

**I. Call to Order**

The West Chester Area School Board met at 7:01 pm via Livestream. Mr. McCune Board President called the meeting to order and led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. Roll Call**

**Members Present:** Mr. Bevilacqua, Mr. Durnell, Mr. Gallen, Dr. Herrmann, Mr. McCune, Dr. Shaw, Mr. Spackman, Mrs. Tiernan.

**Members Absent:** Ms. Chester

**Public Comments on Agenda Items**

Public comments on Item III. Personnel Recommendations were taken via google doc at the start of the meeting. **There were no public comments on this item.**

Public comments on Item IV.-1 were solicited and received via email until 12 noon on August 3, 2020. Dr. Sokolowski, Assistant Superintendent read a summary of the comments. **Redacted public comments are attached to the official meeting minutes.**

**III. Approval of Personnel Recommendations—Dr. Ulmer**

I.	Removal from Payroll
a.	Resignations - None
b.	Retirements - None
II.	Additions to Payroll
a.	Professional Staff: Contract - None
b.	Professional Staff: Long Term Substitute - None
c.	Administrative Staff: Contract - None
d.	Support Staff: Non Bargaining - None
e.	Support Staff: Contract - None
f.	Support Staff: Substitute - None
III.	Personnel Events

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a.	Status Change - None				
b.	Transfer – Voluntary				
	<b>Name</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
1.	Heidi Abbott	Professional	1.0 Science at Henderson HS	.75 Science at Henderson HS/.25 Physics at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
2.	Lindsay Anskis	Professional	1.0 Spanish at Rustin HS	.8 Spanish at Rustin HS/.2 Spanish 4 Honors at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
3.	Kelly Bane	Professional	1.0 Special Education at Rustin HS	.8 Special Education at Rustin HS/.2 US History at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
4.	Mairead Barrett	Professional	1.0 Spanish at East HS	.8 Spanish at East HS/.2 Spanish 2 at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
5.	Andrew Berkes	Professional	.8 Health/Physical Education at Peirce MS/.2 Health/Physical Education at Stetson MS	.6 Health/Physical Education at Peirce MS/.2 Health/Physical Education at Stetson MS/.2 Health/Physical Education at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
6.	Leigh Boggs	Professional	1.0 Math at Peirce MS	.8 Math at Peirce MS/.2 Algebra 2 at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
7.	Diana Chronister	Professional	1.0 Tech Ed at Peirce MS	.95 Tech Ed at Peirce MS/.05 Tech Ed 7 at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
8.	Kathleen Crombie	Professional	1.0 English at Rustin HS	.6 English at Rustin HS/.4 English 10 at Cyber Academy	8/24/20

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b. Transfer – Voluntary					
	<b>Name</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
9.	Dean Donley	Professional	1.0 Health/Physical Education at Henderson HS	.8 Health/Physical Education at Henderson HS/.2 Personal Fitness Training at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
10.	Michael Dumas	Professional	1.0 Tech Ed at Peirce MS	.95 tech Ed at Peirce MS/.05 Tech Ed-Sustainable Design at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
11.	Sarah Gallagher	Professional	1.0 English at Rustin HS	.8 English at Rustin HS/.2 English 11 at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
12.	Joshua Gellner	Professional	1.0 Science at Rustin HS	.75 Science at Rustin HS/.25 Chemistry at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
13.	Angela Gordon	Professional	1.0 Spanish at Henderson HS	.8 Spanish at Henderson HS/.2 Spanish 3 Honors at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
14.	Brent Jones	Professional	1.0 Social Studies at East HS	.8 Social Studies at East HS/.2 AP Psychology at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
15.	John Lunardi	Professional	1.0 Social Studies at Henderson HS	.8 Social Studies at Henderson HS/.2 Government & Economics at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
16.	Grace Malizia	Professional	.8 Spanish at Henderson HS/.2 Spanish Cyber Academy	.6 Spanish at Henderson HS/.4 Spanish 1 at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
17.	Jeffrey Mashbitz	Professional	.8 Math Specialist at Peirce MS/.2 Cyber Academy	.6 Math Specialist at Peirce MS/.4 Cyber Academy (Algebra 1)	8/24/20

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b. Transfer – Voluntary					
	<b>Name</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
18.	Whitney McClintock	Professional	1.0 Health/Physical Education at Henderson HS	.8 Health/Physical Education at Henderson HS/.2 Health 10 at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
19.	Linda McElvenny	Professional	1.0 Computer Science at Peirce MS	.9 Computer Science at Peirce MS/.1 Computer Science 7 at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
20.	Kevin Orlando	Professional	1.0 Science at Henderson HS	.75 Science at Henderson HS/.25 Chemistry at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
21.	Regina Reidenberg	Professional	1.0 Social Studies at Rustin HS	.8 Social Studies at Rustin HS/.2 AP European History at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
22.	Christopher Reyna	Professional	1.0 Social Studies at Rustin HS	.8 Social Studies at Rustin HS/.2 European & Latin America Studies at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
23.	Jennifer Ronayne	Professional	1.0 Health/Physical Education at Henderson HS	.8 Health/Physical Education at Henderson HS/.2 Physical Education 10 at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
24.	Alicia Schiele	Professional	1.0 Math at Henderson HS	.8 Math at Henderson HS/.2 Pre-Calculus at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
25.	Stephen Sobieck	Professional	1.0 Social Studies at Henderson HS	.8 Social Studies at Henderson HS/.2 AP Government & Politics at Cyber Academy	8/24/20

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b. Transfer – Voluntary					
	Name	Type	From	To	Effective Date
26.	Charles Wilson	Professional	1.0 Social Studies at Henderson HS	.8 Social Studies at Henderson HS/.2 European & Latin America Studies at Cyber Academy	8/24/20

c. Transfer - Involuntary

	Name	Type	From	To	Effective Date
1.	Robert Becker	Professional	1.0 Science at Stetson MS	.8 Science at Stetson MS/.2 Science 8 at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
2.	Cynthia Claffey	Professional	1.0 English at Stetson MS	.8 English at Stetson MS/.2 English 7 at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
3.	Elizabeth Doyle	Professional	1.0 English at Rustin HS	.8 English at Rustin HS/.2 AP Composition at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
4.	Colette Keenan	Professional	1.0 English at East HS	.8 English at East HS/.1 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade English-British Literature & .1 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade English-Humanities at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
5.	Joseph Paris	Professional	1.0 Tech Ed at Stetson MS	.95 Tech Ed at Stetson MS/.05 Tech Ed 8-Transportation Engineering at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
6.	Keith Patton	Professional	1.0 Computer Literacy at Stetson MS	.95 Computer Literacy at Stetson MS/.05 Computer Science-Innovative Coding at Cyber Academy	8/24/20
7.	Brian Salcido	Professional	1.0 English at East HS	.8 English at East HS/.2 AP Literature at Cyber Academy	8/24/20

	Name	Type	From	To	Effective Date
8.	Kelly Subasic	Professional	1.0 Math at Fugett MS	.6 Math at Fugett MS/.4 Geometry at Cyber Academy	8/24/20

