and that indirect exposures to covid-19 will be an acceptable liability to each family in the Murrieta USD. My recommendation is that each supervisor and board member have the financial means for civil litigation. In closing, their is never a wrong time to make the right decision, which means you must do what's best for the greater good.

5 7/12/2020 20:08 I am nervous and anxious about the idea of schools re-opening for in classroom learning with little safeguards that can actually be enforced. I am concerned what will happen when (not if) the first student tests positive. What will the protocols be? It is too short of a time frame to hear the boards proposal and then have to register just 4 days later with a definitive answer as to how we want our children to be enrolled. The Board should make a decision for 100% at home learning to start the school year. With that said, the curriculum and software needs to be implemented by all teachers. And the work needs to be uniform across grade level classes (all Math 1 students learning the same material, etc) and all teachers need to follow the same format for providing lessons, assignments and submission of work. The end of the 2019/202 school year for High School students was not efficient. Each teacher posted assignments and graded differently. It was not equitable.

The uncertainty that comes with this virus is causing so much anxiety for parents and students alike. While I understand wanting to provide options, these options are creating further stress and anxiety. A firm and decisive plan needs to be implemented that all students stay home for the beginning (if not all) of fall semester.

6 7/12/2020 20:14 Oppose: MVUSD reopening classrooms/school campuses "traditional" and "hybrid" models, August 2020.

1 / 2

School safety  
You can't learn or teach if you don't feel safe  
Predatory behavior  
Bullies  
Fire  
Active shooter  
Earthquakes/natural disasters  
Infectious disease

In the early 60's when I started my educational career, I lived in Florida. Our biggest fear was getting locked up for a few days during a hurricane. These are different times. Our children are targets of things we as children never thought about. I'm sure there were bully's, but I never recall being accosted by one. I'm sure there were predators, but without the internet I believed we were much safer.

When we received hurricane warnings, we NEVER attended school. My father boarded up the windows, mom bought extra food and if possible, we moved as far inland as we could and hunkered down until it was safe to go home or outside. We were prepared.

In 1938 a hurricane struck New England without warning. The Great Hurricane of 1938 left 63,000 people homeless and killed an estimated 500-1000 people including several children on a school bus returning home from school. The authorities didn't warn the school to close down, because they didn't know about the impending catastrophic natural disaster about to strike.

That is not the case with Covid-19. You know what this pandemic has already caused. You have been warned. You cannot conduct business as usual because these are not typical times. It is your duty to look out for the welfare of all students, educators as well as support staff and their families.

The decision makers today, would not have wanted to be that bus driver in 1938 watching in horror as the children he loved were swept out to sea. Parents would not want to trade places with the father of four of those school children on the bus that day. That father helplessly watched from his front yard the enormous wave that surged toward the bus trying to deliver his children back home. This virus is no different, it will take more lives even if we are extremely cautious. This is not the time to attempt business as usual.

In my professional life, I was successful because my mantra was "You are only as good, as your plan B". Anyone can be successful without adversity. But these are times to think outside the convenient box we have all become accustomed to.

What is your plan B?

- 7 7/12/2020 20:30 Dear Murrieta Board of Education,  
As a teacher in our district I have several concerns with any type of “in school” education during the Covid-19 pandemic.  
My concerns are:  
Why are we considering any “in person” teaching when all meetings are virtual? (Double standard?)  
How closely will we follow the CDC guidelines. As of now it is impossible to follow the CDC guidelines and keep us safe.  
If there is an outbreak is the district paying sick time for at least 15 days while we quarantine? How will we help subsidize our non-certificated employees with the lowest health insurance coverage if they become ill due to Covid-19?  
What are we to do about substitutes? Most substitutes are not willing to risk their lives for the small amount of money they will earn.  
If we are forced to teach online and in person will we compensated?  
I understand there is immense parental pressure, and I in no way envy the position you are in. Please keep ALL staff in mind when making your decisions for the upcoming year. We depend on you to keep us safe.  
Respectfully,  
[REDACTED]
- 8 7/12/2020 19:56 I am a parent of two MVUSD students. I am highly concerned with sending my children to campus. I don't believe there has been enough information given to parents to make an educated decision. I would hope that the board would decide to use Distance Learning for the fall and prepare to go back to traditional beginning in the spring.
- 9 7/12/2020 21:35 I oppose MVUSD's hybrid and traditional reopening models due to the risk of contracting and spreading the COVID 19 virus which has spiked, filling ICUs in Riverside County. I support digital learning/teaching (from home) where I can adhere to CDC guidelines including social distancing until no reported cases have been documented for a min. of 14 days in Riverside County.
- 10 7/12/2020 22:00 Question: If DL is being done, why would teachers need to do it from the classroom? Wouldn't it be safer and less expensive for them to do it from home? In addition, many teachers are also parents, working from home would allow them to be with their children as well, instead of sending them to daycare where they will be more at risk of catching a virus.
- 11 7/13/2020 0:17 July 13, 2020  
Dear MVUSD Board of Ed Members,  
Thank you for your hard work to make sure our district makes safe choices for our students and staff during the Coronavirus pandemic. I would like you to eliminate the Blended Model of Instruction as a choice for parents and teachers. The reason we considering alternatives to In-School learning is because of threat of exposure and transmission of this deadly virus. Having children attend school two days instead of five, still exposes students to others who could transmit the virus, and the teacher would still be exposed to 100% of the students.  
Blended 2 On/3 Off causes more disruption to instruction, reduces teaching time, increases the teacher's time spent on management and planning, causes coordination problems for busing and carpools, causes more difficulty for IEP servicing schedules, limits times for parent meetings and student interventions, causing more disruption to students' learning routines, and negatively affecting student performance overall.  
The only people who benefit from a Blended Model of 2 On/3 Off are parents who want part time childcare. Teachers are highly trained professionals, and it is demeaning to think that what we would basically be doing is babysitting, so parents can go to work two days a week.  
The entirety of what we've been working on since last March has been to ensure the continued learning of our students, and the safety of our students and staff. It would be ridiculous to negate all our hard work and the sacrifices we've all made to offer an inferior educational delivery method. The Blended Model won't make us any safer, and it in't a better academic alternative. Please limit the alternatives to 100% In-Person or 100% Distance Learning.  
Thank you for listening to my perspective. I wish you all good health.  
Sincerely,  
[REDACTED]
- 12 7/13/2020 8:05 I am a special education teacher at MES. If students are unable to come to my room for pullout services due to Covid guidelines, I will have to go into classes of my 29 students to service them. This could be up to 9 or 10. classes. This puts me (and other RSP teachers) at significantly higher risk than other teachers as we will be exposed to so many students per day (10x15 students per class + teachers) . This makes me very nervous! What options and protections would we have?

- 13 7/13/2020 8:30 I have concerns about re-opening safely, I do not support placing students, teachers and staff in harm's way.
- 14 7/13/2020 9:47 I am writing in support of the 3 learning models that the district is proposing. I believe, as a parent and educator within the district, that giving parents the choice of schooling that fits the needs of their family, as well as givin staff the same choice for their family is paramount.  
I have many coworkers and friends who are not comfortable returning to school in the "traditional" model for a number of reasons. I support them on their choice. However, I am speaking for my family and experience from when we went into lock down back in March. Despite feeling confident that my family would weather this and we would be fine, it has been a struggle for us. I am a special education teacher and I saw my workload dramatically increase when we went to distance learning. I spoke with colleagues who were in the general education setting and while many experienced the same thing, their workload did not increase as greatly as special education. It was very difficult to complete honest and true IEPs due to the non-graded status of classes. Many students didn't complete work that teachers assigned because they either didn't have access, their family situation wasn't conducive to a good learning environment or because kids were happy with what their grade was when we went out. This did not help case carriers on being able to assess where students were with their goals and abilities. Many families would not return phone calls or emails, no matter what we tried to do to make the connection with the student or family. This made it extremely hard and added more pressure to our jobs. I contacted one of my admin several times to discuss the stress and pressure we were feeling as educators. We can't meet the needs of our special education population strictly online. It is not beneficial to those students.  
I had to juggle, not only my own children suffered. I have a son who struggled a lot in middle school and it finally clicked and he was doing well in 8th grade. That changed when we went to distance learning. He began struggling again, he started to hate school, he kept telling me he just wants to be back in the classroom with his teacher and his peers. My other son who was in advanced classes didn't feel connected to the material or his teachers. He loves being in the classroom with his teachers and his peers. My boys are both avid video games players and they didn't like sitting in front of the computer completing their work. They actually avoided their video games until school got out because it was too much for them. Myself and my boys have started to struggle with our mental health. We didn't have any issues prior to this, but it has been hard for us to be at home with no other contact from our peers. My boys and I have cried thinking about not returning to school. It is bringing up issues of isolation and depression that are not good. Research has shown that when mental health is compromised, a person is at higher risk for health problems.  
For our family, returning to some kind of normal is for our well-being. I do support the choice to choose which learning path is best for families and teachers. In saying that, the workload needs to be even so as to not stress out staff. If you are going the online route, you shouldn't have online, hybrid and traditional classes, you should only teach online. Those who want hybrid should only do hybrid. I am sure there is enough teachers also withing each category to evenly spread the workload. I will wear a mask when it is required, my children will wear a mask when it is required. We comply with the laws already, but we need a return to normalcy, or as close as we can get because that is what my family needs to stay healthy.  
It needs to be examined that many of us are sharing offices and classrooms. I share an office and classroom with 3 teachers and 4 aides. This is not safe. The whole picture needs to be examined, not just 1 or 2 things. Choice/Options are key in this!
- 15 7/13/2020 10:50
1. I have been isolated/following all safety protocols for 4 months. The vast majority of students have not. Who knows where they have been and what they have been exposed to..
  2. The district has spent the entire summer sanitizing classrooms, every surface, books, tools, etc. How can we possibly maintain this level of sanitation once students touch any item including desks, books, doors, any surface, stools, chairs, etc? Who is going to clean then? We have four minutes between each class!!
  3. What about students and staff who have other preexisting health conditions?
  4. if the country is short on n95 masks and those masks are relegated to first responders and medical professionals, how are we going to financially and logistically supply students everyday with masks? Students are not going to keep the same mask all day! If you believe that you have not been in a high school lately.
  5. Betsy DeVos... Exactly HOW many days were her children public school students?
  6. If a student contracts Covid-19 at school, doesn't that open the district up for negligence and lawsuits?

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- 16 7/13/2020 10:57 As a teacher, I am more than ready to return to the classroom. However, the times in which we are living most certainly require caution and common sense. This virus is not going away in the near future, and we must be able to continue with some normalcy. However, I am concerned with the lack of regard to safety for both teachers and students. The proposal to return to school with traditional class sizes is simply irresponsible. How am I to do this with 30+ students in a room? A room that has windows that do not open and a door that accesses only an indoor hallway - a situation which already poses ventilation issues without the virus. A room that is not large enough to space out students - during PSAT testing I must put all students in rows facing forward and I only get about 1 foot of distance in between each desk (not to mention it leaves no egress, which is against the fire code). I am ready to go back, but I feel to be safe class sizes must be significantly lowered. The elementary blended plan accounts for this by dividing students into two different groups. Why does the secondary plan not do this? It does not reduce class sizes, but only allows students to come on campus for certain classes with traditional numbers. This may help reduce contact for students, but not for teachers. Why does the middle school not have an option to divide students into groups like the elementary plan? If we are to return safely, we must adopt a plan that will decrease the number of students in a classroom.
- 17 7/13/2020 12:09 I have new concerns with the recent spike the number of cases in Riverside county, I have concerns with the traditional teaching Module. The “full class size and no guarantee of of social distancing” being met, I think the Hybrid module or virtual is our safest option. Thank you
- 18 7/13/2020 13:17 Hi, I am writing as a frustrated parent whom is in support for reopening. Not because of poltics, but the simple well being and education my child- and other children in the community alike. I demand to have answers on why every school district around us has closed the begining of school and we as a district cant get a straight answer! Every email notification from the school is a pawn saying "next email we will have more". That never comes.. its still wait for next email. You should be ashamed! Tell us HOW you are planning to social distance in class. tell us how you are going to keep our kids safe during play time... during lunch time. WE need to know! If shutting down and online is the best way... than do that. If you cant clean, social distance, make mask mandatory... all of that- keep our kids safe and make it online. March 13th was horrible as far as learning. Don't forget about our kids. give them a quality education the deserve. 5 weeks less and still crickets!
- 19 7/13/2020 14:43 Teachers have always been considered essential workers and are important for the health and wellbeing of our society. This is also the reason the Teachers Unions and the teaching profession are held in very high esteem by most, myself included. Essential workers such as Doctors, Nurses, Paramedics, Firefighters, Police Officers, grocery store workers truck drivers, and many more professions have adapted with new safeguards, guidelines and continued to work. The healthcare and emergency services has continued to respond to suspected and known COVID patients. They wear personal protective equipment for their entire shift and sanitize multiple times a day. They also wear PAPRs which provide greater protection than mask and are designed to be worn for up to 8 hours a day. I say all of this only to ask these questions. Why do teachers believe they are different than the rest of the essential workers? Why do they believe they should be allowed to stay at home when all other essential workers have been on the front line? Why do teachers believe they are at greater risk than the above mentioned essential workers? Finally, why should we continue to pay teachers that refuse to adapt and get back to work? Telework makes sense in some circumstances but not for K-12 education. I am disappointed that many teachers believe they are more important than the kids they are paid to teach. I am disappointed that many teachers have no regard for two income family's that have no way of teaching their kids at home. Do your job, get teachers back to work!! Thank you.

20	7/13/2020 12:45	<p>Greetings to my colleagues, district administrators and Members of the Board</p> <p>I am responding as a teacher to the district's July 9 announcement of intent to resume a full-day, in-person "traditional" classroom model beginning in August of the 2020-2021 school year.</p> <p>We are aware that in June, two-thirds of parent respondents indicated they preferred a traditional model. Based on the American Association of Pediatrics assertion that "Science should drive decision-making on safely reopening schools..." and "Public health agencies must make recommendations based on evidence, not on politics," I am interested in the scientific and medical evidence or data that supports Murrieta's decision to reopen for in-person learning in August.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The CDC ranks "full sized, in-person classes activities and events..." in which "students are not spaced apart, share classroom materials or supplies, and mix between classes and activities" as the "highest risk" model. Documents on the district website state that 6 feet cannot be guaranteed and suggest "limiting" sharing of materials. How do these vague and arbitrary applications of CDC guidelines mitigate risk to staff and students and their families in the highest-risk model?</li> <li>2. What data or evidence can you cite that suggests 32 or more students can be safely accommodated in a traditional model in our school community? If evidence suggests reopening schools is safe, please explain why board meetings continue to be held in a virtual format.</li> <li>3. Why are we compromising on the 6 foot distancing guideline from the AAP and CDC that is universally believed to be the safest minimum distance for interaction while indoors? Has Risk Management generated any simulation data to predict spreading rates based on the introduction of one or more spreaders to various school settings and activities? If so, is that data available to stakeholders?</li> <li>4. Today, the governor of California issued a mandate to roll back the opening of many indoor businesses and activities across the state. Many neighboring districts have issued a statement of intent to begin the new school year in an online model. Based on this information, and current national, state, county and local trends in Covid-19 positive cases, hospitalizations and mortalities, please provide data that supports a decision to return a majority of our stakeholders to a full-day, traditional in-person model.</li> <li>5. Given the rising trends, what level of risk does the district consider acceptable for staff, students and their families? How many positive cases, hospitalizations and mortalities involving stakeholders and their families does the district consider to be an acceptable cost of doing business before returning to distance learning?</li> <li>6. Will the district acknowledge that simply being in school does not mean a return to normal? Are we prepared for the trauma associated with teaching and learning in the highest-risk model? If so, will you describe what typical instruction in an elementary classroom that discourages social interaction (even talking) and prohibits physical contact will look like? Also, will you discuss any mental health resources we are adding for staff that may be traumatized by feeling they have no choice but to return to a situation that presents an unnecessary risk to themselves and their families? Please be as specific as possible.</li> <li>7. How has the district prepared for a second sudden lockdown caused by the spread of Covid-19 in our community? It seems much of our resources are committed to the traditional learning model. Being forced back into crisis teaching will take us back to March, scrambling to piece together viable and effective online instruction with no curriculum and no structured, mandated professional development specifically for online learning. What pupil services, educational programs and professional development are ready in the event we are forced to close down again?</li> </ol> <p>Thank you</p>
21	7/13/2020 13:05	<p>Our schools not only provide academic learning for our children, they are also a critical part of their social &amp; emotional development. The harm done to our children (depression, suicide, stunted emotional health &amp; social skills) by keeping our schools closed should not be acceptable to anyone, much less anyone in education!!</p> <p>It should not be too much to ask or expect from our educational system to rise to the difficult circumstances at hand. Teachers are very much essential to our society. There are safety protocols which can be implemented. Just as nurses, doctors &amp; first responders have adapted with new safeguards &amp; guide lines, so can teachers who are just as essential!</p> <p>I am disappointed in any teacher who believes they are more important than the children they are entrusted to teach!!</p> <p>I implore you to do your job! Open our schools, get teachers safely back to work!!! Thank you</p>
22	7/13/2020 17:45	<p>as a student i believe opening the school in the fall is crucial for the educational development of my peers and i. i find online school harder and less effective then traditional school, it is a lot easier for me to learn and grasp the information when a teacher is explaining it in depth rather than reading information off a screen. it's also easier to ask questions and get the correct response in a classroom compared to email. socializing is another essential for students and using online school takes that away. in addition, opening sports and extra curricular activities would be greatly appreciated. sports is a way for a lot of kids to stay active and express themselves in ways a lot of other things can't. i personally really miss school and sports and i would be thrilled to go back i'm the fall.</p>
23	7/13/2020 18:45	<p>I have two children one in 2nd grade with learning disabilities and another one in 6th grade that has always had good grades but is struggling with online schooling and hates it. I am also due with my third child on October 11th of this year. I am beyond overwhelmed and have major anxiety. I have nothing but respect for the teachers. I don't know how they do it. My son needs his title one class and hands on learning. He needs school back to normal!</p>
24	7/13/2020 19:08	<p>Will children in Elementary School be required to wear a mask while in the classroom?</p>

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25	7/13/2020 19:10	Will Elementary children be allowed to run around and play at recess and lunch?
26	7/13/2020 19:11	Will lunch be in the classroom or will it be outdoors?
27	7/13/2020 19:13	If a teacher tests positive for COVID-19, how long are they required to Quarantine?
28	7/13/2020 19:14	What will the process be if a classmate or teacher test positive? Do all the student and teacher have to quarantine for 2 weeks?
29	7/13/2020 18:22	<p>Dear Board of Education,</p> <p>I am strongly in favor of full-time, traditional schooling, without masks.</p> <p>CoVid-19 threw us all a curve ball that we were not expecting. When our schools and nation shut down in the spring, we were all caught off guard and scrambled to finish out the school year any way possible. I completely understand why the spring semester was what it was.... however, it was by no means a continuation of the planned curriculum and is not an acceptable form of education moving forward.</p> <p>Although my kids completed the daily/weekly participation - they did not learn much. Their education suffered greatly, as did their social interaction and mental health. I watched as my kids received ZERO instruction via Zoom/Google meetings while other school districts had their teachers "meeting" with their students everyday and teaching new material. (I know this first hand from a teacher in the Las Virgenes School District and students in the LAUSD) For the first time, I was disappointed in our school district. Disappointed MVUSD was not doing everything possible to elevate the level of teaching and continue having the teachers actually TEACH new material instead of just assign material. Embarrassed that kids in the LAUSD were getting more of an education than mine.</p> <p>This fall, the students need in person instruction. They need in person social interactions with their peers. Without in person instruction I worry our children will fall permanently behind on academics. I am much more fearful of the long term repercussions on their academics and mental health than I am about the kids contracting CoVid and/or bringing it home to 'grandma.' The percentage of our total population infected by CoVid is miniscule - roughly 1%....at some point we will look back on this period and be amazed we shut down our entire country for the tiny percentage of people affected.</p> <p>Please do the right thing. Think of our kids. Think of the quality of education that they will receive in person versus online. Save one or more teens from suicide. Do not give in to the hysteria. We count on you to think logically and with the best interests of our students as your top priority.</p> <p>Thank you for your time. - [REDACTED]</p>
30	7/13/2020 19:17	If a teacher or student tests positive, do all children in that class need to go get tested? Will the school be covering the cost of the test if a family is unable to afford it? Does a person have to prove that they tested negative before returning to school?
31	7/13/2020 19:28	My kids did not learn well during virtual learning and I worry about them falling behind.
32	7/13/2020 19:48	We need to have schools open in the fall Traditionally. Ask parents to bring Clorox wipes for their kids so they can wipe down their space, install sinks in the classrooms and have parents donate soap and supplies if needed and have children wash their hands every 30 minutes, instead of kids rotating have teachers rotate at the middle school and high school level. During lunch time only so many kids per table from each class should be sitting there.thertraditionally. Ask parents to bring Clorox wipes for their kids so they can wipe down their space, install sinks in the classrooms and have parents donate soap and supplies if needed and have children wash their hands every 30 minutes, instead of kids rotating have teachers rotate at the middle school and high school level. During lunch time only so many kids per table from each class! There are many ways to keep our kids in school and safe!
33	7/13/2020 19:44	<p>Murrieta School Board, I have 3 kids, Jr, Freshman and 5th grader who attend Murrieta schools. We are 20 plus year residents of Murrieta and LOVE EVERYTHING about our town, our schools and our teachers. We want our teachers and kids to be safe. But we desire a full reopening of school and activities with reasonable safety measures. Children under 18 are the least likely to get COVID, the least likely to spread. Continuing school closures has a HUGE negative impact on their education and mental well being. This time has been devastating to our children's education and mental well being. NOBODY wants our teachers and/or children to die but to pretend that our only option is a complete closure is not being realistic or fair. PLEASE CONSIDER</p> <p>our children and the negative affect these closures have had on them. Teachers can be protected and schools can be reopened. It doesn't have to be either and or. Many people like grocery workers, hospital staff, first responders like myself have found ways to mitigate the risk. PLEASE BE BOLD and do what is best for our children and not be intimidated by political organizations. OUR KIDS DESERVE BETTER THAN THIS! Although the district tried their best, distance learning was a complete failure for my children and many others. I will be praying for our kids, and our teachers.</p>