IV.	Personnel Leave
a.	Sabbatical Leave - None
b.	Unpaid Leave - None

V.	Additional Information - None
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*Addendum to Personnel Recommendations*

- I. Removals from Payroll - None
- II. Additions to Payroll
  - a. Professional Staff: Contract - None
  - b. Professional Staff: Long Term Substitute - None
  - c. Administrative Staff: Contract

1.	Dr. Michael Garvin	
	Placement	1.0 Elementary Principal Penn Wood ES, \$118,159.
	Education	Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from West Chester University of Pennsylvania, 2004, Master's of Education with Concentration in Reading, West Chester University of Pennsylvania, 2009, Administrative Certificate Principal K-12, Penn State University, 2013, Doctorate of Education in Policy, Planning, and Administration, 2020.
	Experience	LTS Teacher in the Kennett Consolidated School District 2004-2006, Sixth Grade Social Studies and Language Arts Teacher in the Oxford Area School District 2006-2008, Fourth Grade Elementary Teacher (all subjects) in the Downingtown Area School District 2008-2015, Assistant Principal Grades 3-6 in the Avon Grove Area School District 2015-2020.
	Certification	Administrative II Principal K-12, Instructional II Elementary Education K-6

- d. Support Staff: Contract - None
- e. Support Staff: Substitute - None
- III. Personnel Events - None
- IV. Personnel Leave - None

## V. Additional Information – None

## VI. Supplemental Contracts

Last Name	First Name	Location	Season	Step	% of Contract	Total Contract	Position Title
<b>'20-'21 Additions</b>							
Arrison	Matthew	EHS	Fall	1	100.00%	\$3,696.00	Asst. Boys Soccer Coach
Ayers	Michael	EHS	Fall	3	100.00%	\$3,888.00	Asst. Volleyball Coach
Bauer	Nathan	EHS	Fall	1	50.00%	\$2,618.00	Asst. Football Coach
Berardi	Henry	EHS	Fall	6	100.00%	\$4,872.00	Asst. Boys Soccer Coach
Biddle	Jessica	EHS	Fall	6	100.00%	\$4,872.00	Asst. Girls Soccer Coach
Boccio	Leslie	EHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$5,520.00	Cheerleading Sponsor
Boyd	James	EHS	Fall	5	100.00%	\$6,477.00	Asst. Football Coach
Breslin	John	EHS	Fall	3	100.00%	\$3,888.00	Asst. Girls Tennis Coach
Burkhart	Emily	EHS	Fall	1	25.00%	\$1,155.00	Asst. Marching Band Director
Chafetz	Marc	EHS	Fall	5	100.00%	\$1,143.00	Fall Intramurals
Cini	Alanna	EHS	Fall	1	100.00%	\$3,696.00	Asst. Field Hockey Coach
Dodds	Charlie	EHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$5,888.00	Head Coach Boys Soccer
Fad	Alex	EHS	Fall	3	50.00%	\$2,754.00	Asst. Football Coach
Farrell	Daniel	EHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$6,256.00	Asst. Football Coach
Flynn	Erin	EHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$5,520.00	Head Volleyball Coach
Hazel	Alyssa	EHS	Fall	1	75.00%	\$3,003.00	Color Guard
Horowitz	Harrison	EHS	Fall	1	75.00%	\$3,465.00	Asst. Marching Band Director
Johnston	John	EHS	Fall	1	25.00%	\$1,155.00	Asst. Marching Band Director
Kibler	Jennifer	EHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$4,048.00	Asst. Cheerleading Coach
Knight	Ryan	EHS	Fall	3	100.00%	\$3,888.00	Asst. Girls Soccer Coach
Lanier	Kareem	EHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$5,520.00	Head Boys Cross Country Coach
Liebenthal	Eric	EHS	Fall	4	75.00%	\$4,140.00	Asst. Marching Band Director
Lindsay	Charles	EHS	Fall	6	100.00%	\$1,218.00	Fall Intramurals
Lorback	Todd	EHS	Fall	2	100.00%	\$3,780.00	Head Golf Coach
Madyun	Abdul	EHS	Fall	3	50.00%	\$2,754.00	Asst. Football Coach
Miller	Michael	EHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$4,416.00	Asst. Boys Soccer Coach
Mueller	Shannon	EHS	Fall	5	100.00%	\$6,096.00	Head Girls Soccer Coach
Perlmutter	Ben	EHS	Fall	6	100.00%	\$6,902.00	Asst. Football Coach
Phillips	Gary	EHS	Fall	3	100.00%	\$5,508.00	Asst. Football Coach
Prinzo	Anthony	EHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$5,520.00	Head Girls Cross Country Coach
Rice	Jessica	EHS	Fall	2	100.00%	\$4,725.00	Head Field Hockey Coach
Risch	Kyle	EHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$8,464.00	Marching Band Director
Rufo	Erica	EHS	Fall	3	100.00%	\$3,888.00	Asst. Field Hockey Coach
Santonastaso	Anthony	EHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$5,520.00	Head Girls Tennis Coach
Shoemaker	Josiah	EHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$6,256.00	Asst. Football Coach
Stephen	Scott	EHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$8,464.00	Head Football Coach
Swigggett	Julian	EHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$3,680.00	Fall Drama
Toole	Robert	EHS	Fall	1	25.00%	\$1,001.00	Color Guard
Wiggins	James	EHS	Fall	4	50.00%	\$3,128.00	Asst. Football Coach
Young	Jessica	EHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$4,048.00	Asst. Cheerleading Coach
Anderson	William	HHS	Fall	4	50.00%	\$1,840.00	Fall Drama
Blake	Christopher	HHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$6,256.00	Asst. Football Coach

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Last Name	First Name	Location	Season	Step	% of Contract	Total Contract	Position Title
Bott	Jeffrey	HHS	Fall	7	100.00%	\$7,327.00	Asst. Football Coach
Bryan	Lisa	HHS	Fall	5	100.00%	\$4,191.00	Asst. Cheerleading Coach
Carey	Regina	HHS	Fall	3	100.00%	\$3,888.00	Asst. Girls Tennis Coach
Cella	Alyssa	HHS	Fall	3	50.00%	\$1,782.00	Asst. Cheerleading Coach
Clay	Charles	HHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$1,104.00	Fall Intramurals
Cummings	Joel	HHS	Fall	3	100.00%	\$3,888.00	Head Golf Coach
Donohue	Alexandra	HHS	Fall	2	100.00%	\$3,780.00	Asst. Girls Soccer Coach
Ericson	Kathleen	HHS	Fall	3	50.00%	\$1,782.00	Asst. Cheerleading Coach
Evans	Courtney	HHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$5,520.00	Head Field Hockey Coach
Gilligan	Sharon	HHS	Fall	2	100.00%	\$3,780.00	Asst. Volleyball Coach
Greene	Christopher	HHS	Fall	2	100.00%	\$5,355.00	Asst. Football Coach
Johnson	Bryan	HHS	Fall	4	40.00%	\$2,208.00	Head Girls Cross Country Coach
Kelly	Kevin	HHS	Fall	7	20.00%	\$1,293.00	Head Girls Cross Country Coach
Kelly	Kevin	HHS	Fall	7	100.00%	\$6,465.00	Head Boys Cross Country Coach
Knott	Kaitlyn	HHS	Fall	2	100.00%	\$945.00	Fall Intramurals
Kreamer	Jonathan	HHS	Fall	3	100.00%	\$4,212.00	Color Guard
LaGioia	Lorenz	HHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$4,416.00	Asst. Girls Soccer Coach
Lammey	Dan	HHS	Fall	7	50.00%	\$2,155.00	Fall Drama
Logan	Andrew	HHS	Fall	7	100.00%	\$7,327.00	Asst. Football Coach
Lunardi	John	HHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$8,464.00	Head Football Coach
Lunardi	Laura	HHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$4,416.00	Asst. Field Hockey Coach
Marabella	Brandon	HHS	Fall	6	100.00%	\$4,872.00	Asst. Boys Soccer Coach
MacPherson	Courtney	HHS	Fall	1	100.00%	\$3,696.00	Asst. Field Hockey Coach
McGeehan	Beverly	HHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$4,416.00	Asst. Girls Tennis Coach
McNichol	Michael	HHS	Fall	7	100.00%	\$7,327.00	Asst. Football Coach
Neff	Greta	HHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$5,520.00	Head Volleyball Coach
Popolizio	Dominic	HHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$5,888.00	Head Boys Soccer Coach
Popolizio	Gary	HHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$4,416.00	Asst. Boys Soccer Coach
Ramos	Lisa	HHS	Fall	6	100.00%	\$6,090.00	Cheerleading Sponsor
Ronayne	Jennifer	HHS	Fall	4	40.00%	\$2,208.00	Head Girls Cross Country Coach
Scangarella	Craig	HHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$5,888.00	Head Girls Soccer Coach
Shollenberger	Kyle	HHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$5,520.00	Asst. Marching Band Director
Smink	James	HHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$6,256.00	Asst. Football Coach
Sok	Peter	HHS	Fall	7	100.00%	\$6,465.00	Head Girls Tennis Coach
Thompson	Michael	HHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$6,256.00	Asst. Football Coach
Vangieri	Amanda	HHS	Fall	1	100.00%	\$3,696.00	Asst. Field Hockey Coach
Wilson	Charles	HHS	Fall	3	100.00%	\$3,888.00	Asst. Boys Soccer Coach
Woywod	Kendra	HHS	Fall	1	100.00%	\$7,084.00	Marching Band Director
Yost	Loralynne	HHS	Fall	5	100.00%	\$4,572.00	Asst. Girls Soccer Coach
Adams	Trevor	RHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$4,416.00	Asst. Boys Soccer Coach
Ainsworth	Ashley	RHS	Fall	1	100.00%	\$4,928.00	Head Girls Soccer Coach
Alvanitakis	John	RHS	Fall	6	100.00%	\$6,902.00	Asst. Football Coach
Bitzberger	Harry	RHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$5,520.00	Head Volleyball Coach
Brown	Shaz	RHS	Fall	6	100.00%	\$6,902.00	Asst. Football Coach
Byerly	Scott	RHS	Fall	6	100.00%	\$4,060.00	Fall Drama
Campbell	Maura	RHS	Fall	2	100.00%	\$3,780.00	Asst. Field Hockey Coach



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Last Name	First Name	Location	Season	Step	% of Contract	Total Contract	Position Title
Castineiras	Emma	RHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$4,784.00	Color Guard
Castle	Ryan	RHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$5,888.00	Head Boys Soccer Coach
deLone	Kimberly	RHS	Fall	1	100.00%	\$3,696.00	Asst. Girls Tennis Coach
DiFilippo	Kelly	RHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$4,048.00	Asst. Cheerleading Coach
D'Urbano	Robert	RHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$6,256.00	Asst. Football Coach
Elder	Megan	RHS	Fall	3	100.00%	\$4,860.00	Marching Band Assistant
Evans	Bryce	RHS	Fall	1	66.50%	\$3,072.30	Asst. Marching Band Director
Forjohn	Vienna	RHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$5,520.00	Head Field Hockey Coach
Harkins	Brad	RHS	Fall	6	100.00%	\$1,218.00	Fall Intramurals
Hasson	Carrie	RHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$5,520.00	Cheerleading Sponsor
Hoertz	Marissa	RHS	Fall	3	50.00%	\$1,944.00	Asst. Volleyball Coach
Hoffman	Mitchell	RHS	Fall	5	100.00%	\$6,477.00	Asst. Football Coach
Jones	Matthew	RHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$4,416.00	Asst. Girls Soccer Coach
Kelly	Patrick	RHS	Fall	1	100.00%	\$3,696.00	Asst. Boys Soccer Coach
Lindenberger	Mackenzie	RHS	Fall	1	100.00%	\$3,388.00	Asst. Cheerleading Coach
McElroy	William	RHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$5,520.00	Head Girls Tennis Coach
Meyler	Gavin	RHS	Fall	2	100.00%	\$3,780.00	Asst. Boys Soccer Coach
Mohring	Michael	RHS	Fall	6	100.00%	\$6,902.00	Asst. Football Coach
Paris	Joseph	RHS	Fall	7	100.00%	\$5,172.00	Head Golf Coach
Philbin	Kevin	RHS	Fall	3	100.00%	\$972.00	Fall Intramurals
Rank	Coryn	RHS	Fall	2	100.00%	\$3,780.00	Asst. Field Hockey Coach
Santos	Brianna	RHS	Fall	4	67.00%	\$3,698.40	Asst. Marching Band Director
Shoremount	Michael	RHS	Fall	7	100.00%	\$9,913.00	Marching Band Director
St. Clair	Michael	RHS	Fall	7	100.00%	\$9,913.00	Head Football Coach
Taglang	Matthew	RHS	Fall	7	100.00%	\$6,465.00	Head Boys Cross Country Coach
Timko	John	RHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$6,256.00	Asst. Football Coach
Vecchioli	Christina	RHS	Fall	4	50.00%	\$2,208.00	Asst. Volleyball Coach
Walsh	Steve	RHS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$6,256.00	Asst. Football Coach
Walter	Scott	RHS	Fall	1	66.50%	\$3,072.30	Asst. Marching Band Director
White	Andrew	RHS	Fall	5	100.00%	\$5,715.00	Head Girls Cross Country Coach
Winfield	Mark	RHS	Fall	7	100.00%	\$5,172.00	Asst. Girls Soccer Coach
Zarr	Adam	RHS	Fall	2	100.00%	\$3,780.00	Asst. Girls Soccer Coach
DeLeo	Kimberly	FMS	Fall	3	100.00%	\$2,916.00	Head Girls Soccer Coach
Donnell	Tom	FMS	Fall	3	100.00%	\$2,268.00	Asst. Girls Soccer Coach
Dunn	Michael	FMS	Fall	5	100.00%	\$4,191.00	Head Football Coach
Giordano	Benjamin	FMS	Fall	1	100.00%	\$2,772.00	Head Boys Soccer Coach
Horan	Richard	FMS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$3,312.00	Asst. Football Coach
Hughes	Miriam	FMS	Fall	4	100.00%	\$2,944.00	Head Volleyball Coach
Monaghan	John	FMS	Fall	7	100.00%	\$3,017.00	Asst. Boys Soccer Coach
Murawski	Sandra	FMS	Fall	5	50.00%	\$571.50	6th Grade Soccer Coach
Nefos	Frank	FMS	Fall	7	50.00%	\$646.50	6th Grade Soccer Coach
Orenshaw	Michael	FMS	Fall	6	100.00%	\$3,248.00	Head Cross Country Coach
Peters	Rebecca	FMS	Fall	2	100.00%	\$2,205.00	Asst. Volleyball Coach
Subasic	Kelly	FMS	Fall	2	100.00%	\$2,835.00	Head Field Hockey Coach
Beatty	Christopher	PMS	Fall	5	100.00%	\$3,429.00	Asst. Football Coach
Berkes	Andrew	PMS	Fall	3	100.00%	\$972.00	6th Grade Soccer Coach