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34	7/13/2020 19:58	What will the school year look like? With San Diego county and LA county not going back will riverside follow suit?
35	7/13/2020 20:25	SEND THE KIDS BACK TO SCHOOL!!! There is NO WAY that my kids can learn online. I have a son with a processing disorder on an IEP and a daughter with all advanced and AP classes. She is also in leadership and on dance team. Their mental health is being effected due to not going to school. The coronavirus numbers are FALSE and this has become a political agenda. Our kids are the ones suffering. SEND THEM BACK TO SCHOOL (WITH NO MASKS)!!!
36	7/13/2020 20:10	<p>Hello. It is my recommendation that MVUSD follow the example of LAUSD and provide distance learning only for the 2020-2021 school year. Due to increasing Covid-19 levels in Riverside County, I am concerned about the health of Murrieta teachers, lunch aides, administrators, students, and families. Although Covid-19 appears to present less severe symptoms in children, they can still pass it on to adults or family members that may have compromised immune systems. Furthermore, no strategy has been presented to address what happens if someone at the school gets Covid. Temperature readings may be helpful in some cases, but many people with Covid are asymptomatic. Will the whole school shut down for 2 weeks or longer as people quarantine?</p> <p>I understand that many of our residents are concerned about their careers and businesses, but in this case, we must put people over profits. We must be even more aggressive with our social distancing measures than we were in April, when our numbers were significantly lower. This is the only way to flatten the curve until a reliable vaccine is developed. Please keep the kids home and focus on developing a robust and comprehensive distance learning curriculum for regular and special needs kids. Thank you.</p>
37	7/13/2020 20:31	My son is entering his senior year and doesn't do well with online learning. Please return to traditional learning in the classroom.
38	7/13/2020 20:34	I request to allow schools to function in the traditional, in person format. Students will receive better instruction, benefit from peer stimulation and interaction, as well as accountability. Many students are safer at school, the school environment allows children To be checked in and monitored for mental and physical health. There is greater risk for student to be confined in their homes on screens all day every day than to be exposed to this virus. The death rate percentage is small enough that parents feel their children will be safe in school. Schools are never shut down for flus, even when deaths occur. Our economy will collapse if parents can't work because they now have to homeschool their children.
39	7/13/2020 21:17	The district should seek out experts in distance learning to help with the distance learning path and a hybrid path. Charlotte Zavakil with CJZ Distance Learning Consultants can help. We will need to invest in additional resources and training for students, teachers, and administrators.
40	7/13/2020 21:21	Please do your job and educate children. Distance learning was disastrous. Open the schools.
41	7/13/2020 21:41	Please please please start traditional school my kids are begging to go back. My kids are not doing well with virtual learning!!!
42	7/13/2020 21:15	If the school district feels that distance learning is the best option to keep all kids safe I as a parent will support your decision
43	7/13/2020 21:48	I support our children going to school
44	7/13/2020 22:26	Our kids need to get back to school, there is no data showing kids are dying or spreading Covid-19. Please look at the studies done in other countries who have reopened schools. Also my child is in special education classes and really needs the extra supports from school and desperately needs the socialization. The distance learning for him was terrible and for working parents, it's terrible as well!
45	7/13/2020 22:35	I have 3 in middle school this year all of which signed up for band. If we have to do online how is this going to work? Can we have them meet in small groups a few days a week so they can actually learn something?
46	7/14/2020 0:09	My children need to be in school. I am a teacher in the district and I can tell you that even being a teacher they are not getting the same education as they would be if they were in school. I think of all those kids that don't have parents to support them at home. I think about all those students who are mentally unstable and they need this! Students should return in August. Parents and teachers should have the right to pick what they are comfortable with. I want to go back to the classroom and I want my kids to return as well.
47	7/14/2020 0:16	I want my children back to normal school with out having to wear mask and back to normal classrooms.



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48	7/14/2020 3:15	Please please Our children have the option to go back to school distance-learning is great and can be the other option we need to have a choice I have three children from a man if you need scholarship they will suffer greatly and I will be pulling them out of your school district if you do not allow them to go back to school next year I will move to Orange County if I have to or kids need to go back to school!!!!!!
49	7/14/2020 7:26	In support of traditional school model for upcoming fall school year at MVHS.
50	7/14/2020 7:42	I understand everyone's fear of kids getting sick but let's face it, kids get sick everyday! The people who are worried should already keep their kids at home. They've had that option for a while now with charters and inline schooling. When are we going to worry more about our kids mental health?? A lot of kids can't handle being stuck in the house all day. A lot of kids depend on school to get away from their home life. Also, lots of kids depend on school for food, since they can't get it at home. How about the people that want to go back sign a waiver?! No different than what we have to sign for sports! Let's stop the fear mongering and let the people who are okay with going back, go back.
51	7/14/2020 8:30	Hello my name is [REDACTED], I have a son in the Murrieta School district. I'm also a registered nurse specializing in cardiology but now I'm fighting covid like mostly all medical personnel. While this is not what anyone could imagine or plan for, here we are. Dr. Fauci has stated the risk right now is still very low. In California there has been no deaths of kids 17 and under but kids die from the regular flu every year. My son like other kids his age need the interaction with being in class for his own mental health and his overall growth as a young man. He also comes from a single mom household and is the only child. For months I thought about how school would be modified to meet the standards of safety and cleanliness for COVID 19. Sanitizer sprays, maybe droplet shields the kids could wear, Teachers wearing shields and teaching on podiums with microphones giving power point lectures which they do for college anyways. Then with the change in the numbers (which of course there will be more people testing positive, were testing more people everyday), we were even hoping maybe hybrid. With things changing day by day we held on to hope from each other and prayer from the man upstairs. My son is timid and school and sports have pulled my son out of his shell and has taught him leadership skills. Traditional interaction and sport seasons shape kids for the better. It's statistically proven. I like facts, I'm a fact person so when facts are shown and I do research I then make my decisions on what I feel. If school goes online does that mean no sports? With everything changing day by day why make a decision for the whole year. Maybe re-evaluate the situation Every semester. These are crucial times in young men and women's lives. Kids will be affected by this somehow. My son is not the agitated, on edge, anxious kid, but with everything going on about school and sports he's very much those things. All we can do is stay positive no matter what decision is made. As far as sports seasons I know it's a CIF SOUTHERN CONFERENCE thing but as a nurse it's still too early to say no to them. Say the curve goes back to a number the governor likes and gives Dr. Kaiser a green light what then? I sign waivers for my son as well as every other athlete's guardian to play football in case of concussions /death. While it's harsh to even sit through and read that's what we're all signing. Why can't we sign waivers for our kids to play or go to school face to face? The numbers are non-existent, no deaths for kids in high school and that number you can look up plain as day. With that being said I hope any normalcy is better than nothing, will take as much normalcy as we can get. Thank you, [REDACTED]
52	7/14/2020 9:32	I am an active duty service member who is getting deployed this school year. I have kids in High school and elementary school. My wife also works 10 hour days. It is imperative that our children be in school especially while I am gone and not physically able to be here with my family. My children are already suffering mentally from being locked in the house all day for months on end. Please reopen the schools.
53	7/14/2020 10:23	I am writing in regards to the safety of our children, teachers and staff. I am asking that you please do the right thing and listen to science, medical professionals and teachers. They are ALL saying it is unsafe to send children back right now. Our numbers are going up every single day. We have no idea how children will be affected by COVID-19 since they have not been in school. There are so many unknowns. We must do everything we can to keep each other safe during these hard times. Please do not ignore the FACTS. Please do not ignore science. Please do not turn your backs on the children, teachers and families of this community. If schools need to be re-opened, I am asking you to PLEASE make masks mandatory. It will save lives. Thank you.
54	7/14/2020 10:55	I am writing this to express my dissatisfaction with the districts plan for reopening our schools. I have been a teacher in the district for 20 years and feel I have to say something. The 3 model plan is ridiculous. First, having 3 plans for parents to choose from will put a huge burden on teachers. There will not be equity amongst teachers if some teach students everyday in the classroom (traditional), some teach blended (in and out of the classroom), and those who teach virtually. Second, the idea that if we open virtually only and teachers will be required to sit in their empty classrooms for the entire school day is also ridiculous. For example, what are middle school and high school P.E. teachers going to do in their P.E. offices all day? We are all professionals and will fulfill our job duty of teaching our students even if we are not on campus. You hired us because you trusted us to do this for our students and you need to trust that if we reopen on an all virtual learning plan, that all of us will do our job from home. If the students are not being required to be at school, then teachers should not be required to be there either. I also feel whatever plan you approve of it should stay in place until the Christmas break. For example, if things get better in the state in October and we all go back into the classroom but then things change for the worse again, are we supposed to go back home and then back to the classroom again again? That does not make any sense to me. I think there should be ONE model and we should stick with it for the semester BUT it has to be equitable for all teachers regardless of what they teach. Thank you for your time.

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55	7/14/2020 12:03	Our district has a plan to open school with 3 choice options. 1) full time on campus 2) full time distant learning 3) hybrid Parents, teachers, and students should have the choice to return to school in the fall. Masks should be optional to full time on campus students and staff because they have options to distant learn and or teach. Masks just aren't safe for long term use.
56	7/14/2020 12:28	It is not safe to have children in schools. There needs to be an online system until this pandemic is over. I am considering enrolling my child in a private online school if the district does not make an Intellegent decision on this. IT IS NOT SAFE.
57	7/14/2020 12:55	Please do not allow schools to open in the fall. What is the plan when a student or staff tests positive? What if a student or staffs family member tests positive? Will we just be doing 14 day quarantines all school year long? What about when a parent ignores their child's symptoms and sends them to school anyways, as happens every cold/flu season? If businesses are still being asked to close, how can you think it's safe to open schools? Please do the right thing to keep our kids safe and stop this virus from spreading.
58	7/14/2020 13:17	I am a student at Vista Murrieta High School. I am concerned about going back to school and the three models you are still going off of. I feel, as a student, that if I chose to go hybrid, I wouldn't feel safe going to school since you can't control outside influences. I was very much leaning towards going hybrid because I felt it was a good balance but you all can't guarantee the safety of my fellow students and I. My grandmother is immunocompromised and could die if she gets this virus. I am horrified of being the reason the virus would come home with me. I felt if I chose distance learning or even hybrid, I would fall behind my fellow classmates. As a junior, this is a very important year for my education and to colleges. I want to have the same opportunities as my fellow classmates and not feel like I am left in the dark about topics. I feel if we all start with distance learning in the fall and play it by ear then go back to school in the spring, we would all be at the same point in our educations. It would make me feel more comfortable not having to make such a tough decision about my education based on foggy learning structures and no idea how safety precautions will be made at my school. With 4000 students coming in and out of campus, I feel you can't guarantee me safety. Thank you for your time.
59	7/14/2020 14:40	Please listen to Drs, not politicians! Kids need to be in school! The lack of leaning, social skills and mental heath issues this is causing is worse then the virus! Kids have strong immune systems! Let them learn! Every year the classes empty from flu and we dont close! Dont change now! Let the at risk families or kids stay home but dont punish the group as a whole! Its not right!
60	7/14/2020 16:02	Some classrooms (science in particular) cannot move tables, making social distancing impossible without radical renovation
61	7/14/2020 16:20	In light of Newson recently reclosing California, I hope our schools stay on track to reopen in class instructions on 8/12. I'm appreciative of the three models of instruction (hybrid, online only, in class) made available to families as each family has a different medical history. For the families with little to no health concerns, we should be allowed the opportunity to let our children back into the traditional classroom setting. The future of America is at stake. Our children's futures are our futures. We need to provide our children with the best educational tells available to them. For my family, the online learning did not cut it. Thank you for your consideration.
62	7/14/2020 17:54	Teachers are very much deemed as essential. Our children rely on going to school for many reasons, it's a necessary for social & emotional development, not just for an education. Mentally, it is so important for them. Child suicide is on the rise, the highest it's ever been in history; the number one cause of death in teens today. I feel it's important enough to repeat, teachers are essential!! Us as parents need to be the voice for our children. Please do your jobs & send teachers safely back to work!! Thank you
63	7/14/2020 20:00	These kids need to get back to school!!! I know there are many parents as well as teachers that agree. There will be no hope for this current generation if they continue trying to learn distantly. It doesn't work for the vast majority! If parents don't want their child to go back, or they, as an educator, don't feel comfotable going back, then by all means, do the distant learning/teach distant learning. I can respect that. I worry about the future of my own child if he can't return to a normal classroom. My child is suffering a great deal mentally, socially, physically and intellectually by not being in school physically for so long, and he WANTS to return. PLEASE, stick with the results of the previous survey you sent out a couple of months ago and allow the children whose parents feel comfortable with them going back to a normal classroom environment, attend school the only way they know how. Thank you for your time.
64	7/14/2020 20:38	How many kids will there be in elementary classroom?
65	7/14/2020 20:46	Our children desperately deserve to return to school, friends, socialization and education. Teenage depression is real and their mental health is being compromised by forced quarantine and this new reality. Please give them a chance to return to school. It's an integral part of their development and their all missing it. My girls are to start their freshman year. They missed all the accolades of 8th grade promotion and end of the year festivities. Please, let's start anew. Our kids deserve our bravery.

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- 66 7/14/2020 20:42 Open the schools immediately. Children are suffering from stress and depression which at this point is worse than covid. These children did their part and stayed at home to help flatten the curve now they need to return to school. Why does it take Murrieta school district so long to make a decision. The lack of education during the last 3 months of school was a waste and these children were not required to do work. They learned no new concepts. This is the youth of America and they need traditional school. Just a little background I have a disabled 16 year old who needs in classroom learning. Since being home he got a job as an essential worker and has come in contact with 1000's of people. He has not ever had a symptom of covid and we have taught him you can not fear the world and getting sick you just need to practice good hygiene. Also my 17 is now an essential worker and both my husband and I are essential workers and we have managed not to catch covid. Practice good hygiene and help these children before suicide and depression surpass covid. Then we will have much bigger issues. Every parent in our district and teacher I spoken to want traditional classroom teaching. For those who don't offer online.
- 67 7/14/2020 21:35 My child is severely disabled, she will be in 8th grade at Shivela middle school this year. Learning away from the classroom does not work for her. She can not navigate a computer I have to do everything for her and she has rejected all efforts made last year by her teacher and speech therapist to teach her over video via Microsoft teams, she literally runs away from the computer. She has emotional meltdowns when I attempt to teach her at our home because it is not her normal routine and my role in her world is not being her teacher, she can't adjust to me taking on this role. If in person learning is not possible this year and the district decides to only offer distance learning how does my daughter access education, therapy, and services that is offered in her IEP? Is it possible to have some in person learning for disabled students? Perhaps have disabled students come in to the classroom individually at a designated time and day multiple times a week to have their much need therapy and services? Am I going to be held legally responsible as a parent to educate my child who is rejecting all efforts of distance learning? We are working with county mental health and regional center on her behavior but I am not an educator or a therapist, I am a mom. For the first time in my daughter's life I feel like we are not able to provide her with what she needs in regards to her learning and it is extremely hard on our family. She is entitled to a Free Appropriate Public Education and learning virtually is not appropriate for her, how are you as a district going to give her access to her right to FAPE? I know that this is an overwhelming and unprecedented situation that we are all facing and I appreciate your hard work to provide a safe education to all students.
- 68 7/15/2020 6:32 As much as I want to teach school "traditionally" , it doesn't sound like a safe idea. I feel we need another survey seeing how parents and teachers feel at this time. Reevaluate the situation as the virus is being contained.
- 69 7/15/2020 8:01 I am a nurse and I can tell you that it is safe and important for these kids to return to school. Look at day care who intermingle the kids with no mask and have teachers, no outbreaks. It can be done and these kids need to have traditional school. They are already showing a decline in their education and to try to have them home school with parents who are not trained to teach and work is impossible and that showed when the schools closed. Kids don't learn in home environments the way they need to be taught. The kids need school for their development and the anxiety these kids are feeling can be irreversible if this continues.
- 70 7/15/2020 10:20 Would like the schools to reopen when school starts in August
- 71 7/15/2020 11:49 I support traditional schooling for both my high school girls - they want to be in school. Emotionally, this is taking a toll on them. They need socialization, depression is setting in. They need to be taught, not teach themselves, they need sports back. Our girls are competing for athletic scholarships and Orange county is going back - how are we suppose to compete with that? Their chances will now be very limited. They need routines, they need to have accomplishments, they need to be taught by a teacher, not their parent.

- 72 7/15/2020 12:58 I am a Kindergarten Teacher at Val Verde Unified School District, and due to the rise in Covid 19 cases in California, I am in favor of the Distance Learning Model for this new school year for all California schools. It is not only the safest model to choose at this time, but I also feel that the dedicated teachers at MVUSD are better equipped now to teach from a distance because of the experience they had during Trimester 3. Although the Corona Virus took us out of our classrooms with no warning, our dedicated team and I collaborated and figured out a way to start teaching online. My Kindergarten team and I worked hard creating lessons, organizing our schedule for daily zoom meetings with students, setting up office hours, making ourselves available Monday through Friday and on most occasions even on the weekends outside of our office hours, putting together our Googleclassroom pages, creating educational and how-to videos with screencastify, and making materials ready and available for all of our students. Every week we went above and beyond and discovered and explored new websites and tools and improved our way of teaching in this new world so that students could have a more fun, interactive experience learning and practicing skills that would get them ready for first grade. We scheduled fun spirits days and discussed our feelings to address the social-emotional aspect of Distance Learning. I can confidently say that my team and I did everything in our power to make distance learning a fun, enjoyable, and educational experience. With that said, I feel that transitioning to the Distance Learning model at the start of this new school year will be more than possible. Given our prior experience with this model, the teachers at MVUSD will be able to get things rolling quicker than they did back in April, and they will build upon their current online teaching skills with new trainings and explorations, which will improve the online distance learning experience. These teachers care, and they will do everything possible to meet the needs of their students in this distance learning model. It is not only the safest model to choose at this time, but it is a model that MVUSD will be able to successfully plunge into with all of its new challenges awaiting to be creatively conquered by its eager students and dedicated teachers and staff.
- 73 7/15/2020 13:36 I teach in classroom smaller than my 2 car garage. It is impossible to properly physically distance my sped kids and the paraprofessionals in the space I have. I am very concerned about returning to school with such a crowded room and no guarantee that folks are following protocols outside of school...or for that matter at school. Additionally, if it's unsafe for our MEA and School Board to meet face to face (which it is) why would anyone think it's safe for teachers to be face to face with students! Other districts have already decided to do distance learning for this year because of increasing numbers of hospitalizations in their area. We have increasing numbers too which is why things are being shut down again so I'm not sure why face to face instruction is even still on the table! And finally, if we don't have a doctor's note saying we're high risk we just have to suck it up!?! I don't think that's right either. I, personally, am terrified at this point. I don't even leave my house, don't see my children or family, but I'm expected to return to school in four weeks for face to face instruction! It is my belief that we need to put the safety of our students and staff first. We should not re-open schools at this time. If we are forced to, then I believe we should adopt a split day so we have half our kids in the morning and half in the afternoon. But even with that, I think we wait til numbers are way down and our community is open.
- 74 7/15/2020 14:03 How will a substitute shortage be handled? In the past at the elementary level, a class without a substitute was split up and distributed to the other classes in that grade level if another option wasn't available. Given social distancing requirements, this is no longer an option. Is there a plan in place in case there are classes that don't have coverage?