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Last Name	First Name	Location	Season	Step	% of Contract	Total Contract	Position Title
Buckel	Christina	EXE	Annual	7	100.00%	\$3,879.00	Science Advocate
Klingler	James	EXE	Annual	4	100.00%	\$3,312.00	After School Intramurals
Klingler	James	EXE	Annual	6	100.00%	\$812.00	School Chorus & Musical
Kulesza	Ryan	EXE	Annual	3	100.00%	\$2,916.00	Math Advocate
McGaughey	Carolyn	EXE	Annual	6	100.00%	\$2,842.00	CCRC Facilitator
Pezone	Jessica	EXE	Annual	5	100.00%	\$1,143.00	Safety Patrol Coordinator
Taylor	Tammy	EXE	Annual	6	100.00%	\$3,654.00	Computer Coordinator
Turner	Kerri	EXE	Annual	6	100.00%	\$5,684.00	Head Teacher
Bloome	Matthew	FHE	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Coulter	Kathleen	FHE	Annual	5	50.00%	\$1,333.50	CCRC Facilitator
Dean	Sharon	FHE	Annual	4	50.00%	\$552.00	Safety Patrol Coordinator
Dzielawa	Shawn	FHE	Annual	3	50.00%	\$1,458.00	Computer Coordinator
Farrelly	Susan	FHE	Annual	1	50.00%	\$462.00	Safety Patrol Coordinator
Galajda	Amanda	FHE	Annual	5	50.00%	\$1,714.50	Math Advocate
Gray	Susan	FHE	Annual	5	100.00%	\$5,334.00	Head Teacher
Gruber	Jenna	FHE	Annual	5	100.00%	\$762.00	School Chorus & Musical
Jordan	Erin	FHE	Annual	1	50.00%	\$1,386.00	Computer Coordinator
Letrinko	Christina	FHE	Annual	3	50.00%	\$1,458.00	Math Advocate
Tull	Carlton	FHE	Annual	2	100.00%	\$2,835.00	After School Intramurals
Watson	Lauren	FHE	Annual	4	100.00%	\$3,312.00	Science Advocate
Winfield	Carrie	FHE	Annual	5	50.00%	\$1,333.50	CCRC Facilitator
Krasley	Kayla	GAE	Annual	2	100.00%	\$945.00	Safety Patrol Coordinator
Krasley	Kayla	GAE	Annual	4	100.00%	\$736.00	School Chorus & Musical
Ousey	Christopher	GAE	Annual	5	100.00%	\$5,334.00	Head Teacher
Ousey	Christopher	GAE	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Rogers	Matthew	GAE	Annual	6	100.00%	\$3,654.00	Computer Coordinator
Root	Kara	GAE	Annual	5	100.00%	\$2,667.00	CCRC Facilitator
Rude	Cheryl	GAE	Annual	4	100.00%	\$3,312.00	Math Advocate
Virtue-Baer	Jennifer	GAE	Annual	6	100.00%	\$3,654.00	Science Advocate
Yarosewick	Michael	GAE	Annual	7	100.00%	\$3,879.00	After School Intramurals
Cini	Alanna	HDE	Annual	3	50.00%	\$486.00	Safety Patrol Coordinator
DeWitt	Kathy	HDE	Annual	7	100.00%	\$3,017.00	CCRC Facilitator
Giovan	Harry	HDE	Annual	6	100.00%	\$812.00	School Chorus & Musical
Golebiewski	Angela	HDE	Annual	4	50.00%	\$552.00	Safety Patrol Coordinator
Korb	Ann Marie	HDE	Annual	2	100.00%	\$2,835.00	Computer Coordinator
Quinn	Marilyn	HDE	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Rapoport	Renee	HDE	Annual	5	100.00%	\$5,334.00	Head Teacher
Thomas	Amy	HDE	Annual	5	100.00%	\$3,429.00	Math Advocate
Viggiano	Matthew	HDE	Annual	2	100.00%	\$2,835.00	Science Advocate
Viggiano	Matthew	HDE	Annual	5	100.00%	\$3,429.00	After School Intramurals
Benfield	Jason	MCH	Annual	1	100.00%	\$2,772.00	Math Advocate
Benfield	Jason	MCH	Annual	5	50.00%	\$1,333.50	CCRC Facilitator
Cheney	Kristen	MCH	Annual	1	100.00%	\$2,772.00	Science Advocate
Duffy	Ann	MCH	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Litzenberg	Mary	MCH	Annual	6	100.00%	\$1,218.00	Safety Patrol Coordinator
Litzenberg	Mary	MCH	Annual	6	100.00%	\$812.00	School Chorus & Musical
McGeehin	Rosemary	MCH	Annual	5	100.00%	\$5,334.00	Head Teacher
McGeehin	Rosemary	MCH	Annual	4	50.00%	\$1,288.00	CCRC Facilitator
Monte	Rebecca	MCH	Annual	3	100.00%	\$2,916.00	After School Intramurals
Sochacki	Barbara	MCH	Annual	4	100.00%	\$3,312.00	Computer Coordinator
Cermignano	Brian	PWE	Annual	5	100.00%	\$1,143.00	Safety Patrol Coordinator
Davis	Caroline	PWE	Annual	4	100.00%	\$3,312.00	Science Advocate
Greene	Jennifer	PWE	Annual	4	50.00%	\$2,576.00	Head Teacher
Lamphere	Christine	PWE	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Mangold	Linda	PWE	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty

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Last Name	First Name	Location	Season	Step	% of Contract	Total Contract	Position Title
Mangold	Linda	PWE	Annual	6	100.00%	\$812.00	School Chorus & Musical
Mangold	Linda	PWE	Annual	5	50.00%	\$1,714.50	Computer Coordinator
Oliver	Michael	PWE	Annual	3	50.00%	\$1,458.00	After School Intramurals
Ray	Kristin	PWE	Annual	5	50.00%	\$2,667.00	Head Teacher
Zacharkiw	Susan	PWE	Annual	5	100.00%	\$3,429.00	Math Advocate
Zang	Samantha	PWE	Annual	2	50.00%	\$1,417.50	Computer Coordinator
Zang	Samantha	PWE	Annual	2	50.00%	\$1,417.50	After School Intramurals
Ambrosino	Antone	SWE	Annual	5	100.00%	\$3,429.00	Science Advocate
Buckley	Alyssa	SWE	Annual	4	100.00%	\$2,576.00	CCRC Facilitator
Caroulis	Christina	SWE	Annual	4	100.00%	\$3,312.00	Computer Coordinator
Doran	Amy	SWE	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Douglas	Gina	SWE	Annual	2	100.00%	\$2,835.00	After School Intramurals
Faggiola	Nicole	SWE	Annual	3	50.00%	\$486.00	Safety Patrol Coordinator
Faggiola	Nicole	SWE	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Franz	Jennifer	SWE	Annual	1	50.00%	\$462.00	Safety Patrol Coordinator
Morrison	James	SWE	Annual	6	100.00%	\$812.00	School Chorus & Musical
Sommer	Christine	SWE	Annual	4	50.00%	\$2,576.00	Head Teacher
Sommer	Christine	SWE	Annual	5	100.00%	\$3,429.00	Math Advocate
Stoddard	Lisa	SWE	Annual	4	50.00%	\$2,576.00	Head Teacher
Blaker	Margaret	WTE	Annual	4	100.00%	\$5,152.00	Head Teacher
Blaker	Margaret	WTE	Annual	7	50.00%	\$1,508.50	CCRC Facilitator
Davis	James	WTE	Annual	7	100.00%	\$3,879.00	After School Intramurals
Demi	Kristyn	WTE	Annual	2	50.00%	\$1,417.50	Computer Coordinator
Dempsey	Christine	WTE	Annual	1	100.00%	\$924.00	Safety Patrol Coordinator
Domizio	Katherine	WTE	Annual	4	100.00%	\$736.00	School Chorus & Musical
Labik	Joseph	WTE	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Labik	Joseph	WTE	Annual	1	50.00%	\$1,386.00	Computer Coordinator
Nyholm	Sara	WTE	Annual	1	100.00%	\$2,772.00	Science Advocate
O'Donnell	Kathryn	WTE	Annual	4	50.00%	\$1,288.00	CCRC Facilitator
Ottaviani	Nathan	WTE	Annual	4	100.00%	\$3,312.00	Math Advocate
Cooper	Donna	EBE/SWE	Annual	6	100.00%	\$1,624.00	School Band
Jurik	Leah	EBE/SWE	Annual	1	100.00%	\$1,232.00	School Orchestra
Belczyk	Mark	EGE/HDE	Annual	7	100.00%	\$1,724.00	School Band
Van Lenten	Lynn	EGE/HDE	Annual	7	100.00%	\$1,724.00	School Orchestra
Binkley	William	EXE/GAE	Annual	7	100.00%	\$1,724.00	School Orchestra
Fuette	Kenneth	EXE/GAE	Annual	7	100.00%	\$1,724.00	School Band
Belczyk	Mary	FHE/MCH	Annual	6	100.00%	\$1,624.00	School Orchestra
Letherland	Lauren	FHE/MCH	Annual	2	100.00%	\$1,260.00	School Band
Elder	Megan	PWE/WTE	Annual	3	100.00%	\$1,296.00	School Band
Sullivan	Kinsey	PWE/WTE	Annual	3	100.00%	\$1,296.00	School Orchestra
Abbott	Shayna	FMS	Annual	3	100.00%	\$1,296.00	8th Grade Team Leader
Abbott	Shayna	FMS	Annual	4	50.00%	\$1,472.00	Student Activities Advisor
Bowen	Malina	FMS	Annual	6	50.00%	\$1,624.00	Student Activities Advisor
Cassidy	Michael	FMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Conner	Jeffrey	FMS	Annual	4	100.00%	\$2,576.00	Yearbook Sponsor
Conner	Jeffrey	FMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Dannehower	Robin	FMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$2,996.00	Subject Chair: ELA
Estrada	Jennifer	FMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$2,696.70	Subject Chair: Special Education
Giuliano	Robbie	FMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Hafer	Natalie	FMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Hill	Matthew	FMS	Annual	5	100.00%	\$2,667.00	Drama Sponsor

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Last Name	First Name	Location	Season	Step	% of Contract	Total Contract	Position Title
Knaster	Jenna	FMS	Annual	1	100.00%	\$924.00	Jazz Band
Krissinger	Stuart	FMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Litwa	Jaclyn	FMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
McCauley	William	FMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$2,550.78	Subject Chair: Social Studies
Morales	Carol	FMS	Annual	6	100.00%	\$1,624.00	7th Grade Team Leader
Murawski	Sandra	FMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Nefos	Frank	FMS	Annual	6	100.00%	\$1,624.00	6th Grade Team Leader
Nefos	Frank	FMS	Annual	7	100.00%	\$431.00	Newspaper Sponsor
Neufer	Kathleen	FMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
O'Neill	Karen	FMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$2,845.00	Detention Room Supervisor
O'Neill	Karen	FMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$2,548.00	Subject Chair: Science
Page	Christine	FMS	Annual	6	100.00%	\$1,624.00	7th Grade Team Leader
Peters	Rebecca	FMS	Annual	5	100.00%	\$1,524.00	6th Grade Team Leader
Prilutski	Kathleen	FMS	Annual	4	100.00%	\$2,576.00	Drama Assistant
Saundurs	Todd	FMS	Annual	6	100.00%	\$2,436.00	Math Counts
Scolis	Elizabeth	FMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Subasic	Kelly	FMS	Annual	6	100.00%	\$1,624.00	8th Grade Team Leader
Subasic	Kelly	FMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$110/week	Saturday School
Subasic	Kelly	FMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$2,630.40	Subject Chair: Math
Swift	Thomas	FMS	Annual	6	100.00%	\$14,616.00	Athletic Manager
Trombley	Joanne	FMS	Annual	7	100.00%	\$3,879.00	Science Olympiad
Westley	Cynthia	FMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Ziegler	Matthew	FMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Atkins	John	PMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Atkins	John	PMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$2,612.00	Subject Chair: Science
Boyd	Denise	PMS	Annual	4	100.00%	\$2,576.00	Drama Sponsor
Chronister	Diana	PMS	Annual	4	50.00%	\$1,288.00	Yearbook Sponsor
Clouser	Nicole	PMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$2,612.00	Subject Chair: Social Studies
Cosgrove	Heather	PMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Crilley	Danielle	PMS	Annual	6	100.00%	\$1,624.00	6th Grade Team Leader
Curay-Cramer	Michele	PMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$3,019.36	Subject Chair: ELA
de Zeeuw	Kristen	PMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$2,804.00	Subject Chair: Math
Diffendall	Cindy	PMS	Annual	7	100.00%	\$1,724.00	7th Grade Team Leader
Diffendall	Cindy	PMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$2,845.00	Detention Room Supervisor
Dummeldinger	Matthew	PMS	Annual	4	100.00%	\$2,576.00	Drama Assistant
Dummeldinger	Matthew	PMS	Annual	4	100.00%	\$2,208.00	Math Counts
Ellis	Dan	PMS	Annual	3	100.00%	\$1,296.00	6th Grade Team Leader
Fosco	Peter	PMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$110/week	Saturday School
Haggerty	Amberlee	PMS	Annual	5	100.00%	\$381.00	Newspaper Issue
Hoffman	Mitchell	PMS	Annual	2	100.00%	\$1,260.00	7th Grade Team Leader
Hoopes-Myers	Megan	PMS	Annual	4	100.00%	\$1,472.00	8th Grade Team Leader
Hoopes-Myers	Megan	PMS	Annual	6	50.00%	\$1,624.00	Student Activities Advisor
Jenkins	Stephen	PMS	Annual	7	100.00%	\$1,724.00	8th Grade Team Leader
Jenkins	Stephen	PMS	Annual	4	50.00%	\$1,288.00	Yearbook Sponsor
Kimberling	Douglas	PMS	Annual	7	100.00%	\$3,879.00	Science Olympiad
Liebsch	Kevin	PMS	Annual	5	100.00%	\$1,524.00	6th Grade Team Leader
Madiro	Carla	PMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Rathman	Ashley	PMS	Annual	2	100.00%	\$1,260.00	7th Grade Team Leader
Shollenberger	Kyle	PMS	Annual	6	100.00%	\$1,218.00	Jazz Band
Virgilio	Sam	PMS	Annual	7	100.00%	\$15,516.00	Athletic Manager
Weaver	Tara	PMS	Annual	5	50.00%	\$1,524.00	Student Activities Advisor
Whittingham	Kelly	PMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$2,612.00	Subject Chair: Special Education
Becker	Robert	SMS	Annual	6	100.00%	\$3,654.00	Science Olympiad