75 7/15/2020 14:19

Members of the Board,

I appreciate this opportunity to voice my opinions, concerns and feelings regarding the re-opening of schools for the 2020-2021 school year. I'm a parent of three school-aged children in the district and husband to a MVUSD educator. I think all parties concerned want life to go back to "normal", including but not limited to school, work, social activities, sports, etc. With this in mind, the safety and well-being of staff, students and their families, needs to be paramount when planning how and when we will return to school. The following is a summary of my concerns/questions regarding the re-opening of our schools:

- What are the contingencies/protocols in place when there is a teacher/student exposure to Covid-19? In crisis/critical situations, having a designated plan to follow mitigates risks, prevents overreaction and helps all involved respond in the most appropriate/safe manner.
- What are the expectations of school staff, parents and students regarding the use of safety precautions such as social distancing, wearing of personal protective equipment (PPE), and sanitizing workspaces? I understand the state of the pandemic is fluid and unpredictable, but I don't believe this information has been made available to parents and/or staff.
- Will teachers/staff assigned to "traditional" classrooms be provided with PPE and will PPE be provided to students? What is the projected protocol if/when a student refuses to wear PPE or ignores social distancing instruction, or is instructed by parents that it's not required? Teachers/staff need to feel safe at their place of business and have the full support of their administrators. Having confidence in their leadership will be crucial for teachers staying focused on their mission, which is teaching our kids.
- What, if any, adjustments have been made regarding class sizes, installation of physical barriers, desk placement and ingress/egress of students and staff? In my opinion, making this information available will only serve to ease the anxieties/concerns of parents and staff. Furthermore, I don't think it's fair to ask parents to choose an educational option for their children without this vital information.
- Until all of these above concerns are addressed and solutions are implemented, the most responsible decision at this time would be to offer instruction online with a phased reopening of campuses as the virus numbers fall to manageable/safe levels.

In conclusion, I want to express my thanks for this opportunity to be heard during this unprecedented and stressful time. I understand that there are "behind the scenes" issues that I am not privy to that may influence the decision-making process. I hope you will keep the safety/well-being of the staff and students as your number one priority as you move forward in the coming weeks.

Sincerely,


[REDACTED]

76 7/15/2020 14:13

I support the option of long distance learning and in person school options. I live and teach in Murrieta. I volunteered to return to teaching in person in the traditional full time manner. I think that is best for first graders. Young children do not know how to read or write yet. They are not tech savvy and familiar with our computer programs. They cannot easily learn online. They need lots of support from a knowledgeable adult. Teachers and parents will try their best to make long distance learning work, but in reality, most parents are too busy with their jobs and multiple children to adequately supervise and provide instruction for all of their children of various ages, grades, and needs. The health risk of returning to school is very low for young children. It is also low for most adults. I am a teacher willing to go back, but I support the district allowing teachers with health problems to not physically return. I also support parents who choose to keep their children home to long distance learn. However, many parents work full time and do not have a stay at home parent in the house. They do not have a choice. They need daycare for their children and they also want a quality education for their children. The schools need to open and allow parents who need it to have a place to put their children in to be watched and taught. Let's allow the option to return to school in person and the option to long distance learn from home.

- 77 7/15/2020 14:46 Over the course of the last months, we have seen a steady increase in the number of cases and deaths in our country and county. Seeing this makes me and others anxious to go back to in person instruction in lieu of Gov. Newsom’s orders to roll back on re-openings. Also recently San Diego Unified and Los Angeles Unified have made the decision to go completely virtual due to COVID-19 cases and deaths. In Riverside County we have more cases than San Diego but less than Los Angeles. With this knowledge, how can we as a district require students and staff to go back to in person instruction? I understand the want to get these students back to “normal”; however, whenever you have a pandemic there is no return to “normal” instead there is a “new normal”. At this point can you consciously say that our schools are ready for that? The CDC states that we need to have at least 6 feet apart for students and that masks need to be worn when with others. How can you ensure this for all schools? There is very little research out there for kids contracting COVID-19, because when cases surged schools shutdown to try to limit the amount of students getting sick. What has changed from March to now? We are currently seeing more and more cases and we have no idea if kids can transmit COVID-19 similar to adults. Why would we try this out with the lives of our children? Just like adults, we have no idea what kids will be lucky and have limited symptoms whereas others might not be so lucky. There is so much we still don’t know about COVID-19 and recently we are seeing a new respiratory disease that kids are developing when they contract COVID-19. We don’t even know how that will affect them later in their lives. Both my husband and I have Master’s degrees through fully accredited universities that were taught completely virtually. There is no reason as to why students, especially high school students, are unable to learn proficiently through a similar way. We must follow suit.
- I just gave birth to my son in February and as a new mom and a teacher, I want to do right by my family but also want to be a teacher. I love my students and I feel that teaching is my calling. But when you, as a district, who is supposed to have our backs and support us in educating the future generation are throwing caution to the wind, I can’t stand by and be silent. I have an obligation to my family to keep them safe. Even though there is some very limited research out there about children contracting COVID-19, I cannot take that risk for my infant son and husband. If I am forced to go back to work, then my in-laws will have to watch my son because we can’t afford daycare, and daycare isn’t a safe option. They are in the highest risk age range; therefore, I am not only putting my immediate family at risk but also can be robbing my son of his grandparents and potentially me as I am his food source by breastfeeding. You are essentially making me decide between my family and my career. If push comes to shove, I will always choose the well-being of my family over my career. Just to put this in perspective of what I have been doing while schools have been closed. I was on maternity leave and was slated to come back in early May. When schools closed I went back to work so that I could better support my students during this time instead of just letting my sub do it. During summer vacation I have worked tirelessly to educate myself on how to teach virtual classes and have been creating curriculum for my students for when the schools returned remotely. My husband and I have been working from home since March and very rarely does he leave to go to the grocery store. We are taking this pandemic seriously and I hope that the district will continue to take it very seriously when they have have our (the staff) and our children’s lives in their hands. I hope that you can still do right by me and my family.
- 78 7/15/2020 15:16 I am adamantly opposed to the concept of returning to our school environment in a “Traditional” model as the district is proposing. To say that I was shocked to see this proposed model which encompasses returning to a classroom with traditional numbers of students, in which the district states, “6 feet social distancing not guaranteed” is an understatement. I will be very direct, this is an absurd idea that is insulting to all teachers and staff within our schools. In no way would this decision show responsible or professional practice from MVUSD, especially given our recent surge in cases of this virus in Riverside County. Hundreds of teachers and staff willingly took the professional opportunity to complete the Leading Edge Online Certification in order to serve our students in the most rigorous online format possible. We are letting precious time go by when we could be preparing for our August return in a virtual format that far exceeds what students were offered the last two months of the school year. Returning to the classroom in any capacity that exposes teachers, staff, and students to hundreds of people per day is negligent, irresponsible, and a platform for disaster. I have compassion for families that are facing hardships with returning to work and potentially having child care conflicts but this is NOT an acceptable reason to return to our learning environment in any “Traditional” capacity. To be clear, I do believe in person teaching is best for students during a time when we are not facing a Pandemic of this nature. I am opposed to anything but a 100% virtual academic platform for the start of our school year.
- 79 7/15/2020 15:48 I would like to let the board know that I appreciate the 3 different options that have been offered regarding the re-opening of schools. After much research on COVID & children, I would like to say that I am very comfortable and confident that sending them back to a Traditional style school is in their best interest. I know there have been some concerns about protecting our teachers, so I would like to suggest adding additional teachers aids in the classrooms with teachers of higher risk so that they don't have to come in close contact with the children. I am hoping that in the finalization of what the school year will look like, masks will NOT be required for our children. There is no evidence to show that children wearing masks has any benefit, and in fact I believe it would be detrimental to their childhood to wear them on a daily basis. I look forward to hearing what our guidelines will be and am confident that the board will do what is in the best interest of our families rights, liberties and freedoms. God Bless & Thank you!



80	7/15/2020 16:20	<p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>I am writing you today to ask that you please highly consider keeping this upcoming school year all virtual. Our numbers in Riverside County are increasing every day and I do not see how opening schools right now could work. What will happen if a child comes to school with COVID? That happens if a teacher comes to school with COVID? What happens when a teacher or child die from this? There is no easy answer here. There is definitely no easy choice. The one thing you do know for sure, is that COVID is a threat and there would be no possible way to keep it out of schools. It will happen. People will die. That is sadly the reality. It's true that as of right now it doesn't seem to affect children as much as adults. But what's going to happen once schools open back up? How many deaths will it take for people to realize this is real? I cannot and will not risk my child's life. It would be incredibly unfair of anyone to ask me to choose between my son having a "normal" school education or risking his health or my family's health. How can you put that burden on people? The CDC, medical professionals, science and facts are ALL saying it is unsafe to open schools right now. It's impossible. To all the parents who want to put their kids in school with zero precautions, how is that fair? How is that right? If everyone could do the right thing maybe our children would have a chance but as we've seen our community is not willing to make that sacrifice. It's up to you to do the right thing. For the children, the teachers and staff and for the families. If schools open back up, people will die. We all know this. You cannot expect teachers to put their lives on the line. Not right now. There are other options, other ways. If you choose a hybrid model as an option, PLEASE consider making masks mandatory. Especially if it's only half days. Wearing a mask is an easy thing to do to try to keep COVID out of the schools. We cannot go against science right now. We have been told over and over masks help reduce the spread. Myself and many, many other parents are willing to make that sacrifice and do the right thing. If you do not enforce these precautions, it will still come. COVID will come whether you're in the class for 15 minutes or 6 hours. The masks can help prevent that spread. My child is willing to wear one in order to be able to return. It's such a small price to pay to do right by our children. To do right by the teachers and staff. Please listen. This is not politics. This is our health. Our children's health and lives. If you can't even meet in person for this, how can you actually expect children to return to a class with 25+ other students in a small classroom?</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
81	7/15/2020 16:25	<p>It is NOT safe for anyone to return to school this fall. There is a virus spreading like wild fire among the humans on this earth. And unless we stop it, it will continue to spread and mutate. It is not under control. To open too soon would put every employee of MVUSD as well as every student and their families at risk. They may not die, but the long term effects of this virus are unknown. Please listen to the scientists and NOT politicians and start the school year with distance learning.</p>
82	7/15/2020 16:24	<p>I personally do not feel safe teaching in a traditional nor hybrid model especially when there has been no specific information on how this will be implemented if this is the route the district intends to do school. I would like assurance along with the protocol that will be utilized by MVUSD for the safety of our students, and staff so a traditional or hybrid setting can be done. My biggest concern is what will occur if there is a known case at a school site, will we be shuttered down once again to quarantine those exposed?! I just want to ensure that it will be in fact safe to students and staff to return to school in the midst of a new spike in cases.</p>
83	7/15/2020 16:03	<p>The Murrieta Valley Unified School District is home to the best and brightest students and staff. I truly believe this. I told them earnestly in my interview 6 years ago that Vista was my dream school, and it still is. That is precisely why I believe that we must start our year virtually; our gifts, talent, and heart are too precious to risk! The MVUSD family has so much to contribute to the community, the country, and the world; we owe it to all of them to give them the opportunity to do just that.</p> <p>Although we cannot shield our students from some of the devastating consequences that come with growing up in 2020 in the form of severe cyber bullying and possible school shootings, it is imperative that we spare them from the dangers and trauma that we can. It is our duty to provide our students with the safety and stability that is integral to the development of such extraordinary humans.</p> <p>By opening the year virtually, we can help to ensure the health and safety of our incredible MVUSD children and young adults, without sacrificing their education. Although the Spring semester's Distance Learning was not optimal, we have all worked tirelessly to improve the system: the DSC formed task forces, upgraded to a new Learning Management System, and provided Leading Edge training for effective online teaching. Teachers have had time to learn and practice new skills and methods for delivering quality digital instruction, we've participated in virtual PD and PLC's, and we've exhausted Youtube's tutorial library in order to guarantee that we are ready to deliver the same quality experience that we have in our classrooms.</p> <p>Lastly, if I can speak for myself and my esteemed colleagues for a brief moment, I would ask you this: we have dedicated our lives to our students, please don't ask us to give them for them.</p> <p>Sincerely,  </p>
84	7/15/2020 17:01	<p>As an educator, I understand the safety concerns of all parties. As long as we can maintain safety measures like masks and distance (as it pertains to the classroom), traditional schedules should resume.</p>



- 85 7/15/2020 16:49 The idea of re-opening schools for in person classes highly concerns me as a teacher and a parent of an MVUSD student. Our state has just shut down many businesses for the second time and it seems that our COVID numbers are only getting worse. I believe it is in the best interest of students and staff to continue with online Distance Learning education AT LEAST until the mask mandate is over with. There have been many studies that show that cloth and ear loop masks are not effective at preventing the wearer from getting a virus. In fact, there are studies proving that face coverings can increase the risk of respiratory illness in healthy people. Wearing a face covering also restricts oxygen flow and causes the wearer to inhale carbon dioxide. This CANNOT be healthy for children! I cannot in my right mind send my 1st grader to school and expect her and the rest of the students at my school to wear a mask all day. If it is not safe to be out in public without a mask, then it is not safe to have students and staff back in classrooms.
- I have a lot of questions if we resume in person classes. What happens when a student refuses to wear a mask? What happens if students continuously play with their masks as we all know young children will? What happens if a staff member cannot wear a mask due to personal medical reasons? Who is responsible for disinfecting classrooms? What happens when a student or staff member tests positive for COVID after being back in the classroom? If staff members do not want to wear a mask for 7-8 hours a day 5 days a week will other options be provided? How are teachers supposed to place desks 6 feet apart with 25-30 students?
- 86 7/15/2020 15:17 The Proposed New Board Policy BP 0470 - COVID-19 Mitigation Plan clearly reflects a great deal of time, energy, and thoughtfulness on the part of its authors. I appreciate that the Board recognizes that staff, as well as students, "have the right to a safe campus that protects their physical and psychological health and well-being". I also agree with the Board that the consequences of this pandemic are far-reaching and require extraordinary measures of support for students, families, and staff.
- My concerns for the Mitigation Plan are not with the particulars but rather with the spirit of the plan. It seems to devalue the quality of learning that is possible in an online environment and perhaps gives more credit than is due to the learning that will take place in an in-person, "traditional", model in the context of the pandemic. While the Mitigation Plan includes options for blended and online instruction, it certainly seems to favor in-person instruction for all students.
- There is no doubt that last year's abrupt transition to Distance Learning had many flaws. Now, however, we have an opportunity to demonstrate that online learning can be rigorous, standards-driven, and beneficial for students. Online learning is not the best choice for all students, but neither is a return to the pre-COVID status quo of traditional instruction. Rather than viewing a hybrid or online model as a lesser option necessitated by current conditions, we should devote the appropriate resources into developing online/hybrid learning programs that can become part of our district offerings for the long term.
- I ask the Board to be mindful in your decision-making and your communication to the community. Please do not make or convey assumptions that online education is "settling", or that students who learn in an online or hybrid model will somehow receive less of an education than students who return to the physical classroom. Instead be clear that, no matter how they learn, all students in Murrieta Valley Unified School District will receive the quality of education our community expects from us.
- Our community expects us to educate their children while keeping them safe. In a time when placing children and staff in classrooms poses a clear and present danger to everyone, we shouldn't ask parents to choose between a quality education and their child's safety. Give them the best of both options by promoting and supporting quality online instruction for as many students as is reasonable and appropriate.
- 87 7/15/2020 18:35 We will have two kids in HS this year. My son absolutely loved being at school this year & involved. He is asking to go back. We will now have a freshman as well who is asking to have a normal high school experience & to be able to dance with her the varsity dance team she made it on too. My kids do so much better in class than online. They love to see their friends & teachers. I hope the district sees how important this is for the kids.

88 7/15/2020 16:59 I am writing as a concerned parent of a 6th grader. Currently, I believe I would prefer my child to attend a blended learning style but it's not clear how that would look. Shivela's Assitant Principal told me that, except for additional cleaning procedures the school is not planning on implementing any new social distance guidelines put out by the CDC. If this is true, it's absolutely unacceptable to me. If it's not true, how can I properly decide what style learning and therefore how much risk I'm willing to place my child in, without being told what the school environment will look like? Choosing an online-only learning option will absolutely destroy my daughter's chances of achieving academic success. I am not a teacher. Even though I'm home, there's no way I will be able to help guide her through each subject a 6th grader will need to learn. To only have me and an online teacher to instruct her will destroy her confidence and greatly hinder her chances of future academic success. She really struggled with finishing her 5th-grade year through the socially distant learning style. She needs more structure and in-person instruction in order to thrive. A blended learning style, although not ideal, seemed like a reasonable option for her. But, with the apparent lack of social distancing being enforced on your campuses, I'm afraid it will be too risky for her to attend a blended learning style. I am willing to accept some risk if there was some effort to reduce the risk of spread at the school. There are many options to help reduce the spread of the virus and it's extremely disappointing to see that almost none are being implemented at our schools. If our restaurants and other businesses can make necessary changes to be able to open safely, our schools should be able to do so too. Your July 9th letter said there's a lack of mandated guidelines. I don't see why that is a reason to choose to do almost nothing. If no leadership is being offered, it's up to you all to be that needed leadership and do what is responsible and reasonable. Offering the choice of being fully reckless with our children and the community's health or to keep our children isolated and watch them suffer through online learning is not a fair nor reasonable choice. Not when there are ways of safely opening a somewhat normal school environment for all. Some parents don't really have the option NOT to send their kids to school full time. Some parents will be too ill-informed to clearly understand the risk they are taking by sending their children to an environment with very little protection from the spread of this deadly virus. But I'm sure many parents are like me, and just know how much their children's ability to learn will be hindered if they are made to learn without any formal in-person instruction time. This isn't right. We can do better for our community and it feels we simply are choosing not to. What is the plan if one student tests positive for COVID? Are you going to be able to mitigate how many students will need to be isolated and tested? Will parents be informed if there is a student who tests positive at the school? Will the school close down? For how long? Parents need to know this information in order to make an informed decision on whether it's safe to send their child to school. Please do better. Our community needs our schools.

89 7/15/2020 18:47 Board members,  
I am a parent, educator and community member,  
Since the Pandemic began scientists have learned more about how the Covid 19 virus spreads and the damage it does. At first scientists thought children were unaffected and could not spread the virus. Then they discovered the virus was affecting them differently. There have been reports about outbreaks in schools and some children and staff have died. My concern for a potential school outbreak is based on current scientific evidence that over 50% of Covid 19 transmission takes place through the air by pre-symptomatic and asymptomatic persons in enclosed indoor environments. The virus then spreads by building up in an aerosol form in poorly, not updated ventilation systems such as in both classrooms and school buildings. Cloth masks and social distancing are not enough protection. After several hours of exposure infected individuals could then spread the virus into households and subsequently throughout the community. Public Health director for Riverside County Kim Saruwatari noted that the county's positivity rate is currently 20%, nearly three times the state's threshold of 8%. The current trajectory has Riverside County reaching 29,809 cases by July 20. The current doubling rate, days it takes to double cases, stands at 23.7 days. Public Health Officer Dr. Cameron Kaiser advised residents not to gather with people you don't live with, warning that if the county doesn't reduce these kinds of high-risk transmissions, "then the state will step in and make us."  
It would be great if students and staff would be able to go back to school this August. I know that in person learning is normally better for teachers, students, and families. However, these are not normal times with the rising cases of Covid 19 seen in Riverside County and throughout our nation. I strongly believe the only safe option for staff, students and families is to open the school year with the full distant learning model, just like our neighboring school districts are deciding to do. This model is not ideal, but it is the safest and most responsible choice. If you make this decision for full distant learning now, it will give teachers, administrators and parents time to work on improving the model to ensure better student outcomes. If schools open this year with any other model than full distance learning, it will only be a matter of time before someone's child, parent, grandparent, wife, husband, or loved one will become infected with Covid 19. At which point, Riverside County Health Department will end up shutting the schools due to Covid 19 outbreaks. This will result in chaos and disruption of learning for students. The better choice would be to open with a well-planned full distance learning model and continue until the virus is under control in our community. This will also allow for Administrators time to get needed supplies and create the best safety protocols for the day when we do return to in person instruction.  
Thank you for your time to consider this information. I hope you will make the safest and most responsible decision to protect our families, our children, all staff members and our community.  
Please keep us all safe by voting full distant learning