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Braid	Susan	SMS	Annual	5	100.00%	\$1,524.00	7th Grade Team Leader
Busz	Gerald	SMS	Annual	2	100.00%	\$1,260.00	6th Grade Team Leader
Busz	Gerald	SMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Cavuto	Jeanne	SMS	Annual	5	100.00%	\$2,286.00	Math Counts
Chavarria	Courtney	SMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Claffey	Cynthia	SMS	Annual	5	100.00%	\$381.00	Newspaper Issue
Corcoran	William	SMS	Annual	7	100.00%	\$15,516.00	Athletic Manager
Costin	Tina	SMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
DAntonio	Jennifer	SMS	Annual	2	100.00%	\$2,205.00	Drama Assistant
Decker	Rosemary	SMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$2,524.32	Subject Chair: Social Studies
Gomez	Tracy	SMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Holladay	Colleen	SMS	Annual	1	100.00%	\$1,232.00	8th Grade Team Leader
Kelley	Donald	SMS	Annual	7	100.00%	\$1,293.00	Jazz Band
Loescher-Velazquez	David	SMS	Annual	5	100.00%	\$1,524.00	6th Grade Team Leader
Loescher-Velazquez	David	SMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Logan	Andrew	SMS	Annual	5	100.00%	\$1,524.00	7th Grade Team Leader
Mandarino	Therese	SMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$2,499.00	Subject Chair: Math
Patton	Keith	SMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Peck	James	SMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$2,595.04	Subject Chair: Science
Smith	Jennifer	SMS	Annual	4	100.00%	\$2,576.00	Drama Sponsor
Smith	Patricia	SMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$2,845.00	Detention Room Supervisor
Smith	Patricia	SMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$110/week	Saturday School
Vitello	Diana	SMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$2,415.00	Subject Chair: Special Education
White	Andrew	SMS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$2,948.64	Subject Chair: ELA
Wolensky	Jason	SMS	Annual	4	100.00%	\$1,472.00	8th Grade Team Leader
Bayley	Jennifer	EHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$3,868.00	Dept. Chair: Math
Bennett	Laura	EHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$3,829.30	Dept. Chair: Special Education
Carr	Kimberly	EHS	Annual	5	50.00%	\$1,714.50	Student Council Advisor
Carr	Kimberly	EHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$3,807.20	Dept. Chair: English
Costin	Doug	EHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Densmore	Thomas	EHS	Annual	5	50.00%	\$1,714.50	Science Competition
DiNatale	Danielle	EHS	Annual	1	50.00%	\$3,234.00	Yearbook Sponsor
Farrell	Daniel	EHS	Annual	4	100.00%	\$2,576.00	Debate Sponsor
Farrell	Daniel	EHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Flynn	Erin	EHS	Annual	4	50.00%	\$2,024.00	Senior Class Advisor
Gallo	John	EHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Genders	Elizabeth	EHS	Annual	2	50.00%	\$945.00	Sophomore Class Advisor
Henderson	Ruth	EHS	Annual	5	50.00%	\$1,714.50	Science Competition
Jones	Brent	EHS	Annual	2	100.00%	\$2,205.00	Asst. Academic Team Advisor
Jones	Brent	EHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
King	Robert	EHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$3,895.60	Dept. Chair: Science
Lauter	Heather	EHS	Annual	N/A	33.00%	\$938.85	Detention Room Supervisor
Lauter	Heather	EHS	Annual	4	50.00%	\$2,024.00	Senior Class Advisor
Lill	Carol	EHS	Annual	5	100.00%	\$3,429.00	DECA Advisor
Lindros	Brian	EHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$3,356.00	Dept. Chair: Guidance
Lindsay	Charles	EHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Lorback	Todd	EHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Moreno-Davis	Erica	EHS	Annual	7	50.00%	\$1,939.50	Student Council Advisor
Moreno-Davis	Erica	EHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$3,895.60	Dept. Chair: World Language