90	7/15/2020 19:02	<p>I would like to thank the District for giving parents and students an option of what they are comfortable with for this school year. As a mother of five kids in the district, I believe choice is important. Each of my children learn differently and as a family, I have at least one child in each model. As things have become more and more political, I have become more frustrated and disappointed in MVUSD teachers. The negative tone and bashing of parents who value choice on parent and community pages is appalling. The us versus them tone many identified teachers have taken online is very unprofessional. I don't know why or how the tone has shifted, but the teachers my Junior and Senior have had in the past six years of our time in the district have been professional and have showed how much they truly value parents as partners in the education of our children. I love our teachers and am thankful none of my children's teachers from this year have been unprofessional online. But I truly hope that the district and teachers unions address teacher civility, and online behavior from petitions to keep schools closed, to blasting the district 9llok o your own Facebook post to see teachers comments), to judging parents online for wanting quality education for our students. Don't they have a grievance process? Doesn't the district have a process for teachers to submit their comments outside of social media? As parents we are told to teach our kids how to behave online. Please train some teachers the same principal. As we enter the next round of board elections, I will be sure to pay attention to the candidates that the teachers union does not endorse, because frankly, after seeing their posts and social media comments I question their judgement.</p>
91	7/15/2020 19:35	<p>STAFF RELATED QUESTIONS          Will we be able to work in stations? Or will that cause too much exposure?          How much time is a teacher/aide required to spend sanitizing? Between stations? After school? On their lunch break/prep period?          Are aides going to be asked to come in earlier than 15 mins to prevent crowds?</p> <p>STUDENT RELATED QUESTIONS          How will students maintain 6 feet of distance if we are still in a 2-1 scenario?          If we are required to still keep this separation, then how would I, as an aide, be able to maintain control with my students while having 12 feet of separation between the two of them and myself?          How will we prevent spread during arrival and dismissal? In my school, there are three 4 ft wide gates available to use. With over 700 students (not counting staff, parents, siblings) expected to arrive and leave in a 30-minute window, there is a lot of chance for exposure. "Parents won't be able to enter the school" What about students who have trouble navigating schools? SPED students? Will secondary staff be required to walk students back and forth, on top of normal morning duty activities?          For students that ride the bus, will they be required to wear a mask for the duration of the ride? For some students, this could mean almost 10 hours of mask-wearing. Will small busses become un-usable, or will students be breaking the distance code?          What about students that do not understand physical boundaries (SPED, littles, etc)? Are they not allowed to come to school because they don't understand social distancing?</p> <p>GUARDIAN RELATED QUESTIONS          Are parents going to be required to pay for the supplies for their children? Will funding be created for Title 1 households? What about when the materials break?          What will happen when there is a parent who wants/needs their child to attend school full time, but they will not require their child to keep the mask on?</p>
92	7/15/2020 21:17	<p>Schools staying closed will widen the divide between our students. The students who have technology and support at home will likely be okay through all this. But our students who have less, little to no tech at home, parents who must go to work, parents who don't speak English fluently, struggle with disabilities - learning or otherwise, students who are already behind academically will pay the price for this. Early childhood education is a big indicator of going to college. These students may never recover from losing this much education. We must put them, and all our students first. They are the future. The current health situation is not more risky than the common flu. We weigh risk every day. This one should be weighed out to the students benefit. I am a teacher and I am ready and willing to return to the classroom. I am not requesting time to speak but would like my thoughts to be counted. Thank you!</p>
93	7/15/2020 22:52	<p>How will this school year be like? Will we reopen do distant learning or hybrid?</p>
94	7/15/2020 22:56	<p>How is the change in how schools reopen affect DIS Aids?</p>
95	7/16/2020 0:36	<p>Our amazing teachers should not be put in harms way risking their health and possible life so that parents have access to free daycare. School staff are humans, they have families and loved ones to love on, live for and take care for as well. Distance learning in the middle of a Pandemic is a small sacrifice compared to the loss of a staff member or, Heaven forbid, students life.</p>
96	7/16/2020 7:03	<p>Starting the school year with virtual distance learning would be prudent at this time given the large number of new cases and hospitalizations in our area. We can do DL better this time if we can get learning materials such as workbooks and other supplies to the students before the new year starts. The end of the year "pick up your stuff parade" was an effective way to close out the school year. A similar procedure would work at the beginning to briefly meet our new students and get their books and supplies to them. -Thank you for your time!</p>

- 97 7/16/2020 7:25 I absolutely know that traditional, face to face learning is best, but I now have real concerns about the safety and health of myself, my students, and colleagues with a face to face model. Riverside County's new case rate is rising fast and is number two in the state in both new cases and total cases. This is not the time to open the schools and hope things go well. We need to follow the science and error on the side of caution. We were able to flatten the curve in April and May due to school closures and the stay at home orders. Once we began opening up, the numbers began to climb as we knew they would. They are now out of control. I believe we should open virtually, then ease our way into a hybrid model as the numbers/data improves, then return to traditional education. People are rightly concerned about the children's social-emotional well being while staying at home, however everyone's social-emotional well being will be very negatively impacted by a child or teacher getting seriously ill or dying. Thank you!
- 98 7/16/2020 8:01 I realize that we have all been put into a precarious situation. Our government has failed to give a clear direction, funding, or guidelines so we have to make these important decisions on our own. So yes, I understand the decisions the school district have made are only after much research and discussion. However in our current health crisis the "traditional" classroom model does not account for the PEOPLE that have chosen that model.  
MVUSD and Murrieta School Board of Education I want to remind you of the PEOPLE that are involved in these decisions.  
When you put me, the teacher, in a classroom of 30 students, what kind of PPE are you providing the students and I to feel safe? Because as far as every shred of evidence I have read placing 30 people in a room does not allow for proper spacing, ventilation, or safety from contracting Covid-19. What message do you think this sends to all the PEOPLE that work for the school district about their worth?  
During the summer, I was concerned I had Covid-19, I had 3 symptoms of the virus including a temperature of 100 degrees. I quarantined in my room away from my family and my husband stayed home from work for 4 days to care for our 2 children. Luckily, my test was negative however, it took 4 days to receive results. Are you prepared to support our staff with covered absences in the event this same scenario plays out several times throughout the year? Because let's be honest the colds that will eventually come with cooler weather carry many similar symptoms to Covid. If the scenario I shared occurred during the school year, what is your plan for contact tracing, testing, and informing the over 200 students, coworkers, and families that I would have been in contact with? The stress and mental anguish this is going to impress upon the PEOPLE in our community will far surpass any of the stresses of distance learning.  
I understand the argument that our children need the structure and socialization that school provides. Believe me as a mother of a 7 and 5-year-old that attend Lisa J. Mails, I have seen my kiddo's struggle with the confines of distance learning. I have day dreamed of us returning to the normalcy of a traditional school year. Yet we are in the middle of a pandemic and NOTHING about this year is going to be traditional. How is a room full of 5 year olds going to keep their masks on all day? How do I calm my 7 year old's nerves enough about germs so he doesn't cry when he thinks about returning to a classroom? How is student learning facilitated when students are required to face forward in desks spaced apart? BUT MOSTLY IMPORTANTLY, HOW DO WE KEEP OUR PEOPLE SAFE?  
When the MVUSD Parent Survey came out in June asking which model my family preferred, we chose the traditional model, along with 62% of families. In theory that's what I believed I wanted however, with the lack of precautions the district is proposing, I have to change my response and if that survey was reposted I imagine we would not be the only family changing their vote. The health conditions of Riverside County do not recommend this board meeting to take place in person, how can we ask thousands of Murrieta PEOPLE to gather in our schools?  
I am asking the Murrieta Valley Unfied School District and the Murrieta Board of Education to do your duty for the community of Murrieta to keep us SAFE. Please adjust the opening of school to focusing mainly on distance learning and we can work on a plan together of a hybrid model when the curve is flattened.  
Thank you,  
[REDACTED]  
Teacher and Mother
- 99 7/16/2020 9:47 Thank you for the opportunity to express my opinion to our school board, school cabinet, and union. It is my belief, as A teacher, that students learn best in the classroom. I understand that these are unique times and will require unique solutions. With that being said, I believe that staff and families should have the choice to attend school in the method that is comfortable for them. Please consider keeping all three models, giving all stakeholders the flexibility to choose what is best for them. Thank you for your time.
- 100 7/16/2020 9:54 I believe that we need to do everything we can to start the school year with the traditional model. First, if you believe the experts then you understand that Covid will hit even harder around November with the flu. We will most likely have to quarantine again around that time for months. It is important that we get as much face time with students now, since we will lose so much during the winter months. Second, at the end of the day teachers are public servants. The majority of the public that they serve want the traditional model. With proper precautions there is no reason why this can not happen. Lastly, being a parent of elementary children I worry about their mental health and socialization. They need to be in school with their friends, learning, and socializing. While they may not like wearing a mask at school that is the current reality. The virus will be with us forever and until a vaccine is developed this is the new normal. Online learning works for highly motivated students with plenty of support at home—this is not the reality for most.
- 101 7/16/2020 10:05 I support the distance learning model, until there is funding to have the appropriate measures taken for safety and procedures have been developed to answer most of the questions surrounding the traditional and hybrid models, especially those issues pertaining to health/safety and sick leave and or quarantine leave.

- 102 7/16/2020 10:03 Please open schools with distance learning only for the fall semester. Revisit plans for second semester and reopen only if safe. Follow science, not wishful thinking. Follow guidelines, not just mandates. As educational leaders, you above all should base your decision on science, not politics. It is time for you to lead, and not give in to the beliefs of your constituents who may be believing misinformation. If you value your political positions more than your duty to lead by science, you must decide how many deaths or serious illnesses are worth that price. Your duty is to adapt cdc guidelines to local conditions. If you can't afford to do that, then have virtual learning until the situation is safer. You were chosen to lead, to make hard decisions. Many of you are advocates for local control and personal responsibility. Now is the time for you to take responsibility and make the hard call.
- 103 7/16/2020 10:05 I am a teacher in our district. Here are my concerns and questions:  
1. What will the health and safety protocols be if a student in my class or I become infected with COVID-19? Will all my students (roughly over 100 students, Periods 1-6) need to stay home for two weeks? Do they have to be tested? How will they and their parents be notified by our district of this positive testing exposure?  
2. If the teacher is exposed to someone they live with who tests positive for COVID-19, does that teacher need to also quarantine and will they need to use their sick leave to do so?  
3. What if a substitute teacher in our district tests positive? How will our district handle that exposure for all those students and staff that came into contact with that one substitute over multiple school sites?  
My last comment is this: When will the board be back to meeting in person? I do not mean this to be disrespectful to the board, yet, it seems counterintuitive that we are meeting virtually for a school board meeting about having our students and our teachers meet face to face. Thank you for your consideration to this and all questions today.
- 104 7/16/2020 10:49 I think it is premature to put students and staff members into a potentially risky school environment. I think we should start the school year virtually, and reevaluate after 6 weeks. Information about the virus changes daily (oftentimes hourly), and it seems too soon to put people of all ages at risk.
- 105 7/16/2020 10:51 I understand that tradition is the best way for students to learn. However with the number of cases on the rise it's just not safe for students, staff or our families. I believe starting out virtually is our safest option.
- 106 7/16/2020 10:58 Teachers and education are essential to students. If there are students, families and teachers that do not want to return to school, that is an individual choice, but there are students and teachers that want and need to return to school and that should be an individual choice and option. Teachers that do not want to return can teach virtually! We are harming these kids mental health! Please return to school!!!

107 7/16/2020 11:25 This is from today's Press Enterprise newspaper. We need to look at the data and follow the science. How can we open our schools now and keep our students, their families, and our staff safe? Answer: We can't.

CORONAVIRUS

Area counties set or approach case records

By Ryan Hagen

rhagen@scng.com

As Riverside County recorded 24 deaths from COVID-19 on Wednesday — the most ever — a record 550 people are in county hospitals with the disease. The previous record, 538, was set Tuesday.

In San Bernardino County, more than 1,000 coronavirus cases were recorded for the second time. The 1,012 new cases confirmed Wednesday nearly match the highest number ever — 1,024 on July 4. Combined with Tuesday's 954 cases, it is the highest twoday total of new cases.

And the number of people hospitalized in Los Angeles County with the novel coronavirus reached its highest level yet Wednesday, with 2,193 patients now confirmed.

Here are the latest Inland numbers, according to county and state officials.

Riverside County - Cases: 27,371, up from 26,481 Tuesday, Deaths: 577, up from 553 Tuesday, Hospitalizations: 550 Tuesday, up from 538 Monday; suspected patients: 166 Monday, up from 124 Monday, Intensive care unit patients: 141 Monday, up from 136 Sunday; suspected patients: 15 Tuesday, up from 13 Monday, Recoveries: 10,113, up from 9,893 Tuesday, Skilled-nursing facilities: Residents: 939 cases; deaths: 148 as of Tuesday, according to the state. Employees: 729 cases, State prisons: 389 active in-custody cases Wednesday, Tests conducted: 297,638, up from 294,389 Tuesday

San Bernardino County - Cases: 21,468, up from 20,456 Tuesday, Deaths: 310, up from 309 Tuesday, Hospitalizations: 603 Tuesday, down from Monday; Suspected patients: 73 Tuesday, up from 64 Monday, Intensive care unit patients: 174 Tuesday, same as Monday; Suspected patients: 5 Tuesday, same as Monday, Recoveries: 11,992, up from 11,370 Tuesday, Skilled-nursing facilities: Residents: 986; deaths: 146 as of Tuesday, according to the state. Employees: 580, State prisons: 58 active cases Tuesday, People tested: 185,794, up from 181,718 Monday

Los Angeles County - Cases: 143,009 Deaths: 3,932 Hospitalizations: 2,173 Tuesday, down from 2,193 Monday. Suspected patients: 726 Tuesday, up from 612 Tuesday., Intensive care unit patients: 579 Tuesday, up from 576 Monday. Suspected patients: 96 Monday, up from 92 Monday, Skilled-nursing facilities: Residents: 8,487; deaths: 1,704 as of Tuesday, according to the state. Employees: 5,464, State prisons: 4 active in custody cases Tuesday, People tested: 1,387,946 reported late Monday

Staff writer Nikie Johnson contributed to this report.

We trust you to keep us safe and out of harm's way,



108 7/16/2020 11:27 My name is [REDACTED] I am strongly against returning to school in a traditional model. I am also against blended learning at the secondary level having traditional class sizes. I do not think the safety of students or staff is being considered. I see about 700 girls a day in the locker room, I do not feel that it is safe to be in the locker room with 200-250 girls at a time or 700 within a day. The thought that this is not of serious concern baffles me. I do not think that being in a class of 40-50 students is safe. PE does not always take place outside, especially when we are facing extreme heat (August-September). To suggest that having a traditional class size with no social distancing of 6 feet is expected, seems absurd and reckless. The well being of us as teachers seems to not be of concern. It also raises some questions that I would like addressed:  
If a girl becomes sick with COVID or is a carrier and I am in contact with her, which I would be due to the nature of my job, will all 700 girls who I was in contact with that day be quarantined for 2 weeks? Plus the boys in my classes?  
If the board is not able to meet in person but only online, why are we as teachers expected to teach in person?  
Will PE equipment be shared between students if we return to a traditional or blended model? Who is responsible for sanitizing the equipment? Will money be given to purchase more equipment if equipment is not to be shared?  
If we go to blended or online learning, will teachers be given the technology to work with? I know my current computer on site does not have a camera, it is not equipped for effective distance learning practices. I am using my personal device right now, but will want a district provided device if we go to blended or online learning.  
Will teachers be notified of students or staff who have COVID or will this be considered confidential? The worry is that we will be exposed and never notified due to confidentiality.  
If a student comes to school sick, COVID or not, will that student be allowed to remain on campus in class? There have been numerous times I send a sick student to the health office and they get sent back to class because no one can pick them up.  
Will dance teachers be provided shields to wear? Must mask and shields be worn or just one?  
Will a parent be able to dictate that their child not wear a mask in class? Will I be mandated to have that student in my class?  
If we can not sit in a restaurant to eat, why are we being expected to sit in a classroom and teach a full class with no social distancing of 6 feet?  
If we go to fully online, are teachers expected to be on campus all day? What about those of us with young school aged children in the district? Will they be allowed on campus with us?  
Will the district pay for our sick time if we have to quarantine? Is hazard pay being given if we opt for the traditional or blended models?  
If we are teaching blended and online, will we be compensated?  
Although there is a thought that the percentage of kids getting critically ill is low, who are we to determine who is worth risking? Who are we to determine who's life is not worth living?  
Although I know the decision on what to do is not an easy one, there has to be something better than putting our teachers and students at risk. It seems heartless. With so much unknown about COVID and how it affects people, it is not safe to return to a traditional model under any circumstances or a blended model with traditional class sizes. It is reckless and will open the district up to MANY lawsuits. Surrounding districts are opting to open in the fall fully online. I think MVUSD should as well. Thank you for your time.

109 7/16/2020 10:39 I feel strongly that we should begin our school year with online learning. Meeting the CDC recommendations for Covid-19, which I feel are vital to keep us all safe, will not be possible with in class instruction, nor will it allow for a positive learning experience.  
As a veteran kindergarten teacher who has taught for over 30 years, I understand the dynamics of teaching a successful kindergarten class. Introducing social skills, sharing, taking turns, working and playing together are all so important and can be challenging under normal circumstances. Now with the constraints of social distancing and face masks, the in class kindergarten experience will not be positive or effective.  
Singing, talking, phonics, and developing communications skills, are all dependent on looking at visual cues and each other's faces. This will not work out well with masks. Also, kindergarten children are hands on and work and play closely together. They are not able to be socially distant for any length of time. The classroom experience with masks and social distance is not going to be positive or effective in kindergarten.  
As a reality check, I realize that kindergarten children will not keep their masks on or remain socially distant. They will forget to cover their sneezes and coughs. On another safety measure, ventilation is a serious problem as well. The rooms I have taught in had poor ventilation and windows that did not open. Putting all of this together, it is clear to me that opening our schools for in class instruction will not be a good option. With our rising numbers, staff, students and community at large will be put at high risk for Covid-19 infection and or death. In contrast, a well-designed online program that allows interaction with teachers and students could be effective if done properly and we would not need to put ourselves in harms way.  
I have loved teaching in Murrieta over the years because we care about each other. Let's take this moment and do what is right to keep us all healthy and safe.



110 7/16/2020 11:41 Hello Esteemed MVUSD Board Members,  
My name is [REDACTED] and I write to you on behalf of the choral arts community of the MVUSD. If you are not aware, there have been various studies conducted by national choral organizations as well as professional and independent choirs in the effects of singing regarding Covid-19. I have attached the primary study from the American Choral Director's Association which provides data and suggestions for each level of schooling and for a traditional, hybrid, and virtual style of learning.  
The main findings from these various studies are that singing produces significant more aerosol particles than talking, coughing, yelling, or sneezing. Even with the wearing of a mask and face shield, these particles can spread significantly as can be seen in the attached photos done by a German study. Due to this uncontrollable spread, choirs are recommended to rehearse and sing in small groups, 10 people at most, about 10 feet apart and preferably outside. Additionally, there is to be open window ventilation as the number of particles produced by even 10 people cannot be circulated by air conditioning.  
To put this into perspective of a high school classroom with a choir of 40, a director would stay in their room to rehearse one section, distanced enough to take up the entire room (if space permits), while the rest of the choir goes outside to rehearse in sections, still distancing and wearing their face coverings. However, additional appropriate supervision would be needed and provided by the school or district. The sections would then rotate throughout the class period; however, it is not sure if there would need to be disinfecting between sections.  
There is a solution of having the entire choir rehearse outside or in a large space such as an MPR or gym, however this is not realistic due to weather and facility constraints. Also, a note about masks while singing, it is nearly impossible to do as when you inhale the appropriate amount of air to sing, you also inhale your mask into your mouth and practically choke. There are prototypes of masks designed for singers being made that have a reinforced spine that keep the mask out at all times, however these have not been particle tested and would be costly for each program.  
The best solution for the choral classes of the MVUSD is to be virtual for the Fall semester. Using online music platforms such as Musictheory.net, Sight Reading Factory, and Flip grid, we would be able to provide general music instruction as well as whole class and individual vocal coaching. Additionally, I have been trained this summer in the basics of audio engineering and with the coaching of Mike Ruiz, we could incorporate virtual choir performances of some level for all choirs in the district.  
At the very least this is a one semester solution that allows our students to keep singing from home where otherwise, in the classroom, they would be extremely limited or restricted entirely due to health concerns of fellow students or the director.  
On behalf of the MVUSD choral community I thank you for taking the time to hear our concerns and suggestions and thank you for your dedicated service to our students, families, and teachers.  
Sincerely,  
[REDACTED]

111 7/16/2020 11:48 To my colleagues, in this era of uncertainty regarding the student, teacher, and general public safety, we as stakeholders of future generations of accountability and truth must not physically open schools at this time. We can work together, organize, create 21st-century teams, and demonstrate what is possible when faced with adversity. Yes, it will be hard. Yes, we will need to discover and learn. Using common sense and data, informed decisions can be made when it is time to bring back students. I would recommend staggered Blended Learning in K-5 in Elementary, followed by Middle and Secondary when rates of infection slow. Educators are passionate about what they do, we need them safe and alive.

112 7/16/2020 11:37

Dear Board of Education, District Administration, and Colleagues,

It is with a heavy heart that I find it necessary to speak to the reopening plans for Murrieta Unified School District. I have been a teacher in our district for 30 years and was one of the first English Teacher hired when the district opened its first high school in 1990, so I do not take the need to voice my concerns lightly. In all the years I have worked for the district, I have felt valued, I have felt included, and I have felt as though my health and safety mattered. I no longer feel that way. Instead I feel like I am expendable and that the districts plans to reopen show that they are willing to gamble with my very life. I am 64 years old and will turn 65 in November so I am in a high risk category along with a goodly percentage of my colleagues who are in a high risk category for various reasons or who may be caretakers for loved ones in high risk categories. I doubt that there will be enough distance learning positions for all the teachers who are in a high-risk category or who simply feel unsafe to work in a classroom full of students. I doubt all of us who are at risk will qualify through ADA. Both the other models of instruction state that class size will be traditional. Traditional class size in our district is anywhere from 32 to 40 or more depending on if the class is core or an elective. This is like placing teachers and students in a petri dish and waiting to see what happens. Teachers and students are human beings, not science experiments. I will not belabor my concerns since you have already been sent a list of unanswered questions to consider, but I will close by asking you as you meet virtually and not in person, to reflect upon whether you would be willing to put yourself, your family, and your community at risk by placing yourself in a classroom of 25 or 32 or 40 or more students five days a week unless CDC, state, and CTA guidelines for opening schools safely are met. Social distancing in classrooms with traditional class size will be impossible and masks will be difficult to insist upon without classroom disruptions to learning. At least consider only two options as neighboring Menifee has done with a distance only and a hybrid model in which students are only on campus two days a week and distance learning for three which allows for better distancing in the classroom. Better yet, I ask you to follow the lead of school districts in San Diego, Los Angeles, Perris, Lake Elsinore, around the state and our country who have determined that opening schools traditionally is not safe for students, teachers, their

Thank You.

113 7/16/2020 12:35

First of two comments:

Dear School Board Members,

I feel that there is a big difference between the blended plans being proposed for elementary vs. secondary teachers. I do not see equity for teachers if elementary teachers half 1/2 of their students at a time, while secondary teachers may be expected to have "traditional class sizes." Personally, I am in a building that has one door and no windows that open, leaving no possibility for cross ventilation. There are many classrooms in interior buildings with no windows to the outside, and doors open only to interior hallways. From my understanding, this situation does not lend itself to the ventilation recommended by the health professionals, especially when a room is packed with 35 students, a teacher and at least one TA. If the elementary blended option was offered to the secondary teachers, I would feel much safer returning to "in person" teaching. This is the only way that we could assure social distancing in the classroom.

Such a plan would be more work for secondary administrators during the next few weeks, requiring them to re-do master schedules. They would need to take current master schedules, and divide the student body into two cohorts, and creating Master Schedule 1 and Master Schedule 2 (one for each cohort), then leveling class sizes across the board. It would equate to dividing each school into 2 sub schools with respect to enrollment. This would be a huge undertaking, but certainly not impossible. The extra work done by administration now would benefit teachers and students for the 10 months of this coming school year.

114 7/16/2020 12:41 2nd of 2 comments (continuation)

Dear School Board Members,

Given the closing, re-opening, and re-closing of businesses in California, it is not unlikely that schools will be shut down again at some point by the County Department of Health. Health experts are predicting that late fall and winter, 2020-2021, are likely to see a rise in COVID-19 cases. This further supports the idea that there is a strong chance that school campuses will be closed at some point, even if we try to begin the school year "in-person."

Our community does not want a repeat of the poor participation that we faced during the spring attempts at online learning. The best way to address these concerns is to start the year demonstrating that we are now ready for rigorous, standards based distance learning that holds students accountable. One of the greatest challenges faced by teachers and students in March was the sudden transition. Students and parents are most engaged with learning the classroom routines at the beginning of the school year. If we start of the year with distance learning, establish online routines from the very beginning of the year, and have "Back to School Night" sessions that introduce parents and students to the new Canvas online learning environments, we are much more likely to have positive buy-in from parents and students alike. Further, by letting students know that their participation and productivity will now count toward their semester grades (unlike the situation we faced at the end of the school year), we will be able to hold students accountable and further improve their learning engagement.

John Fox has done a wonderful job setting up Canvas tutorials for teachers. Mr. Fox and Sean McCarthy have both done an incredible job creating a wide variety of online learning resources and tutorials for all staff members. The MEA and district have done a great job setting up a proposed, extended training week for teachers. I feel strongly that we can trust them, and the work that they have done to prepare us for distance learning. If, instead, we start setting up routines for in-person, on campus instruction, we will face similar transition problems if/when we are forced by the County Office of Health to return to distance learning. However, if we start the year off doing distance learning, establishing routines and teaching the online proficiencies required from the outset, it will be easy to transition back into the classroom once California's COVID-19 numbers drop (in early Fall?), and then back to distance learning again, if that becomes necessary during the winter.

Of course many parents are concerned about supervision for their children at home, during the school day, while they are at work. Another serious concern is that they want their children to receive high quality education. While we did the best we could given the sudden shut down in March, we need to demonstrate to parents that we are now prepared to provide the same high quality of rigorous, standards based, engaging education through our online Canvas learning environment as they would receive in a classroom, in-person environment. If we start the year off with true blended instruction, where only ½ of all students (secondary as well as elementary) are permitted on campus at a time, students and parents will see that it is possible to learn from a distance. They will have a positive point of reference instead of the potpourri of online learning that carried us through the spring. This positive experience will better help them to embrace distance learning.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my concerns. I greatly appreciate the time and energy that you are putting into making decisions that take into account the health and safety of everyone concerned during this crazy pandemic, while providing the best possible educational environment.

- 115 7/16/2020 12:46 I am writing to you today as a high school teacher and mother of four-year-old twins. I am in opposition with the current plan to reopen schools. The three model plan that contains a full in-person opening is inappropriate when COVID-19 cases continue to increase in Murrieta as well as the onslaught throughout Riverside county. This is not an easy decision, and I know it will be even more complex for the board members who will decide our fate. If I knew it was safe to bring back 3,400+ people, I would joyfully return to my classroom; however, every scientific consensus has come to a similar conclusion: large numbers of people transmit COVID-19, and so I must commit to protecting my students and ask that MVUSD follow the lead of neighboring districts and begin the year in a virtual only model. MVUSD can only return to campuses when both the State and the CDC determine it is safe to do so for every student and all adults in every role on our school sites. Our hope to return to normal is not likely in just 28 days. Based on the in-person model provided by District Officials, my classroom will have 30 students, three feet apart, all facing the same direction with masks and PPE in place. I am instructed to spray disinfectant in my classroom between classes. Students will not be able to use drinking fountains. There will be no in-person pep rallies. Cheering will be discouraged because of the risks associated with spreading COVID-19. Our campuses will not be returning to normal. The financial burden this decision comes with is dramatic for all parties involved: from parents trying to manage childcare and educational needs, to teachers spending money to ensure they are prepared for the three models being presented. I know many families are struggling to find a way "to do it all". I recognize we are all making sacrifices. In addition to those personal financial concerns, I wonder how MVUSD will pay for the systems they want to put in place. A few years ago, students on my campus asked for toilet seat covers for restrooms. They earned that privilege when they won a most spirited school competition that came with a \$5,000.00 prize. I heard adults on my campus argue that students would abuse this privilege, and it could be taken away from them if they couldn't handle the responsibility. In this health crisis how will the district ensure that PPE and safety regulations are not seen as a privilege that can be taken away? The health and safety of our 22,000+ students must be our focus. Our motto is inspiring every student to think, to learn, to achieve, to care. I ask the board to follow this same focus as they make decisions regarding school openings. I care deeply about this community, and I do not want to receive the news that one of my students, their families, or my fellow educators have died because of COVID-19. In early March, I sat in a room with the crisis response team as we walked through the process of telling teachers, students, and staff about the sudden death of a student. The district and site personnel created a plan to cause the least amount of turmoil for our campus. I will remember this student for the rest of my life, as I will all of the students my site has lost over my fifteen years as an educator. I don't want to add another name to that list, and to be honest, I don't think the MVUSD community wants that either. I am going to work, together with my colleagues, to ensure that every student under my care has the ability to think, learn, achieve, and care. Until it is safe to do so in person, I ask that we begin the year with a virtual model.  
Regards,  
[REDACTED]
- 116 7/16/2020 12:59 My family has been counting on school starting with the traditional option. I don't believe my child will get a decent education at home he needs to be hands on with his peers. Our children's educations need to be taken more seriously Covid-19 is not going to disappear but our children's time to develop and prosper will disappear and they will suffer long term effects from this. We can try to clean more and keep things more sanitary also removing how many sick days a child can have I think would be important so parents and children are not having consequences for missing too many days of school. I would keep my child home if he is sick.
- 117 7/16/2020 12:15 I understand the importance of having students in the classroom to learn, and under normal circumstances I know that the best place for students to learn is in a classroom. Having students on campus allows students to learn but it also allows for social development and emotional support. Schools help to provide nourishment for families that are struggling, a safe place for children, all of which are invaluable. I also realize that having students in class allows parents the freedom to work and our economy needs working families. I recognize that schools are vital to communities and this is a truly impossible situation that will have consequences one way or the other. While understanding all of the above, it is with a heavy heart that I think distance learning is the direction the district should take. At this point in time, with the increase of positive test results and not a flattening of the curve, I believe it is important to practice measures that will provide for the students safety, as well as the teachers. I believe we should start off virtual, then move to hybrid, then to traditional as the situation improves. If it is not possible for virtual, as pressures mount from parents and stakeholders, I feel a hybrid class structure would be best. This will help with social distancing and limit contacts with people. I also feel that it is extremely important to provide additional safety measures such as HEPA filters, masks, and shields. If we do go back in some form, all students and staff should be required to wear masks for their safety and the safety of others. Again, I realize this is an impossible situation and there is not an easy solution, but we need to keep the safety of students and staff at the forefront. Thank you for your time.

- 118 7/16/2020 12:42 I oppose returning back to school because as an employee and a parent of a MVUSD student (11th gr) I do not feel that they will be safe in the current environment that we are in...my daughter has made it clear she is afraid to go back and catch the virus and bring it back home. She stated it would be impossible to follow the 6ft guidelines and that she doesn't see herself distancing herself from her friends. As an employee, no matter what safety precautions we take, if any staff, or if I, were to get Covid and transmit it to a student it would mentally devastate me and I would feel incredible guilty. Furthermore, if I gave a student Covid and that student died how would I or any staff member recoup from a child's death. How are the parents going to react to their child coming home with Covid, not knowing and infecting other family members? We are looking at a life and death situation here, how would a child feel if there teacher or staff member died during the school year ? How are we going to address the mental fears, anxieties, depression that a student may have...I believe children are resilient and that they will prevail when this is all over...I also believe that the staff in this district will do an amazing job with distance learning and the kids will be safer at home, learning at home and when it is safe to do so will come out stronger. Right now in this current situation we should not even be putting our children's health, our staff's health at risk. In the fall it will only get worse and as a parent I will not be sending my daughter back and as a staff member I will follow the guidelines but cannot and will not guarantee that I can protect my students from this virus.
- 119 7/16/2020 13:34 IF school is going to reopening despite the hike and the elementary kids not really being able to remember all rules... I am wondering if handball will be banned? It needs to be -That many kids touching balls, sharing the balls. Sharing germs. Additionally- I propose we follow suit of schools and their districts around us and offer two options only; twice a week rest online OR fully online. The teachers should also follow the parents advice and allowing each kid to have own pencil box filled with PERSONAL supplies- not to be shared. Students should be staggered- IE; half of the students in first grade shall be Monday and Wed. The other half of first grade shall be Tuesday and Thurs. This cuts down drastically on how many kids are in the class at the same time and allowing for social distancing.
- 120 7/16/2020 13:39 EACH kid should wear a mask- at all times no argument about it. Data clearly shows masks are a huge preventive measure. Kids that cant follow that should have a parent meeting.
- 121 7/16/2020 13:35 Right now there is no feasible way for us to go back "traditionally" and have things go well. There is nothing normal about life right now. Personally I hate the idea of online teaching as I love to be in the classroom BUT there are too many unknowns. It is impossible to think that young kids will properly wear masks and be able to effectively social distance from each other. Have you ever seen a group of 2nd graders rush to help a classmate when their crayon box falls? They don't know personal space. Teachers will spend more time policing social distancing guidelines than teaching standards. It is not worth the risk for staff or students to be together in a classroom right now.
- 122 7/16/2020 13:40 A little less than a year ago, the Tenaja fire raged through the hills west of Murrieta. A number of homes had to be evacuated and schools were closed so people could stay home and avoid breathing the air that was clouded with smoke and ash. Even though the fire was on the West side of the city, all schools were closed out of an abundance of caution for all. No lives were lost thanks to the professionalism of the firefighting crews and the public listening to the guidance of the fire and health professionals. Most people stayed inside to avoid the deleterious health effects of inhaling the unhealthy air. Today we are confronted with a much more dangerous "wildfire": the Covid-19 pandemic. Unlike the Tenaja fire, we do not know where this "fire" is at any given moment in time. This "wildfire" is far more dangerous to people than any actual wildfire, as you can see from the continued devastation it is having on our community, state, and nation. This "fire" is invisible, potentially fatal, often debilitating, and it can be spread by people before they even know that they have it. That family member that you are SURE doesn't have it? They could have it. It happens every day. Back in March, we closed schools on the advice of public health professionals in order to keep everyone safe, to save lives, and to prevent the spread of the fire. We are now considering opening schools and putting kids and staff into classrooms with the current "fire" raging and out of control. I respectfully ask you the following question: If we closed schools for the safety of all when the number of cases in our community was very close to zero, how can we consider opening schools when the virus is currently out of control and hospitals are at or near capacity? You might attempt to assuage my fears with statements such as: "But everyone will be required to wear a mask!!" or "We will be implementing very thorough cleaning procedures!" If 100% compliance were guaranteed, this might be sufficient. But 100% compliance will not occur. You know it and I know it. As a high school teacher for the last 23 years, I can tell you this with certainty. There will be kids who make it their daily goal to defy the rules. Masks will be removed, and some students – sadly – will show everyone how "cool" they are by deliberately breaking the rules. Kids push the limits every day. Then there are those who – without malicious intent - will not be able to adhere to the rules. If I can't get students to bring a pencil to class or to do their homework, do you think they are going to wear a mask for seven hours a day? Considering that the Covid -19 pandemic is much worse than it was back in March, I believe that opening schools with full classes and no guarantee of social distancing – for all or for a portion of students – is irresponsible. Opening schools right now will result in teachers and/or students becoming infected by the virus. The current numbers make this virtually inevitable. As I write this, based on the current virus spread, I would ask the board to consider the following for the opening of schools: Begin the year with a distance learning model only. This is the only option that is safe for everyone. Once the virus is under control, we can slowly begin to implement a hybrid model. This can only begin to happen when the following has occurred: two weeks of slowing cases AND a low positivity rate AND the number of cases being extremely low overall. This seems to be the approach that has been used by the nations that have successfully dealt with this pandemic. Every teacher wants to get back in the classroom with their students. We all know that this is the ultimate goal. But to do this before it can be done in a safe manner is immoral and unethical. Our district slogan is "Inspiring every student to think, to learn, to achieve, and to care." Now is the time to make caring the priority. [REDACTED]

July 17, 2020 Special Meeting - Public Comment on agenda item A.5

- 123 7/16/2020 13:48 If we as teachers are required to teach either virtually or in a hybrid model and we are required to be on campus all 5 days of school, what are we expected to do with our own personal school aged children? I have a 1st grade child who cannot be left home alone and I do not have family who live close by to watch her while I am on campus. Will our children be allowed to come to our classrooms everyday while we teach virtually or will we be required to find our own care for our children?
- 124 7/16/2020 14:00 I am concerned that the board is still considering full time students as an option for re-opening in august. Most if not all districts surrounding us have taken that off the table as an option, as it is just not safe to do so at this time. Riverside county has had a drastic increase in cases recently. I am concerned not only for students but also for staff. There are many staff members that are over 60 and many with family members with underlying conditions. I don't know what the boards policy will be once we do get students/staff that are infected. Will we start the school year and then move to online learning? Many other businesses and schools that have opened have had to close due to staff becoming infected. I am deeply concerned. Thank you for your consideration.
- 125 7/16/2020 14:25 There is no way that my children can learn with this model. They need way more hands on assistance and in person interaction. Plus I work 10 hour days. How do you expect us to manage this?
- 126 7/16/2020 14:55 Teachers and school staff want to be back at school; we want to be back with our students. But at what cost? With the pandemic raging and higher numbers of COVID-19 infections than back in March, when schools physically closed, opening schools in an in-person setting is a dangerous and quite possibly lethal choice. First and foremost, let's think about the children. You may say that they are not affected by COVID-19 and thus not in danger. However, recent data shows that children are getting infected with the virus and that there may be latent, long-lasting pulmonary effects. Why would we want to gamble with our students' lives? It is not safe. Then there is the additional risk of children being carriers of the virus and thus bringing it home to their immediate and extended families. Are we willing to risk family members' lives?  
As we begin each school year, many teachers get sick within a few weeks due to the close proximity with our kiddos. I am aware that diligent precautions will be taken, but in the end, kids will be kids. Many will not be able to keep their masks on and/or will not be able to refrain from horseplay, leading to transmission of the virus to other students as well as teachers and staff. Fellow students, teachers, administration, and school staff may get infected and/or bring the virus home to their families. Are we willing to take this gamble? Can you imagine the trauma our students would experience if a teacher passed away? A classmate? A family member? – as a result of returning to school ...  
Please, let's depoliticize this debate and make it about what matters most: human lives - young and small, grown and old. The loss of one child's life, one parent's life, one school employee's life is one too many. It is not acceptable! We have to take the steps to prevent the loss of life in our school district. The only way to do this is through distance learning. In closing, there is a lot of criticism about schools "shutting down." Remember, back in March, only school buildings closed. Teachers continued and will continue teaching while looking out for our students' best interests and ensuring that learning goals and standards are met. It's what we do. Finally, what kind of education would our students get, sitting far apart, not able to share manipulatives and collaborate, not able to work closely with the teacher? I urge you, please, start the school year with distance learning!
- 127 7/16/2020 14:16 As a parent and teacher in the MVUSD district, I would like to voice my concerns and questions regarding the re-opening of Murrieta schools.  
What will be the protocol if the BOE approves a model with any in person teaching if, or when there is a teacher, staff member, administrator, student, or parent who tests positive for Covid-19 that has been on campus? Will we be alerted if we had contact with the person? Will the school then subsequently have to be shut down to clean and or quarantine all those who have been in direct contact with the Covid-19 positive individual?  
If the BOE decides to open schools in any capacity, what specialized consideration for personal protection will be allowed? As a dance teacher in MVUSD, I have spoken with fellow dance colleagues about the best way to instruct our students in this new environment. The consensus is wearing a form fitting face mask will make the immense amount of movement we do in a traditional dance class very difficult. Would the board approve the use of face shields for those teachers that are exerting themselves in a cardiovascular manor?  
If the BOE decides to start next school year in a 100% online model or hybrid, will consideration be given to equip teachers with up to date technology to properly teach online? We would need computers and audio video equipment supplied by the district for at home use to ensure equity and the ability for teachers to use best practices online.

July 17, 2020 Special Meeting - Public Comment on agenda item A.5

- 128 7/16/2020 15:46 Dear MVUSD school board, please say no to distance-learning for 100% of the students. The mental affect distance-learning had on my two boys in high school last semester was awful. One was in a very dark place and deep depression sets in. The sheer frustration level with kids trying to learn virtually especially at the beginning of the school year when new materials introduced is going to be very difficult to learn. I am sorry but the quality of education these children are receiving virtually is lacking greatly. The little bit of virtual learning we did last year at the end of second semester was mostly review and make up work. No new concepts were taught at that time. There was so much frustration with even just the communication for doing review and make up work I cannot even imagine how great the frustration will be when new material is introduced especially to those with learning disabilities, IEP's, 504s or simply taking AP classes and needing that face to face interaction with your teacher. Please do not conform with the other school districts and go with their decisions. If all students and staff are wearing a mask and desks are cleaned appropriately I am not understanding what the great risk is especially with high school students. I have not read one report of any child dying in the state of California why are we going to deny these children their right to a quality education in person with statistics like that? Keeping these kids isolated for another semester with virtual learning will have a great impact with those with depression and anxiety I would hate to see the suicide rates because these kids are being left alone and isolated every single day. I know you have a tough decision to make but please take all of the parents and students concern into great consideration and keep with the three-part system of virtual, hybrid, and traditional. I think you greatly for your time.
- 129 7/16/2020 15:45 At this point in time I am opposed to opening our schools for traditional, in person instruction. Working as a tutor in an office during the summer, I experienced the day in and day out of working in a closed environment while trying to maintain social distancing and other precautions. This scenario was 1:1. Opening our schools with 30 students in a closed environment would cause a great and unnecessary risk to our students, staff and their families.
- 130 7/16/2020 15:40 I want to thank the board for considering all three learning options for the fall and specifically for continuing to ensure there is a traditional five-day option. I am extremely disappointed with the huge push by many district teachers, as well as CTA to provide only one option (all online) and the lack of creative problem solving they could be focusing on right now to reopen all schools. We know that distance learning will not work for all kids. We have already experienced this in the spring. Distance Learning requires a capable and available parent, proper tech, wifi, a suitable home space for each child to learn and it's reckless to assume that all of the kids of our district have that privilege. There is nothing equitable about a child's education depending upon having a stay at home, capable adult to facilitate their distance learning plan. We have many kids in this district with two working parents, single parents, foster, homeless- who will ensure these kids are logged on and learning? Even the most robust digital plan is useless without those additional required supports- most notably in the elementary levels but also many middle and high school students as well. Our community has first responders, grocery workers, health care professionals, postal workers, just to name a few, all of which have figured out how to return to work safely to serve the community they have committed to. There are ways to address the concerns staff have with regards to safety without completely shutting down and offering only online to those most privileged kids that have the means to access it successfully. We owe it particularly to our most vulnerable kids to show up, open the school and be there for them in person this fall and I want to thank the district for continuing to commit to that.
- 131 7/16/2020 16:14 What procedures will be in place when a student or teacher tests positive for COVID-19?
- 132 7/16/2020 16:16 How could you possibly think that re-opening schools is a good idea?
- 133 7/16/2020 16:19 You have an obligation to keep students and staff safe. Do the right thing. I'm for online learning for at LEAST the fall semester. Let's revisit at Winter Break.