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Niedziejko	Joseph	EHS	Annual	6	100.00%	\$4,872.00	Newspaper Sponsor
Niedziejko	Joseph	EHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Owens	Dean	EHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Owens	Dean	EHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$3,784.00	Dept. Chair: Social Studies
Parry	Ann	EHS	Annual	3	50.00%	\$1,296.00	Junior Class Advisor
Pribish	Jessica	EHS	Annual	N/A	33.00%	\$938.85	Detention Room Supervisor
Rightmyer	Jennifer	EHS	Annual	N/A	33.00%	\$938.85	Detention Room Supervisor
Salcido	Brian	EHS	Annual	4	50.00%	\$3,864.00	Yearbook Sponsor
Scelsa	Meredith	EHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$3,524.32	Dept. Chair: Health & PE
Schlamb	Nathan	EHS	Annual	5	100.00%	\$4,191.00	Academic Team Advisor
Setlock	Yvonne	EHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$1,500.00	AP Coordinator
Swiggett	Julian	EHS	Annual	4	100.00%	\$3,680.00	Spring Drama
Tepper	Carrie	EHS	Annual	2	50.00%	\$945.00	Sophomore Class Advisor
Veith	Gina	EHS	Annual	2	100.00%	\$4,095.00	Musical Co-Director: Drama
Werner	Kendra	EHS	Annual	7	100.00%	\$5,603.00	Musical Co-Director: Music
Zimmerman	Courtney	EHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$110/week	Saturday School
Zimmerman	Courtney	EHS	Annual	3	50.00%	\$1,296.00	Junior Class Advisor
Abbott	Heidi	HHS	Annual	5	100.00%	\$3,429.00	Science Competition
Anderson	William	HHS	Annual	6	50.00%	\$2,436.00	Newspaper Sponsor
Anderson	William	HHS	Annual	4	50.00%	\$1,840.00	Spring Drama
Boosz	Janet	HHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$3,740.00	Dept. Chair: World Language
Bott	Jeffrey	HHS	Annual	N/A	50.00%	\$1,748.90	Dept. Chair: Health & PE
Boyd	Denise	HHS	Annual	5	50.00%	\$2,476.50	Musical Co-Director: Music
Boyer	Kathleen	HHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$110/week	Saturday School
Boyer	Kathleen	HHS	Annual	4	50.00%	\$2,024.00	Senior Class Advisor
Clay	Charles	HHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$3,829.30	Dept. Chair: English
Corr	Maureen	HHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$3,763.00	Dept. Chair: Special Education
Corr	Maureen	HHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$110/week	Saturday School
Donley	Dean	HHS	Annual	N/A	50.00%	\$1,742.00	Dept. Chair: Health & PE
Dorsey	Shanelle	HHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$110/week	Saturday School
Dorsey	Shanelle	HHS	Annual	1	50.00%	\$3,234.00	Yearbook Sponsor
Gamble	Morgan	HHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$3,420.00	Dept. Chair: Guidance
Hartman	Nicole	HHS	Annual	4	50.00%	\$2,392.00	Musical Co-Director: Music
Heintz	Jonathan	HHS	Annual	4	100.00%	\$2,576.00	National Honor Society
Hohwald	Joan	HHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$4,001.56	Dept. Chair: Math
Jakubowski	Candy	HHS	Annual	4	50.00%	\$1,104.00	Freshman Class Advisor
Johnson	Brian	HHS	Annual	1	100.00%	\$2,156.00	Debate Sponsor
Kelly	Kevin	HHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Kernaghan	Stephen	HHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$3,932.00	Dept. Chair: Social Studies
Kleckner	Ashley	HHS	Annual	1	50.00%	\$924.00	Freshman Class Advisor
Knott	Kaitlyn	HHS	Annual	3	50.00%	\$1,296.00	Junior Class Advisor
Kozak	Bruce	HHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$2,845.00	Detention Room Supervisor
Kozak	Bruce	HHS	Annual	6	100.00%	\$2,842.00	Asst. Academic Team Advisor
Kreamer	Jonathan	HHS	Annual	4	100.00%	\$4,784.00	Musical Co-Director: Drama
Lammey	Dan	HHS	Annual	7	50.00%	\$2,155.00	Spring Drama
Lunardi	John	HHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty

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Marabella	Brandon	HHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
McClintock	Whitney	HHS	Annual	4	50.00%	\$2,024.00	Senior Class Advisor
McClintock	Whitney	HHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
McCormick	Lauren	HHS	Annual	3	50.00%	\$1,296.00	Junior Class Advisor
Murphy	Connor	HHS	Annual	2	50.00%	\$945.00	Sophomore Class Advisor
O'Connor	Stuart	HHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Orlando	Kevin	HHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$4,090.08	Dept. Chair: Science
Pierce	Edward	HHS	Annual	6	50.00%	\$1,624.00	Literary Magazine
Rowe Wlodarczyk	Kelly	HHS	Annual	4	100.00%	\$3,312.00	Student Council Advisor
Snider	Nicole	HHS	Annual	5	50.00%	\$4,000.50	Yearbook Sponsor
Sobieck	Stephen	HHS	Annual	6	100.00%	\$4,466.00	Academic Team Advisor
Sok	Peter	HHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Teague	Kathleen	HHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$1,500.00	AP Coordinator
Umile	Marc	HHS	Annual	6	50.00%	\$1,624.00	Literary Magazine
Umile	Marc	HHS	Annual	3	50.00%	\$1,944.00	Newspaper Sponsor
Webber	Melissa	HHS	Annual	7	100.00%	\$3,879.00	DECA Advisor
Wilson	Charles	HHS	Annual	2	50.00%	\$945.00	Sophomore Class Advisor
Ainsworth	Ashley	RHS	Annual	2	50.00%	\$945.00	Sophomore Class Advisor
Alvanitakis	John	RHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Arndt	Michael	RHS	Annual	1	50.00%	\$1,078.00	Debate Sponsor
Arndt	Michael	RHS	Annual	4	50.00%	\$1,656.00	Student Council Advisor
Arscott	Joseph	RHS	Annual	3	50.00%	\$1,782.00	Senior Class Advisor
Arscott	Joseph	RHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Bannister	Jennifer	RHS	Annual	4	50.00%	\$3,864.00	Yearbook Sponsor
Barry	Grace	RHS	Annual	2	50.00%	\$945.00	Sophomore Class Advisor
Bickel	Katherine	RHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$3,612.00	Dept. Chair: Special Education
Blankenhagen	John	RHS	Annual	3	100.00%	\$2,268.00	Academic Team Assistant
Bodak-Gyovai	Jennifer	RHS	Annual	6	50.00%	\$4,263.00	Yearbook Sponsor
Brewer	Sharon	RHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$110/week	Saturday School
Byerly	Scott	RHS	Annual	7	90.00%	\$5,042.70	Musical Co-Director: Drama
Byerly	Scott	RHS	Annual	6	100.00%	\$4,060.00	Spring Drama
Byerly	Scott	RHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Byrd	James	RHS	Annual	5	25.00%	\$857.25	Science Competition
Chessock	Amy	RHS	Annual	5	100.00%	\$4,191.00	Academic Team Advisor
Clark	David	RHS	Annual	5	100.00%	\$2,667.00	National Honor Society
Crowe	Bobbie	RHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$3,382.88	Dept. Chair: Guidance
Diehl	Kevin	RHS	Annual	3	100.00%	\$3,888.00	Newspaper Sponsor
D'Urbano	Robert	RHS	Annual	N/A	50.00%	\$1,806.00	Dept. Chair: Health & PE
Ellis	Ann	RHS	Annual	6	50.00%	\$2,639.00	Musical Co-Director: Music
Fitzgerald	Nora	RHS	Annual	4	10.00%	\$478.40	Musical Co-Director: Drama
Graham	Marya	RHS	Annual	4	50.00%	\$1,104.00	Freshman Class Advisor
Haid	William	RHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$4,019.36	Dept. Chair: Social Studies
Hammond	Marissa	RHS	Annual	N/A	50.00%	\$1,815.20	Dept. Chair: Health & PE
Harkins	Brad	RHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Harrison	Ted	RHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Hoesch	Thomas	RHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
Hutchinson	Glenn	RHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$2,845.00	Detention Room Supervisor
Kline	Rebecca	RHS	Annual	3	50.00%	\$1,296.00	Junior Class Advisor