134 7/16/2020 16:28 On behalf of the Special Day Class preschool teachers in the district, We have the following concerns:

If students cannot share materials, how to make this happen and still keep free choice, social/ turn taking and peer interactions a part of my daily schedule and still keep social distancing? Who is paying for the separate materials and containers to keep them in?

How are we to add cleaning to our already shortened lunch? There are always late parents picking students up which already takes time away from our lunch.

If someone in the classroom is sick with covid like symptoms and sent home, will the whole classroom be sent home to quarantine?

If myself or one of my aides get sick, will we have the ability to provide subs? Its hard enough finding a sub during non-covid times. Also, would we get the amount of sick days that we would need to quarantine? Currently there are not enough for this.

If someone is sick with covid like symptoms what notifications will be sent home? We think a template letter provided by the district nurses should be written and provided.

Will there be temperature checks and who will be able to provide the health checks? Will there be enough adult coverage when one adult is being used to take temperatures?

What are we to do once a child is sick and has a temperature, is there a procedure for this?

How will it be possible to keep kids 6ft away from each other and wear masks?

How will the district provide a safe environment with students who mouth toys, furniture, other students. As well as when the students use spitting as a behavior?

Some staff members live with older parents, or immunocompromised family members, how can I be assured that I will not be bringing home the virus home to them? If I am not at high risk and do not qualify with a doctors note, do I have to make a choice between my family' s health and work?

If I have children at home and if we go into a blended program- and All students are to attend school varying schedules- how am I to juggle my own work schedule and all of my own kids' various schedules in 2 different schools?

Will there be a protocol on parents dropping off/ picking up and will they be allowed to come in to the classrooms?

With the level of need of my students and their behaviors, they will require a 1:1 adult supervision to help with social distancing.

What about IEP goals? How are we going to teach social skills? What about assessments that need to be completed that require one to be closer than 6ft. ?c

Would parent participation be required to make sure that students are moving forward? Will there be accountability for those parents who choose not to participate in the program?

What about sanitation and PPE supplies? Gloves, masks, face shields, sanitizer wipes and solution? They are hard to get even now. Would we be expected to get these ourselves?

Has ventilation be considered? Many rooms do not have proper ventilation now and some do not even have windows that open.

What about time to sanitize between sessions? What about the sanitizing of playground equipment? There needs to be a gap to make sure that all is cleaned before the next group comes, and who will be responsible for doing so? Will we have enough staff to meet this need?

What about those rooms that are used for different things: afterschool programs, churches, girl scouts and the like? Who is making sure those rooms are sanitized after this before the regular students in that room return?

These are concerns that we generated as a team, and feel the board needs to think about when reopening becomes safe to do. Our goal in this is to keep students and staff safe, while being able to deliver a quality program. Thank you for listening to our concerns. Sincerely, MVUSD SDC Preschool Teachers

135 7/16/2020 16:29 Do not give into the pressure to re-open. Can't have mental health with dead students and staff. It is not safe to re-open school. This is NOT a political issue. Don't make it a political issue. You can't even have this meeting in-person. Why do you think it's safe to have students back on-campus together?

136 7/16/2020 16:31

July 16, 2020

Murrieta School Board

Hello, I am writing this letter today to express reasons as to why our children need to go back to school. I understand that we are in a pandemic, but it is to my understanding that children have little to no effects to COVID-19. Why can't we take the precautionary measures to ensure not only the children's safety, but also teachers and staff. These precautionary measures may include but are not limited too; wearing masks, desks 6 feet apart from one another, temperature checks, sanitary stations for each classroom, as well as mandatory handwashing throughout the day.

I think we can all agree that many of these children have parents who work full time jobs to support their families and have little to no time to teach their children. Many children have already fallen behind since being out of school since March. My children are constantly asking me when they get to go back to school because they miss their friends. It is imperative to children's mental and cognitive health that they socialize and interact with other children.

What makes public schools non-essential? Daycares and private schools are open and have had no outbreaks even with children not wearing masks. The majority of us cannot afford to send our children to private schools. These teachers are essential and are there every day, and they aren't complaining. Children need to be face-to-face with their teachers, it is very important, they need that interaction. Many of us don't have the luxury to just quit our jobs to become full time teachers to their children. This has been a very traumatic time for all of us but think about the children and their mental health. If some parents can stay home, and want to do distance learning, then let them.

In conclusion, schools provide more than just academics to children and adolescents. In addition to reading, writing and math, children learn social and emotional skills, get exercise and access to mental health support and other things that cannot be provided with online learning.

For many families, school is where kids get healthy meals, access to the internet, and other vital services.

Please, let our children have some normalcy in their lives, and let them go back to school, and back to a routine they are comfortable with.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

137 7/16/2020 16:41

Dear Members of the Board,

It is time to pre proactive instead of reactive. There are far more cases of COVID-19 then there were in March when schools shut down. It is impossible to open schools safely with the rate that this Virus is spreading across our country. So I ask you, why are we even considering it?

Would you be willing to lead by example, follow your own guidelines and spend 14 full days in a classroom, risking your own health and the health of your loved ones?

Are schools prepared to have enough Psychologists available when and if a teacher, staff, member, or one of their fellow students dies?

You have given parents the choice to do the model that is the best fit for their family. Why do teachers not receive the same respect? Teachers may not feel it is safe to return to the classroom. There are not enough distance learning positions for them and you can not guarantee that they get alternative teaching assignments even if they request them. What options do they have? Is there only option to return to the classroom or to leave the district that they have served for many years? Why is the health and well being of the employees not a priority? At this time, schools should not re-open.

Have you consulted directly with multiple medical personnel sources and based your guidance on science, or are these guidelines based on what is considered feasible and obtainable for the district and their current available budget?

I urge you to do more, to try harder, and be more innovative by thinking outside of the box during these uncertain times to do your absolute best in order to protect the health and safety of our students and teachers. After all, the lives of the students, staff, and community members depend on your decision.

Thank you for your time.

138 7/16/2020 16:42 Please do not approve the current proposals for opening under traditional instruction and hybrid/blended learning. Although we would love to return to school; it is best to keep safe and navigate reentry slowly. Not enough is known about this disease and its spread. We are already seeing numbers spike through the roof with the recent opening and now closure of smaller public venues. These facilities are nowhere near the size of schools !!! Do we really think the virus will not spread at school or that students will not be impacted ??? Just this morning numbers indicate 8,000 new cases daily and 92 deaths per day ... Are we saying these Covid numbers are small ? no way... If even one person, student or adult, dies because of the failure to open when it is safe, that is too many...`

The state has rolled back openings, no indoor gathering for churches, restaurants, bars, hair salons or gyms. Governor Newsome states daily that we should not be mixing from outside our own household, yet the district wants to mix 30 households per class period a day at the middle/high school level alone. On a block schedule this is 240 households at minimum students and staff would be exposed to in a two-day period, at a minimum ! Even the current proposals by the district for the blended learning model does not have any modified class setting to the middle /high school classroom. The traditional and blended options state traditional class size and periods.

There are insufficient protocols proposed to provide protection to all stakeholders – no plan should be approved without protocols. We should open in 3 phases – Distance Learning, Hybrid soft launch and finally when safe Traditional. We need a task force comprised of teachers, classified and other stakeholders to evaluate and discuss changes needed to open safely in a traditional model.

We cannot open under our old traditional model with current class sizes and safely protect our students. The proposed traditional and hybrid models call for current (not reduced) class sizes. Class sizes will be large: We know that 80% of parents want the traditional model. Since other districts are not opening, it is likely we will take in transfers increasing the numbers. This means that we will not have smaller classes without some modifications to the current teaching model. The proposal for reopening does not limit the number of students/ individuals on campus. What about proper ventilation ? Opening doors does not seem sufficient.

There are no real provisions specifically addressing the way the traditional instructional model works. For example, the standard secondary PE class is over 70 students in one class with up to 3 classes on the field/ gym at once !!! This is a large number of students in one place at one time participating in rigorous activity, even if outdoors. How will they safely navigate the outdoor activities. What happens when a teacher is sick? Will the district find a willing substitute?

Recent communications stating social distancing “where possible” leaves us open to a wide range of potential problems. Instead of developing a traditional plan that could be implemented with modifications to our existing traditional program, we are considering abandoning logic to please the public. Why does our proposal not meet safety guidelines already recommended by the CDC? It is not clear !

This plan does not have enough teeth in it to keep students safe. To simply say that , “We cannot guarantee 6 foot distancing and are instead relying on “where possible” ,when all CDC and other health studies indicate this is what is needed to openly safely, is an insane approach to providing a safe learning environment.

Other districts have already published very clear standards and guidelines for opening. Many are opening with distance learning first; then moving to a soft hybrid launch which makes more sense

139 7/16/2020 16:04 Based on the info we have now, we feel that a Distance Learning model is best for our children to START the school year. I emphasize START, as we personally believe that the classroom is the best environment for our children to learn, but at this time we are unsure if it is the best environment for their health. Every parent knows that the “plain, old” cold and flu run rampant when school starts, we can’t imagine COVID-19 will make an exception. Given the ever-changing guidance from our elected officials we understand it is difficult for the District to make concrete plans to minimize the spread of infection in schools and protect our vulnerable teachers, students, and family members. That said, until we as parents have the information we need to make an informed decision, we choose to err on the side of caution. We support a Distance Learning model until such time as concrete plans and actions are in place for mitigating the spread of infection so that students and teachers may return to classrooms safely.

140 7/16/2020 17:06 Good morning members of the board. Thank you for taking the time to hear my comments. Today I want to speak about why I fully support going back virtually only. As a teacher, it breaks my heart to know that it is not possible to safely go back to a traditional model with my students. On the day that schools were shut down, March 13th, the amount of newly diagnosed cases in our county was 49. Just two days ago, our county reported 11,126 new cases on just that one day. As our cases continue to be on the rise and many indoor businesses are being shut down to slow down the spread, I cannot imagine how we could return to full classrooms and not expect tragedy to unfold. To expect children to wear masks all day, sitting in straight rows, and no longer engaging in collaborative learning is the exact opposite of the vibrant classroom that I used to teach in. While I know that all of those safety precautions would be essential if we were to return to in-person instruction, I mourn for the loss of engagement, collaboration, and normalcy for the children in our classrooms if we chose to go back to a traditional model prematurely. In addition, we understand very little about how schools could contribute to community spread due to schools being closed down since March. Teachers and students should not be placed in a situation where lives are at risk until facts are absolutely known about how schools could contribute to the spread of COVID-19. I desperately want to start the year in a normal way, but if that comes with the risk of someone losing their life, it is simply something I cannot support. If re-opening schools results in even just one death or permanent health damage for an individual, it is too heavy of a price to pay. The health and safety of all of those in our community should be our absolute priority. I saw what our community of teachers was able to accomplish last spring to provide the best possible distance education to our students, and I absolutely know that we will do it again. In fact, with the proper time to prepare, I know our incredible team of teachers could make distance learning even more engaging and meaningful for our students during this unimaginable time. I trust that you will act in the best interest of all staff, parent, and student health and choose to open with a virtual learning model to start our school year. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

141 7/16/2020 18:07 Of all of the suggestions and options for re-opening the schools, I feel that online, distance learning is going to be the best option for now. Thank you

142 7/16/2020 18:39 Both my children that are school age attend Lisa j mails. They both have IEP's and are in SPED classrooms. We tried the distance learning thing through the end of the 2020 school year. It was beyond frustrating as my kids already have a hard time learning and didn't retaining anything of what was taught through distance learning. I'm by no means a teacher, but I didn't my best. My kids also need that socializing with other kids as that is something they struggle with. They are already behind as it is and I feel that they would fall even further behind and miss a whole year of learning. Not opening the schools would be a disservice to my children as well as many others. I hope you take in consideration the children with special needs. Thank you for your time.

143 7/16/2020 19:08 Dear School Board,

My name is [REDACTED] and I'm 6 years old. I'm a student at Alta Murrieta and just graduated Kindergarten. My mom is helping me write this letter to you all.

"I love school and I have the best teacher. Alta rocks!"

"I'm scared of getting Coronaviurs. Every time I get sick, I get a bad cough and it hurts. I want to play on the playground and see my friends. But we need to keep them closed. I want to be safe."

"If I go back to school, everything will be changed. I would be worried and scared. Wearing a mask is not helpful for me. It falls off of me and my nose gets itchy. I like to wear my mask to cover my eyeballs though."

"Learning on the computer was not easy. My teacher made it fun but it was tiring. I can't wait to go back to school but it's just not safe right now."

"Please vote to keep me and my friends safe with Distance Learning."

[REDACTED]  
From [REDACTED] Mom: I wanted to share with you the thoughts of a 6 year old on all this because ultimately, this is what our children are feeling. When I asked him, if he was ready to go back to school, he looked at me with fear in his eyes. He understands that the world looks different and it scares him. It is hard to address his fears when there are too many unknown factors and I can't guarantee it will be safe. As a parent and educator, I know students thrive in traditional school but right now the bottom line is how do we keep our children safe? Sending them into the unknown is not the answer. The world of education is evolving and as an educator, I know this is our time to unite together. We can do this, we can make distance learning work. Let's keep these kids safe. We got this!

144 7/16/2020 19:40 On July 15, 2020 State Superintendent of Schools, Tony Thurmond stated that most California school should not reopen if current Covid-19 trends continue. On that same day Riverside County had 890 cases and the conversation to reopen schools continues and seems to have very little regard to the health and safety of the staff and students in the district. In Riverside County the number of cases has been trending upward since the middle of June averaging over 400 cases daily. On the day that schools closed, March 16, 2020 the total number of Covid-19 cases in Riverside County were 37 cases. Schools were closed to prevent the spread of the virus and to keep staff and students healthy and yet we are having the conversation to reopen schools and believe that it is safe when the county has over 27,000 cases. All of this information can be found on the county website.

When the school district sent out the first survey asking for our thoughts on school reopening and what it would look like, I marked that I wanted my child to go to a traditional school setting hoping/believing that the county would be in a safe position to do so in August. When the next survey came out in May, I changed my vote to hybrid believing that for high school students that would mean 2 days in school and 3 days at home doing online learning. Both surveys were completed before cases exploded. If I had the survey to do today, I would be voting for all virtual learning as it is the safest choice for our students and staff.

The argument has been made that we need to reopen schools because children under the age of 18 do not contract the virus. On July 15, an article was published by thehill.com stating that 1/3 of all children tested are testing positive in Florida. That is not a chance that I am willing to take with my child. Children are contracting the virus and the lasting effects are unknown but many that have recovered have lifelong lung and other organ damage. Many adults are having the same lasting effects only worse. Is the district really looking out for the health and safety of their staff and students?

My family has been given very little information about the plan to reopen schools. Given the information, the hybrid model for secondary students is horrible. I chose the hybrid model believing that my child would be in a class with a smaller numbers and would be attending 2 days a week. I chose that model because I do not want my child sitting in a class of 30+ students. From my understanding, my child would have many of her classes held virtually and the rest would be in a traditional setting with the traditional amount of students which is exactly why I did not choose traditional to begin with. I ask you, is the district's main concern and the health and safety of my child and my family? I will be changing my choice of learning models again if the district decides to open in August.

The worry of reopening school weighs heavily on the minds of teachers and staff and their families. The teachers that I have talked to including myself have concerns that have yet to be answered. What happens when a student or staff member tests positive? Who is cleaning our rooms? What about students that refuse to wear a mask? How in the world is the district going to pull off three different models of instruction? Just today, Dr. Anthony Cardillo, a former teacher told LA TV station ABC7, if he were to have to go back into the classroom environment, he would approach it the same way he approaches going into the emergency department at the hospital. Does that seem like it is safe?

In closing, I leave you with this thought to ponder: If the meeting to reopen schools takes place via Zoom for the safety of the participants, maybe you should not be discussing the reopening of schools.

145 7/16/2020 19:47 I have two children that will be attending Murrieta Mesa a freshman and senior. This past distance learning showed me that neither one is designed or capable of online learning. My son only did work for 3 of 6 classes. My daughter was 4 classes and those 4 weren't even true classes with real work. If you do only online, my kids will fail! You are going to jeopardize my childrens education! There are plenty of ways to keep them safe. Cajon, Poway, and Orange County are already opening their schools to in class teaching. We can do it too.

146 7/16/2020 19:29 My name is [REDACTED]. I am a teacher in Murrieta Valley USD and as a teacher, of course, I want to teach. The ONLY career I have ever had and wanted has been as a teacher. I plan on continuing to teach in the 2020-2021 school year. I think my career choice and years of service speak for themselves. A group of educators and parents eloquently wrote a letter that addressed many questions and concerns that I have as well. So I am not going to address those issues. I want to speak about my experience with teaching Murrieta Valley USD summer school for the past 4 weeks. I have been teaching summer school for almost every year that I have worked for Murrieta Valley USD-22 years! I just finished teaching a 4-week summer school class of amazing 4th-grade children. This year summer school was different from any other year because it was virtual "LIVE" instruction. Even though there were technology issues more so with Microsoft Teams, from the parent and student survey feedback it was overall a success! I learned a lot about building connections virtually with both students and their families. My students learned as we reviewed, read, discussed, solved word math word problems, wrote letters, and explored content together. Of course, there were challenges with focus, attention, technology, and missing assignments. These are all normal parts of a classroom. But what there was not was issues, touching, sneezing or coughing on each other. We did not have to wear masks, face shield, or worry about droplets of covid19, ventilation systems, or excessive handwashing. We had recess breaks together, played games, listened to music, and even exercised a bit together. We had small groups of 3-5 students and even one-on-one time interaction. Students did not stay on the screen for all four hours of class but we did spend up to 2 hours together at a time on some days. Students did not stay in chairs. They laid, rolled, and even climbed at times. Little brothers and sisters, parents, grandparents popped in and said hello and even sat in on lessons or our final talent show. All these things would happen in my classroom over the years when it was face-to-face and I was good with all of it. It is part of teaching and learning. I am not saying we should not go back to face-to-face instruction but I am saying NOW is NOT the time. It is a pandemic. NOW is the time we can plan to teach virtually and assure students are learning until it is safe for ALL.

Before summer school, I wasn't sure if "LIVE" virtual teaching would be too hard. Now I say, yes it is hard but teaching is hard and we can do this and even do it better! Distance Learning was really a response to a health crisis but given the time and training, we can assure that students are learning. Will we need parent/family help? Yes! But we have ALWAYS needed parent help. We can work together to make it better. We need to pull together ALL educational and community resources to use to support educational staff, students, and families to assure our children are learning in the safest healthiest way possible. Right now as sorry as I am about this, face-to-face instruction in large groups (classes of 25-35 students) is not the safest option. I know there are 3 options for reopening schools but both traditional and hybrid create risks that could create a life long health condition or even death. I also know I could try to teach virtually again but if I don't have an underlying health condition, I wouldn't want to take the spot from a teacher who really needs it to it to survive. In addition, my husband, who does have some health concerns is worried about me bringing home the virus as he will be doing distance learning from home for his school district. But honestly, why should I have to make that choice or have that concern? There are lot of technological and educational logistics that need to be worked out for everyone to teach virtually but now is the time to work them out!

147 7/16/2020 19:58 I have been a teacher for MVUSD since 1996 and have never felt the need to address the school board, but with the current situation I believe it is necessary to speak up. It is absurd to think at this time Murrieta Valley Unified School District would be opening any schools in any format. Schools need to remain virtual until there has been a significant decline in COVID 19 cases reported in Riverside County. Currently, Riverside County continues to be on a watch list for the state of California as our hospitals are strained and ICU bed are at capacity. The County positivity rate is at 15% when the state acceptable level is 8%. The state has rolled back openings, no indoor gathering for churches, restaurants, bars, hair salons or gyms. Governor Newsome states daily that we should not be mixing from outside our own household, yet the district wants to mix 30 households per class period a day at the middle/high school level. On a block schedule this is 240 households at minimum students and staff would be exposed to in a two-day period. Even the current proposals by the district for the blended learning model does not have any modified class setting to the middle /high school classroom. The traditional and blended options state traditional class size and periods. Middle/high schools only have full class size or virtual learning. These on-site plans do not offer social distancing precautions to staff and students. These students and staff will then take this multi-household exposure home to their family members. Some, who like mine, have underlining health conditions and have been notified by their doctors that they will most likely die if they contact COVID 19. Is this really the best MVUSD can offer? On Wednesday, July 15th, Superintendent of California Public Schools, Tony K. Thurmond stated, "In any place where there is uncertainty, we should proceed with caution. In many cases, that's going to be opening in distance learning." Riverside county is the among the highest of COVID 19 cases in the state. There is no uncertainty, it is a fact lives are at risk and it is in the hands of the board members to protect the students, staff and community. And when opening does happen, it needs to be in a safe manner minimize class setting, social distancing, face masks all necessary safety precautions in place. In addition, Thurmond, reiterated, "Since we have issued our guidance, conditions have changed dramatically." "We applaud the superintendents and school boards in Los Angeles and San Diego for making the decision to say, 'Let's open safely'. Both districts have decided to only open in the virtual setting and used distance learning. Now is not the time to listen to people's opinions and feelings, you must only look at the facts and do what is right for your schools. Let's work together to get through this pandemic first before we rush opening the schools to get back to normal.

148 7/16/2020 20:00 July 16, 2020

Murrieta School Board

Hello, I am writing this letter today to express reasons as to why our children need to go back to school. I understand that we are in a pandemic, but it is to my understanding that children have little to no effects to COVID-19. Why can't we take the precautionary measures to ensure not only the children's safety, but also teachers and staff. These precautionary measures may include but are not limited too; wearing masks, desks 6 feet apart from one another, temperature checks, sanitary stations for each classroom, as well as mandatory handwashing throughout the day.

I think we can all agree that many of these children have parents who work full time jobs to support their families and have little to no time to teach their children. Many children have already fallen behind since being out of school since March. My children are constantly asking me when they get to go back to school because they miss their friends. It is imperative to children's mental and cognitive health that they socialize and interact with other children.

What makes public schools non-essential? Daycares and private schools are open and have had no outbreaks even with children not wearing masks. The majority of us cannot afford to send our children to private schools. These teachers are essential and are there every day, and they aren't complaining. Children need to be face-to-face with their teachers, it is very important, they need that interaction. Many of us don't have the luxury to just quit our jobs to become full time teachers to our children. This has been a very traumatic time for all of us but think about the children and their mental health. If some parents can stay home, and want to do distance learning, then let them.

In conclusion, schools provide more than just academics to children and adolescents. In addition to reading, writing and math, children learn social and emotional skills, get exercise and access to mental health support and other things that cannot be provided with online learning.

For many families, school is where kids get healthy meals, access to the internet, and other vital services.

Please, let our children have some normalcy in their lives, and let them go back to school, and back to a routine they are comfortable with.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

149 7/16/2020 20:22 Other districts are moving forward in a 3 phase set up. phase 1. being distant learning phase 2. hybrid mode phase 3. traditional full time. until is safe to return back.

150 7/16/2020 20:50 Dear School Board Members:

My name is [REDACTED] and I have been a full time teacher in MVUSD for 19 years. Prior to that, I was a substitute teacher exclusively in MVUSD for almost 10 years. I can't say enough how much I love teaching and love even more the students and families of Murrieta.

Since March 13th, the last day we were at school with students, my life has not been the same. The very cycle of the life of a teacher evolves and revolves around the school day and the school year. So many traditions, activities, learning, growing, guiding, and teaching happen in the cycle of the school year. The very cadence of your life is the beat of the school year.

While I love my job, my students, and my school, I love MORE the health of those I work with, the health of students I teach, the health of families they live with and the health of my own family. In short, I value their LIVES above anything. Currently, the Covid-19 virus pandemic, and the recent surge in California make teaching students "traditionally" a DANGEROUS RISK to all those I have previous mentioned. To start the school year in the classroom at this time, during this surge would be NEGLIGENT and UNSAFE.

The only safe way to start the school year is virtually. This is the only way the safety of all students, staff and parents can be insured, until the surge of this pandemic declines. In the meantime, the attainment of PPE, employee testing, and the set-up of safe classrooms must be the first goals before we can get back to more "traditional" models of education, for the health of our students and staff.

In closing, I thank you for your consideration of my remarks regarding starting the school year in the traditional manner, during our current surge in the Covid-19 virus, in that it would result in negligent, dangerous and risky behavior for all staff, parents and students in the MVUSD school district.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]



- 151 7/16/2020 20:19 Members of the board,  
The fact that reopening schools is open for debate during a global pandemic, with exponentially growing infections in our county, and with ICU beds now reaching capacity, shows a total lack of leadership on your behalf.  
Would you prefer to deal disgruntled and inconvenienced parents because you did the RIGHT thing and moved to virtual attendance until it was safe to return?  
Or  
Would you rather acquiesce to the mob, allow schools to reopen, and bear the responsibility for every infection, every hospitalisation and every death that results from doing the WRONG thing?  
You have a moral imperative to do the right thing, you were elected to do the right thing and you have the authority to do the right thing. Keep school virtual until it is SAFE to return. Another survey will not make reopening safe. Another survey will not make 30 children fit in a class room with 6' spacing.  
Another survey WILL be open to deliberate interference. How will you ensure it is only parents and care givers filling it out? How will you ensure they only respond once?  
If you lack the conviction to do the right thing and would prefer to hide behind the results of a spurious and unreliable survey then you should resign rather than put our entire community at risk.  
[REDACTED]
- 152 7/16/2020 20:59 Riverside County is currently experiencing a spike in Covid cases. When MVHS had a possible scare, they shut down the school for two days. You shut the school down for two days because of a scare and with the possibility of actually getting this virus at an all-time high, cases increasing every day, the district and board are considering to re-open schools, which goes against science and just pure logic. I understand the parents need to return to work but the district and the board need to understand that life and health should be our number one priority. Schools are not daycares and teachers are not babysitters. There aren't enough virtual jobs to give to everyone who would like to have one if the school district and board decide to stick with their 3 options.  
There are many teachers who are compromised or live with relatives who are compromised. That fact that there has been an increase in retirements, teachers leaving the occupation, and teachers researching and filling out wills, filing for life insurance, and disability should open your eyes to what is going on and where we are mentally. Please take our well-being and health into consideration. Do not put us in danger. From what I have heard, the distance/virtual learning that was done during the summer was very successful and very appreciated by those who participated in it. Give us the opportunity to continue with this.  
Also, the plan to have 3 learning options is not optimal or even feasible. The traditional option should be immediately tossed out as it is not feasible or safe. How do people expect 28-35 students to social distance in a small classroom? Do we really expect students to wear their masks all day or only play with students in their class? Do we really expect teachers to give up their breaks to clean desks between periods throughout the day?  
Allowing families to jump from one option to another whenever they choose and will cause extra work for the teachers. Every week we will go in not knowing which students will be there and how many students will be in our class. We aren't going to know which students to plan for because it's going to constantly change. When asked to do distance learning for the last few months of school, we were able to quickly adapt. We teachers worked hard to make sure our students continued to learn. Allow us the chance to continue with distance learning. Train us to make sure we are being effective. Please trust your teachers that we will ensure that students are effectively learning if you choose full distance learning. Follow the districts like Perris Union, Lake Elsinore, San Diego, LAUSD. Show us that you care about our lives and the lives of the students and their families.
- 153 7/16/2020 20:59 As educators, we use data to drive our teaching. As educated adults, we should use this pandemics data to drive our decision making. The number one priority is the safety of our students, staff and our own families. Our death toll is rising and has reached a new high of 60,000 daily cases. We have the highest death toll in the world. Why aren't we listening to the scientists and doctors whom are telling us that this is going to get worse, before it gets any better? Starting the new school year with a traditional class size and not adhering to the 6 feet apart recommendations in the classroom, is not safe for anyone. Every grocery store, restaurant and gym are following this guideline. How is the safest place in our community not adhering to these professionals recommendations and guidelines?  
After experiencing Distance Learning, participating in the vast amount of TEAMS trainings and completing the Leading Edge Modules, I know we are more than ready and capable of online and hybrid teaching. Parents and our district just need to trust teachers. We will continue to teach with rigor and relevance. As teachers, whatever challenge comes our way, we always find a way to overcome it. We chose this profession for the love of learning and teaching our youth. We promise our students' parents at the beginning of every school year that their child will learn in a safe and loving environment. This school year, if traditional class size is an option, I will wholeheartedly promise to have a loving, caring and respectful environment, but I cannot promise that it will be 100% safe.
- 154 7/16/2020 21:08 We all love our students, miss them and want what's best for them. Before returning to onsite class we need to be certain we are protecting students and staff from the serious effects of Covid19. During Tuesday's Board of Supervisors meeting Public Health Director Kim Saruwatari states "county cases have been shifting to younger demographic, cases are rising in 5 to 17 & 18 to 39 age groups". She also notes positive rate currently 20%, nearly 3 times the states threshold of 8%.

July 17, 2020 Special Meeting - Public Comment on agenda item A.5

- 155 7/16/2020 21:43 I completely understand our district has no control what the governor dictates; however, the data is woefully insufficient to cripple our children any further with this Draconian decision ~ our children have already suffered plenty from being out of school since March 12 not to mention the lack of traditional activities during the summer. I respect other parents' decisions if they feel differently, but not to be given the choice of in person instruction vs. remote learning is COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE
- 156 7/16/2020 21:13 Reopening schools during the COVID19 crisis requires careful analysis and planning. Therefore, using the most current and accurate data available are critical. As of this writing on July 16 and according to the California Department of Public Health linked on the CDC website, there are 28,492 known positive cases and 577 deaths in Riverside County. This represents only a 2% mortality rate for those that tested positive. Furthermore, 0% of those that passed away were between the ages of 0 and 17, and 77% that passed away were 65 and older. Please keep these important data in mind as we prepare to reopen schools that teach students primarily between the ages of 5 and 17 years of age. Thank you for your consideration.
- 157 7/16/2020 22:06 It's completely irresponsible for MVUSD to allow children to return to school and teachers to be placed at risk during a pandemic.
- 158 7/16/2020 22:09 Please let me speak up and ask to reopen schools as I will have 6 kids preschool to 10th grade. Teachers and Educators are ESSENTIAL!! The kids need to be in school! My kids are definitely not online learners.
- 159 7/16/2020 21:59 Good evening, I am writing this letter at 9:30 pm because I worked a 12-hour shift. Like many parents in California, my family requires two incomes to sustain a roof over our heads. I am the mother of two children, one of whom will be attending Murrieta Elementary starting this fall. We are in favor of traditional schooling. My rationale behind this is because we need to start adapting to COVID instead of hiding from it. I understand the initial school closure, but COVID is with us to stay. Many children live in homes where parents need to work. I know that schools are not a daycare, but it is a way parents can go to work. If you choose to go 100% online, parents may have to choose between educating their child and working to pay their mortgage or rent. Daycares do not take children that are older and will not accommodate virtual learning. Daycares and some private schools have remained open. Their teachers and students have been okay. So, my question to you is, why aren't schools able to stay open if daycares and private schools can be? When did education no longer become essential? Studies show that 19% of suspected child abuse reports come from school employees. Adequate detection of suspected abuse cannot be done online to its entirety things will be missed. Traditional schooling allows teachers to be able to report signs of abuse. I have read the mitigation plan and objected to physical distancing and reducing play equipment use. This is NOT acceptable. Children need to play with each other and learn to interact. This is what teaches children conflict resolution, how to share, how to interact with others. Regularly teaching children to be fearful of a virus and stay away from each other is not psychologically healthy. I am also NOT in favor of children wearing masks at school. Again, I see the school states that it is mandated, but daycares and private schools do not make children wear masks while at school. Children need to be exposed to illnesses exposure builds antibodies, which in turn means sound immune systems. I hope the district considers this information.
- 160 7/16/2020 22:35 These children must go back!! Their mental health depends on it. This generation will have far more problems than this virus if they are not allowed to get a proper education inside the classroom. PLEASE allow those that want to return to the classroom and feel comfortable doing so, to go about their education the only way they know how. It is imperative to the future of our children.  
Thank you for tour time.

161 7/16/2020 22:48

I'm writing this email to voice a concern that needs to be addressed before I feel safe to return to the school campus for the 2020/21 school year. As advertised, the safety and well being of the staff, students, and their families is our top priority. As we move forward with the plans to ensure that we can accomplish this task, I feel that some additional consideration should be taken into account about the decision to return to the campus. Besides the requirement to arrive, teach, and depart our classroom, and ensure we adhere to the rules of wearing masks and social distance while on or off campus, we will be forced to share small, inadequately ventilated bathrooms, work rooms and staff lounges at various times throughout the day. This situation by itself is not consistent with the safe practices of social distancing. Even more importantly, we would be sharing these spaces with multiple staff members who have publicly displayed their non-compliance for wearing masks, and not social distancing with various friends and families. This lack of concern, and complete disrespect for the minimum actions required is immoral and unacceptable at any level, and highly compromises our safety and wellbeing. These teachers, and actually even other staff members such as aides, etc. are not hiding the fact that they don't believe in wearing masks or social distancing, by the fact that they are putting it on social media for all to see, and even have consistently argued with others on social media that believe otherwise since school closures in March. Furthermore, they have gone so far as to claim this pandemic is not REAL. These very actions are the reason why the county of Riverside has the second most recorded increases in daily COVID cases statewide, and are the result of the dire situation we are in today. I do not feel comfortable teaching virtually from my classroom with staff members that can't be trusted to social distance, or wear masks while NOT on campus. They are putting other's lives at risk. As stated above, I'm not comfortable sharing the same space with these staff members, which is why VIRTUAL LEARNING FROM HOME FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS/STAFF MEMBERS, is the ONLY viable solution at this time.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter, and for all you're doing for the safety of our students, and the employees of our fine school district.

162 7/16/2020 23:07

July 16, 2020

Dear MVUSD School Board Members,

Please don't put us all at risk. Re-open our schools with distance learning only and then adjust when the numbers improve. If restaurants can't even have indoor seating right now, then it's obviously not safe to bring us all back on campus right now.

I typically have somewhere between 28-37 students in each class period. Indoors. With no open windows. In addition, I typically teach a total of about 180-200 students in any given year. That's about 7-8 hours inside with no fresh air while coming into close contact with 180-200 students who may or may not be asymptomatic. That's putting my health and the health of my family at risk.

For reference, I've included the chart from our own city of Murrieta webpage demonstrating how City Hall, the Public Library, Senior Center, Youth Center, Community Center, skate park, athletic fields, and pool are all currently closed. That's a clear sign that opening our schools is not appropriate at this time. We're not even close to out of the woods here in Riverside County. Let's not make things worse. Please err on the side of caution and re-open with distance learning only.

Thank you for your time.

[REDACTED]

REFERENCE [murrietaca.gov](http://murrietaca.gov) for chart below

City Facility or Program Status Additional Information Updated July 5, 2020, City Hall Closed to the public due to rising COVID-19 activity. Virtual services continue.951-304-2489, Public Library Closed. Lots of virtual programming! Curbside Pick-up and online reservation available, Senior Center Closed. Programming Modified or Cancelled. Drive-through Senior Lunch continues. Youth Center Closed. Programming Cancelled, Community Center Closed. Programming Modified or Cancelled.

Cal Oaks Skate Park Closed. Programming Cancelled, Athletic Fields, Pool Closed. Programming Cancelled. Per State Order Sports Courts, Disc Golf Open, BB Ball, Tennis, Frisbee Golf, Park Shelters Opening Soon, Little Critters (Copper Canyon) Closed. Programming Cancelled. City Parks Mostly Open Play equipment and athletic fields closed, Police Department Open. Operations Continue. No volunteer, Explorer or ride-alongs. Fire Department Open. Operations Continue. No tours, volunteer or community programs, Citizens Fire Academy, 2020 Fire Academy Cancelled. Emergency Services Operational 9-1-1 (emergencies), (951) 304-2677 (non-emergency dispatch), City Council Meetings Remote and In-Person Options View City Calendar for updates and details, City Hall Citizens Academy Postponed, Passport & Notary Services Closed, City Events, Cancelled or Modified Until Further Notice Non-City events are cancelled as well by Public Health directive.

Plan & Document Submittals Drop off and pick up outside City Hall by appointment Details on Development Svc. webpage

163 7/16/2020 21:55 Madame President, Members of the Board, Dr. Kelley, Deputy and Assistant Superintendents:

I am proud to be a parent and teacher in the Murrieta Valley USD. From the beginning of MVUSD 30 plus years ago, we have charted our own course. Like our great nation, we chose independence from TVUSD rather than being relegated to little brother status. Back then our High School program took a risk and chose to teach "whole language" in the English classes resulting in the highest test scores in the county. Primary classes focused on phonics, pushing our elementary test scores to the top, the envy of neighboring districts. Countless other tough decisions have made our road a tough one.

It has been difficult as we seemingly reinvented the wheel at every turn, but from the beginning we chose our own path and it has paid off. Our schools are the bedrock of this community; they are why people move here; where memories are made; where generations have come of age. All because we did what we thought was best for kids; and it has been the best for my kids, for your kids, and for all our kids.

Now we are facing a new crisis and new decisions: "Do we open back up or go online?" "Can we guarantee that every child, every teacher, and each staff member is safe from contracting COVID-19 at school?" "What will we do if X, Y, or Z happens?" We don't have all the answers but one thing we do know is that kids learn, grow, and are inspired from face to face contact with their teacher.

Many are telling us to follow the "experts" in LA or San Diego. They say, "play it safe," because to take any risk is foolhardy. We have all heard the experts contradict themselves and each other daily throughout this pandemic. We see that the big school districts in our state are fearful of their Unions so they decided to shut down. They are paralyzed into inaction because they lack the leadership and integrity to make the critical decision, "What is best for kids?"

I submit that kids need the social experience that schools offer; that kids need face to face contact with their teachers; that a school is just a building unless it has students; that if we follow common sense health and safety protocols, then the chance of transmitting COVID-19 is minuscule. I submit that individuals with fragile health should self-quarantine, not quarantine the entire school district. Please, Board Members and Key District Personnel, do what's best for kids and bring them back to school.

Respectfully, [REDACTED]

164 7/16/2020 23:25 Dear Members of the MVUSD Board of Education and Superintendent Kelley,

I do not envy you the choices you may be forced to make regarding our district's reopening. I consider all of you friends of mine. Your past examples of leadership have been exemplary.

But I come to you today as the president of the teachers association. I find myself in the difficult position of representing ALL of my members. A recent survey in our membership showed a clear divide in opinions when it came to the best way to reopen our schools.

I do not know how or when wearing a mask to protect oneself against germs became a political statement. I am saddened to see that others do not value the opinions of our healthcare workers, all of whom have told me that wearing a mask is a protection against spreading germs.

Some believe that this is a political hoax propagated by the Democrats and the media. Well, this is either a hoax of humongous proportions or we are clearly living in a very dangerous situation. Since I do not have proof to exclude either theory, I would ask you the following:

Can my members be kept safe if students and their families are not required to wear masks on our campuses? The district has signaled in bargaining that they will not require masks once the mandate is lifted. Can my members be kept safe if physical distancing is not possible in our classrooms? The district has promised "social distancing to the extent possible - knowing full well it is not always possible. Will my members be allowed to build plexiglass cubes to protect them as has been done in grocery stores with their front line workers working in 200,000 square foot buildings? How will we protect our vulnerable members who are of a certain age or have certain health issues? Many have worked 25+ years for our district and are near retirement age. Now they must bet their life on their last few years or retire now and lose out on retirement funds for the next 20 years. Why is it necessary for teachers who have chosen to apply for virtual positions due to the health concerns of their family members be required to report to a campus site where they will be forced to avoid their co-workers and use a communal restroom? How will we protect the vulnerable family members of our members that are forced to return to classrooms of "traditional size" classes. Exactly how will the quarantine aspect work? The models all show that it is imminent if we allow campuses of 2,000 - 3,000 students of all ages to return. What data metric will trigger a full shut down again?

I believe my members are in a much better place to provide quality distance learning instruction than they were in March. Many have taken the Leading Edge Certification provided by the district.

Other members who worked as summer school teachers, reported that the learning in summer school was "off the charts." My members have learned how to adjust to distance learning and they CAN provide quality instruction in that manner. Why wait until July 29th to tell them what our school year is going to look like. Every day you wait is a day they spend worrying that they won't be ready to meet the needs of the kiddos coming through our doors.

I currently cannot eat inside a restaurant. My husband has not left our house since March 14th. He also refuses to eat food that is not cooked at our house. I cannot get my fingers and toes done with my best friend at a salon. You all now know what my true hair color is. Would it be this way if it was safe to re-enter society?

As you know, advocating for teachers and public schools is my heart. I will be devastated to lose even one member.

My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Sincerely, [REDACTED]

- 165 7/15/2020 16:31 My name is [REDACTED]. I am a proud public school teacher of 23 years in the Escondido Union Elementary school district. My own children have attended public school in this district, MVUSD, for 16 years. I believe that my children have had a great education thus far in Murrieta. However, my concern stems from your current decision to propose an allowance of children on campus for "in person instruction" during the global COVID pandemic. This decision begs the question, who is "calling the shots" in this district. Are you succumbing to pressure from conservative rightwing parents? Are you prepared for your staff members or students to pass a deadly virus around your schools? Are you prepared to council any one of your schools through the loss of a student or staff member? Quite frankly, does this district value the human life of its children and staff? I am seriously thinking that you do NOT, based on your current proposals or "choices" for parents.
- Schools should reopen in the context of a low community transmission that has been effectively suppressed by a broad-based comprehensive and cohesive plan set forth for the elimination of the COVID virus. So far that has not happened in this country. So for that reason alone, children should not be returning to school on any campus in Murrieta at this time.
- Last night I witnessed my own district, the Escondido Elementary School Board, unanimously vote to begin our school year in FULL distance learning mode, out of safety for its students and staff. The Escondido Union High School district did the same. Many surrounding districts have followed suit. The goal of any school district should be to deliver a robust educational program for its students in a safe environment. I am sure that you all agree with that statement! Murrieta's current plan is not safe! But what do I know? I am "just a teacher". And honestly, during this time, I am so thankful that I am not one of YOUR teachers, I am not expendable. Your teachers are not either.
- In closing, board members of the Murrieta Valley Unified School District, please be decent humans and vote to keep this community safe by beginning school in Murrieta with a full, 100% distance learning model in place. Push our community and employers to come together to help resolve the childcare issues. Schools are not babysitters, schools educate students, and they should do so safely.
- 166 7/16/2020 23:54 I have been lucky to work for Murrieta Valley USD for the last 3 years as an elementary school teacher. I know how much teachers, principals, staff, parents, and students love being a part of this caring community. However, I have some concerns and questions about safely opening up schools in the upcoming month in the traditional sense due to COVID and it's recent rise of those infected. Traditional class sizes do not seem the best option since students will not be able to social distance the recommended 6 feet. Additionally, some of our elementary schools are on the on the older side and I worry about the ventilation in the classroom. I also worry about students coming to school sick, how will we know if they have the common cold, flu, or COVID? What will be the procedure for sick students and staff? Another item I have concerns about are the parents ability to move from one model to another. Will they only be able to switch models after the first quarter or semester? Or will they be able to switch between models whenever they want? At this time, starting with an online option for the first couple weeks of schools seems the safest option for all people. With our new LMS, Canvas, and rigorous trainings including Leading Edge, I know teachers can implement a meaningful and interactive distance learning.
- 167 7/17/2020 5:12 We are not ready to re-open traditionally. A study from University of Colorado are now suggesting social distancing of over 10 feet. Our current plan does not even include how many feet of social distancing are required on campus. Beyond the basic plan, there are more problems to consider. What happens if a student rips their mask off as a punishment to another student or teacher? What happens if a student coughs on another child on purpose, to be a bully? Will all students be monitored at every moment to prevent this? How will the district afford the amount of sick days necessary when the inevitable happens and a teacher contracts COVID-19?
- 168 7/17/2020 5:35 I'm concerned about distant learning. My daughter learned nothing the last 3 months of school. Is this going to be more structured, and not just busy work? My daughter is a junior and I'm concerned how this will effect her with college.
- 169 7/17/2020 6:35 Will school be start the traditional way? If not, is it possible to make the online learning more simplified? My children are in 3rd and 4th grade and will had the hardest time navigating through the assignment. There are way to many clicks going on. I work from home and need to work but the last semester I had to take a leave of absence because I had to help my children with their online learning. It has to be a way to do a simple click instead of having to go to 12 different sites. If that is not possible can it be a way for students to print there assignments and scan them back in to the Teachers? If it's going to be online there has to be a more simple way! Also we had to share devices...and that did not work for us. Is it possible for each and every student to get their own device with internet?
- 170 7/17/2020 6:57 I am a teacher at MVUSD. Please don't send us into a situation you, yourselves would not go into. IE: a large group of people with no requirement of masks for everyone

171 7/16/2020 14:12 Hello Ma'am, I hope you are well. To the Board: If the private school the Governor's children go to is going to be open with no masks and no social distancing, can the MVUSD use the same ideas this school is using to allow our children back to school without these measures? If not, what is the scientific data the district is using to justify either not reopening or making the children wear masks and distance? After the local Riverside County Health Officer Dr. C. Kaiser rescinded his order for mask wearing, people were free to choose. Then, a non-health official (the Governor) mandated masks with no scientific or health reasons. This would seem to go against the advice of the Health Officer for our county. Even more so, the Governor of Georgia today (7.16.20) made a statement that no local county may mandate mask wearing in the entire state. All the evidence shows wearing masks is not good for the health of a healthy person and can indeed bring on adverse reactions. The WHO, CDC, Dr. Fauci and the Surgeon General of the United States have all said that masks do not protect the wearer from a coronavirus and should not be worn by healthy individuals. If this isn't enough evidence to show masks are not necessary, then looking at the almost non-existent cases in children between the ages of 1 and 18 must show there is no need for them to distance or wear masks. Thank you and I hope these areas of my concern might be put to the board tomorrow. Kind Regards, [REDACTED] Dad of a MVUSD student

172 7/16/2020 3:41 **PART 1:** Sorry this will be long. Please be kind and patient if you read it. I will be in the minority on this, probably the only one, however, I finally felt that I needed to share my opinion with the group. I am not posting this to get into fights with anyone. I have been open to hearing everyone's opinion and I see and understand their points. I respect your thoughts on this. I even agree to a certain extent, but no one has spoken up about the other side of this. I am in favor of having choice, choice between the three proposed models that goes before the board tomorrow. I am in favor of choice because not everyone is comfortable or okay with going back to traditional, not everyone is okay with doing completely online or they want to be cautious and do a hybrid model. That is okay. For myself (as a teacher and as a parent) and my family we want to go back to traditional (as close to it as we can get). I am choosing this option, and I have since May, because it is what is in my family's best interest for their MENTAL HEALTH. Anytime I bring this up to people they say "well it's been hard for everyone". To me that is just like saying "Uh-huh, sure, okay" when someone is talking to you and you are not actually hearing what they saying. You are just listening, not actually participating in the conversation. What I am about to share is hard because I don't know many of you, some I do. Those that know me in here, know me as an upbeat, always looking at the bright side, even when I am stressed and overwhelmed, I am optimistic. I tackle anything that gets in my way. I am open when I struggle. I thought I was strong, but this pandemic and lockdown has brought me to a point that I didn't think I could get to or have experienced this depth before. I am so depressed now. I cry almost every single day. It is getting harder to get out of bed. I don't want to do things. I am starting to sequester myself from my family. I am withdrawing. This has been since probably April that I have been feeling this way. When the county started opening things up, masks were recommended, not required, life started to get back to some semblance of normal, I started to feel better. My mood changed. I started feeling better. This latest closure is doing me in. I try to fight this with things that bring me joy... the scriptures, reading for pleasure, family movies, loving my dogs, listening to music, even going to the store just to get out and have some fresh air, but each day is getting harder, even with all of that. My boys are changing also and that worries me. Middle was rough for my oldest (many factors). He finally hit his stride in 8th grade, loved school, was doing well. Since we went out for distance learning, there is a shift in him. He hates school now. He can't stand learning on a computer, and this is from a kid who lives for video games. The fights between him and his brother, between me and him, have increased. This is more than just his age and middle school and puberty. You know when it is something different with your child.



172 7/16/2020 3:41

**Part 2:** My other child loved school. He excelled at academics. He is also a video game fanatic. He and his brother can't even stand to play games for very long anymore. They avoid electronics because it actually reminds them of school. They have expressed to me so many times that they want to be back in school, in the classroom learning from their teachers, being with their friends. They hate wearing masks if they leave the house, but they are willing to do that because they know it keeps them a little safe and they know it is required. They are moodier, they are beginning to withdraw and it worries me.

I worry about the students whose home life is not safe. They need to be at school. That is their safe place and they haven't had it for a long time. Many families are struggling financially because they can't work because who will be with their kids, not to mention the businesses that are shut down. We know that many of our students struggle with mental health issues. This time has not been good and I know you can't say that you can't think of a single student of yours that you haven't worried about due to the circumstances with the family.

YES, we need to take precautions with the PHYSICAL HEALTH of our students and our staff. This is extremely IMPORTANT. I know several staff members who are very at risk. I really hope they do the distance learning for them and their family. However, I also know of several staff members across the district that are struggling with depression now and being isolated in our homes away from adult and student interactions is making the depression worse. There is plenty of RESEARCH that shows that when mental health declines, then the body becomes compromised and we are at a higher risk of becoming sick. Given the state of the world, no one wants to get sick. We can take all the physical precautions we want, but if we don't take care of the mental precautions as well, the physical precautions are useless. This is why having the choice for the learning model that best fits you and your family's needs is the best option. I did give a written statement for the meeting tomorrow expressing this point. Whether they read it or not is on them, however, I am sharing it with you because I think it is important to be pointing this out. I will say this too, for my family, distance learning was incredibly hard. It had nothing to do with being tech-savvy or anything like that. My workload as a parent and as a teacher increased like nothing I had ever experienced. There were many times where it was difficult to be parent and teacher at the same time, and I know I am not alone in this. I know many of you experienced the same thing. Many families in our district who have parents who are NOT teachers, experienced it as well. It is not fair to those families. We can be as interactive with our students online as possible, but nothing with replace the face to face connection and contact and instruction that we give them. I worry about the workload when we go back which could cause additional stress to already stressed out staff and families. Again damaging MENTAL HEALTH. Being a special education teacher, I deal with a lot. My workload, and for many of my colleagues in the special education department, was insane. I strive to do my best with everything I do. I did not feel that I could be a good case carrier through a computer. I did not feel that I could write my IEPs as well with proper data as I could have if we had been in person. Many students had stopped working because they were happy with their grades. So there was no current data. That doesn't sit well with me as a special educator and as a parent of a student on an IEP. We are doing our staff, our students and our families a disservice if they don't have a choice. In addition, many of the special education teachers share a classroom or office. I for one share an office and classroom with 3 other teachers and 4 aides. This is a potential physical health issue. However, there is no space for us to have our own spaces. Thank you for reading this. It was extremely hard for me to put this out here to what amounts to many strangers.

173 7/13/2020 0:00

Dear MVUSD Board of Ed Members,

Thank you for your hard work to make sure our district makes safe choices for our students and staff during the Coronavirus pandemic. I would like you to eliminate the Blended Model of Instruction as a choice for parents and teachers. The reason we considering alternatives to In-School learning is because of threat of exposure and transmission of this deadly virus. Having children attend school two days instead of five, still exposes students to others who could transmit the virus, and the teacher would still be exposed to 100% of the students.

Blended 2 On/3 Off causes more disruption to instruction, reduces teaching time, increases the teacher's time spent on management and planning, causes coordination problems for busing and carpools, causes more difficulty for IEP servicing schedules, limits times for parent meetings and student interventions, causing more disruption to students' learning routines, and negatively affecting student performance overall.

The only people who benefit from a Blended Model of 2 On/3 Off are parents who want part time childcare. Teachers are highly trained professionals, and it is demeaning to think that what we would basically be doing is babysitting, so parents can go to work two days a week.

The entirety of what we've been working on since last March has been to ensure the continued learning of our students, and the safety of our students and staff. It would be ridiculous to negate all our hard work and the sacrifices we've all made to offer an inferior educational delivery method. The Blended Model won't make us any safer, and it isn't a better academic alternative. Please limit the alternatives to 100% In-Person or 100% Distance Learning.

Thank you for listening to my perspective. I wish you all good health.



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175 7/15/2020 12:10

To Mvusd I am writing in to voice my concerns and wants for my children whom attend Murrieta's amazing schools. I am a mom to 3 children who attend Rail ranch elementary and Dorothy McElhinney middle school . Two of my three kids have am IEP for learning disabilities. My kids require and depend on the help and abilities of being in school, learning and getting hands on help they need. The way the teachers teach and help my kids is like nothing I can do for them. Kids with a learning disability are already behind and it makes it that much harder when taking them out of the classroom. Distance learning is not a option for my kids that have learning disabilities or even for my child who does not. We need full traditional learning. My kids need and want to be back in school. This is taking a toll on their mental health. This is a virus it's nothing worse then a flu. It is here to stay. If my kids are not scared to go back to school and be normal they should have the right to go learn without any worries. No mask, No social distancing, interacting with their friends, having lunch outside in the fresh air and doing PE. Do not deprive them of traditional normal school. Safety for my kids is important yes but living life normal and to its fullest is also very important for mental and physical health. I worry about my kids education and all the help they have already lost in these last months of no school . PLEASE PLEASE NORMAL traditional school. THANK YOU [REDACTED]

176 7/16/2020 10:59 Thank you for the opportunity to address the Board. My name is [REDACTED]. I have three children that currently attend Antelope Hills Elementary. My wife and I take the health and well-being of our kids very seriously, and that is why we have both done extensive research on the topic of COVID-19 and how it impacts children. Like nearly every parent, our first instinct is to protect our children and do whatever we can to keep anything that can harm them at a distance. At some point, however, those efforts become more damaging than what we were trying to shield them from in the first place. Keeping our kids out of school, or imposing unreasonable social distancing measures and face mask requirements on them, will cause long-lasting damage. COVID-19 is not a serious illness for children. According to the California Department of Public Health's own data, out of approximately 9 million children under the age of 18 who reside in California, zero have died from COVID-19. When children do contract the virus, their symptoms are typically mild. The annual flu poses more of a risk to our kids, and no one talks about keeping them at home for months on end every flu season. We don't have Board meetings to discuss how many feet apart desks need to be, or how many children can be on the playground at any given time. Recent studies out of Iceland, Ireland, and Germany have shown that children have little to no ability to transmit the virus to other children or adults. Extensive contact tracing studies that involved genome sequencing and studying of virus mutations allowed researchers to determine exactly who gave the virus to whom. In all the studied groups, it was overwhelmingly proven that children are nearly incapable of passing the virus on to someone else. In fact, they were not able to identify a single instance where a child passed the virus on to their own parents. The German study went so far as to classify children as a "brake" for the virus, meaning that children seemed to be instrumental in stopping the virus from spreading any further. As we've now established that children are not at risk, and pose no risk to others, it seems prudent to discuss the mitigation measures that are being proposed. Part of the purpose of going to school is to give children the opportunity to develop socially and emotionally through contact with other kids, whether it be in the classroom or outside on the playground. Forcing children to keep their distance from one another, hiding their faces behind a mask, will do nothing more than stunt their social and emotional growth. Multiple studies have already concluded that face masks are not effective in slowing the spread of the virus, and no scientific data has been presented refuting that fact. Given children are not vectors for the spread of the virus, it seems almost abusive to force them to wear a face mask, a breeding ground for germs and bacteria, for six hours per day. I applaud the School Board for offering parents their choice of several options for the upcoming school year. I understand that some parents are still hesitant to send their children back to the classroom. I also realize that others may be responsible for caring for loved ones who are in one of the high-risk categories and simply cannot afford to take any risks. Options should exist for those parents and their children. However, some of us want our children back in the classroom where they belong in a positive atmosphere that encourages learning and personal growth, not fear. This will be my and my wife's sixth year of having a child at Antelope Hills. It is truly a terrific school filled with some of the best teachers I've ever encountered. Unfortunately, the proposed restrictions will severely limit these teachers, and the children are going to suffer. We need to ask ourselves if we are making these decisions because we believe they are in the best interests of the students, or because they are in the best interests of ourselves? Are we allowing ourselves to be ruled by our own fears, rationalizing the choices we are making by convincing ourselves that we are doing it to keep our kids safe? The science has already proven that children don't need our intervention, so who are we really doing it for? It's time to stop pretending that we are putting the kids first and start actually putting them first. Thank you

177 7/16/2020 7:37 To whom this may concern: I am writing this notice requesting, pleading to have the schools reopened this fall in person. My daughter will be starting her first year of kindergarten and I want her to enjoy as normal of a school year as possible. She thrives in an in person setting and I beg to have the option to send my daughter to school. I'm requesting at a minimum to give a part time option because I worry of the negative impact of home schooling. Please consider my plea and the pleas of the city of Murrieta. Thank you for your time

178 7/16/2020 8:13 My concern is the health and safety of staff that are high risk for the virus and work directly with students and multiple staff members. Underlying medical conditions such as... Asthma Diabetes What are the board's recommendations concerning high risk staff?

179 7/16/2020 9:14 Dear MVUSD School Board, I teach students with special needs in MVUSD. I want you to know that it is my hope that you allow staff and families to have the option of choosing the traditional school year model. I know that there is so much expected of you in deciding the right thing to do for all involved. Students with special needs need more than computer time and distance learning. They need in person, small group instruction. They need professional teachers who know the strategies to get them to work, to do their best, and to retain what they've learned. We already know that students regress over long periods of missed instruction. I can't imagine how much my sweet students have regressed over the past several months. My classroom aides and I not only work with our students on academics, we also work with them on their behaviors, compliance, aggression and social skills. I miss my students. I miss seeing them succeed. I miss seeing them learn how to play with another child rather than parallel play. I miss seeing the growth that they can make when they are in the appropriate learning environment. There is so much that I am trained for that students' parents aren't. They do their best, but they are parents, they're not teachers. Please, allow the staff and families who want to be in the traditional school setting have the opportunity to do so. Thank you for your time, [REDACTED]

180 7/16/2020 9:31 Board, Cabinet, Teachers, Parents, and Staff. I am the parent of a senior and currently serve on the negotiating team and on the reopening task force in a neighboring district during this unprecedented time. I am certain that you share the added frustration that comes from our broader community that lacks the understanding of how hard educators are working to create all the intricate details in each learning model: Distance Learning, hybrid/blended and traditional models. Trying to get any one of these off the ground will be a challenge. We all want to be in school, but even the new traditional would mean social distancing, mandatory face masks, (via the state), intensive and repetitive cleaning and disinfecting, possible temperature checks, and safe isolation of children who feel ill, just to name a few of the new norms. Then there are the larger issues: Do we close or quarantine when (not if) staff/student members test positive? Do we find out the positive results a week later? What is done while waiting for results? Are students, classrooms, and/or the school quarantined? Do you have enough subs for when teachers are out on quarantine - or worse, Do you have thresholds established? What is acceptable and what is not acceptable? Are deaths an acceptable risk? Maybe one student at Tovashal, maybe a student at Thompson or a counselor at Murrieta Valley High? Are those the parameters you are willing to accept as aBoard? You cannot do Traditional as we knew it. Even the traditional model with safety WILL NOT be appropriate at this time while our infection numbers continue to climb and our ICU's are filled to capacity. No one ever expected the Board, the Cabinet, or the Administration to be making life and death decisions, but the reality is... here we are. However, any decision you make, should not be in isolation! Utilize the stages that are already in place to drive your decision! Follow the already established recommended stages and make you decisions accordingly. Stage 1 – "Stay at home except for essential and permitted activities." Under STAGE 1 all teachers and instruction would come under the Distance Learning model. As before, Meals would be provided as "grab and go" at designated schools. (Parents need to understand that Distance Learning at any stage will be much different than they experienced in the Spring as outlined in new legislation SB98). Stage 2 – We are currently in this stage. We are gradually opening some lower risk workplaces with adaptations at a pace designed to protect public health. Social distancing measures are implemented for employees. Employ Distance Learning while the numbers continue to rise. Should the number of cases trend downward a decision can then be made to open the schools in some form adhering to stringent protocols for health and safety. During this time, close schools to the public except by appointment. Stage 3 – In this Phase, higher-risk workplaces designed to protect public health and safety, begin with limited personal care and recreation venues (with workplace modifications). In school there would be increased access to on-site Hybrid learning opportunities made available; protocols for health and safety maintained in the district. This model can revert back to distance learning with minimal disruption to learning if the state goes back to stage 2 or can move easily into Stage 4. Stage 4 – The state ends the stay at home orders: Gradually opening largergathering venues at a pace consistent with public health and safety. Schools at this stage could return to Tradition model, with safety measures; poised and prepared to revert to hybrid immediately and with minimal disruption to student learning, if needed. Bottom line, if you choose to use the stages model based on the state, then this makes it non-political, non-emotional and you can point directly to this process when making a decision. Lastly, If you have not already, look at other schools and camps that have tried to open worldwide. In Israel, 2,026 students' teachers, and staff contracted Covid. Now 28,147 are in quarantine due to the contagion, numbers are exploding. Middle school children were the most dangerous vectors and elementary were more obedient and listened to instructions in the classroom. High school and middle school kids did not consistently social distance or wear masks. Also, there were summer camps where even with safety protocols outbreaks occurred. And let us not ever forget the three teachers in Arizona who taught online summer school from the same room. They utilized all the precautions and still came down with Covid, one teacher, Kimberly Chavez Lopez Byrd died. Opening our workplaces too soon and with loose protocols have proven disastrous over and over and over again. Let us not make the same mistake with opening too soon. It will be no different for our schools. Using the outlined stages, we should be in Distance Learning if we started school today. When the state moves into stage 3, then our district moves into Hybrid/Blended and at Stage 4 we can move into traditional with safety modifications. As a parent stakeholder and educator, I understand deeply on what you are embarking on. I appreciate the time someone is taking to read my letter and for all of you here today listening

181 7/16/2020 10:52 Ladies and Gentlemen, You have an unenviable task in front of you, that affects the lives of so many children. On one hand, you have valid concerns about the health and welfare of students and staff, and on the other hand, you have the educational needs of these same children. Needs that in many cases will not be met if they continue down the online educational path. I am speaking specifically, about your special education students, that must have hands-on support to achieve any kind of positive learning outcome. When you compare the educational method of a special education classroom, led by special education professionals and that of a standard online educational system, there is no comparison. In the classroom, external stimulation is reduced, combined with positive redirection into short bursts of the learning activity that helps the student focus and achieve a higher degree of progress in their studies. There is a real difference between long-form computer learning and the shorter direct form used to segment lessons into manageable bites for the students with short attention spans. Because this difference is so dramatic, we are requesting that you consider the needs of your special education students separately from the general student population. They are a smaller subgroup of the student population that can be better managed under a COVID plan. Whether brought together at one district school or in small groups at their local school these students need to come back to school. Many will not be able to study at home, and therefore not get any education this year. Think about your own kids, what would it be like for them to go a year without any educational attainment. Please do not let this generation of special needs children be the lost generation of students the system failed to help. You can creatively solve this problem if you put your minds to it, we have faith in your good judgment to do the right thing