August 3, 2020

Last Name	First Name	Location	Season	Step	% of Contract	Total Contract	Position Title
McCarter	Christine	RHS	Annual	6	100.00%	\$3,654.00	DECA Advisor
McCarter	Christine	RHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Bus Duty
McVeigh	Elizabeth	RHS	Annual	4	50.00%	\$1,472.00	Junior Class Advisor
Menzel	Laura	RHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$4,028.20	Dept. Chair: Science
Reidenberg	Regina	RHS	Annual	4	50.00%	\$2,024.00	Senior Class Advisor
Shoremount	Michael	RHS	Annual	5	50.00%	\$2,476.50	Musical Co-Director: Music
Suarez	Jaime	RHS	Annual	6	50.00%	\$1,827.00	Science Competition
Sweeley	Diane	RHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$3,804.00	Dept. Chair: Math
Taglang	Matthew	RHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$3,696.70	Dept. Chair: World Language
Turley	Abigail	RHS	Annual	6	100.00%	\$3,248.00	Literary Magazine
Turley	Abigail	RHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$3,807.20	Dept. Chair: English
Vecchiolli	Christina	RHS	Annual	4	50.00%	\$1,104.00	Freshman Class Advisor
Whitton	Tanna	RHS	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$1,500.00	AP Coordinator
Whitton	Tanna	RHS	Annual	4	25.00%	\$828.00	Science Competition
Winfield	Mark	RHS	Annual	5	50.00%	\$1,333.50	Debate Sponsor
Winfield	Mark	RHS	Annual	6	50.00%	\$1,827.00	Student Council Advisor
Belczyk	Mary	District	Annual	6	50.00%	\$1,827.00	Honors Orchestra - Elementary
Boyd	Denise	District	Annual	4	33.00%	\$1,092.96	Honors Chorus - Middle
Celfo	Timothy	District	Annual	5	100.00%	\$3,429.00	Honors Orchestra - Middle
Cooper	Donna	District	Annual	2	33.00%	\$935.55	Honors Band - Elementary
Domizio	Katherine	District	Annual	2	50.00%	\$1,417.50	Honors Chorus - Elementary
Elder	Megan	District	Annual	3	33.00%	\$962.28	Honors Band - Elementary
Grello	Melissa	District	Annual	5	33.00%	\$1,131.57	Honors Chorus - Middle
Hill	Matthew	District	Annual	5	33.00%	\$1,131.57	Honors Chorus - Middle
Jurik	Leah	District	Annual	1	50.00%	\$1,386.00	Honors Orchestra - Elementary
Kelley	Donald	District	Annual	7	33.00%	\$1,280.07	Honors Band - Middle School
Kelly	Katrina	District	Annual	6	100.00%	\$3,654.00	Honors Orchestra - High
Knaster	Jenna	District	Annual	1	33.00%	\$914.76	Honors Band - Middle School
Letherland	Lauren	District	Annual	1	33.00%	\$914.76	Honors Band - Elementary
Litzenberg	Mary	District	Annual	4	50.00%	\$1,656.00	Honors Chorus - Elementary
Shollenberger	Kyle	District	Annual	6	33.00%	\$1,205.82	Honors Band - Middle School
Puente Lassen	Ana Maria	District	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Translator Services
Barkley	Asha	District	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Translator Services
Gallagher	Jennifer	District	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Translator Services
King	Rebecca	District	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Translator Services
Lindsay	Anskis	District	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Translator Services
Matos Perez	Hilda	District	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Translator Services
Perez	Nancy	District	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Translator Services
Simmons	Suzanne	District	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Translator Services
Singer	Rebecca	District	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$34.59/hr	Translator Services
Belczyk	Mark	District	Annual	7	100.00%	\$3,448.00	Webmaster: Elementary
Dorsey	Shanelle	District	Annual	2	100.00%	\$2,520.00	Webmaster: High School
Patton	Keith	District	Annual	6	100.00%	\$3,248.00	Webmaster: Middle School
Peck	James	District	Annual	3	100.00%	\$2,592.00	Webmaster: Elementary

August 3, 2020

Last Name	First Name	Location	Season	Step	% of Contract	Total Contract	Position Title
Abbott	Heidi	District	Annual	3	100.00%	\$2,268.00	District Robotics
Tepper	Carrie	District	Annual	N/A	100.00%	\$4,380.00	District Chair: Health & PE
<b>Removals: None</b>							
<b>Adjustments: None</b>							

**BOARD ACTION:** It was moved by Dr. Herrmann and seconded by Dr. Shaw to approve the Personnel Recommendations as presented.

**On roll call vote, all members present voted “aye.” Motion carried 8-0.**

Other Business

**IV. 1. Approval of the Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan for SY 2020-21**

**BOARD ACTION:** It was moved by Dr. Shaw and seconded by Mrs. Tiernan to approve the Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan for SY 2020-21 as presented.

**On roll call vote, seven members present voted “aye” with Mr. Gallen voting “nay.” Motion carried 7-1.**

**There were no comments from residents.**

Mr. McCune read the following quote: “We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope.” ~Martin Luther King, Jr.

**V. Adjournment**

**BOARD ACTION:** On motion by Mr. Durnell seconded by Mr. Spackman, the Board, on voice vote, agreed to adjourn at 7:59 pm.

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Board Secretary

## Redacted Public Comments

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
jknapp460	What do you do with the children that have IEPs and are high-incidence and need that in-person instruction because of developmental and emotional delays?
chrisie323	How will my son's [REDACTED] goals be addressed. He received no progress reports after March.
jtroutman2	<p>I just wanted to say thank you for your leadership on this impossible task of re-opening schools. No options on the table are good ones at this point in time, but I truly believe you did what is safest for all students right now. I just saw this report out from the CDC today about transmission in children. I have no doubt that rates will rise as schools reopen. While not the ideal situation to say the least, I think virtual learning is the best bet until you can get more data/time/money to hopefully safely reopen brick and mortar. I really feel for the seniors this year and all the kids with IEPs or who's home-life is not conducive to online learning for whatever reason. If there is anything we as a community can do to support these kids, please let us know. This year will call for lots of flexibility and creativity for sure.</p> <p>Thanks again for all the time and energy you put into making this decision. I fully support it!</p> <p>Gratefully, Jen Troutman</p>
julietlatham1	We fully support a decision to offer remote and cyber learning only until a re-evaluation in November for the protection of students, staff and teachers, as well as the community by extension.
aforte7	Thank you for the update. My hope is that all children will be back at school in September or at a minimum a hybrid model. Children should not have to learn from a iPad at home. Take care.
deedle44	Please have teachers "live" zoom for remote learning all day except for breaks. Just like the kids are in the classroom. Not just for some of the assignments. It will keep them accountable. Parents working FT at home need our kids to be working with their teachers live
mistiemaisch	Will the school be providing supplies to complete all work, are activities, etc that would have been provided in school?
cneubert	I am glad that Dr. Scanlon is looking out for the safety of his staff and students. I hope that the board agrees with him that going remote is the right decision.
christina.atkins4	Thank you for keeping our children and families safe as we navigate this challenging time. We are very relieved to be starting remotely and will be going that direction if the recommendation stands! It will be a challenge but during these unpredictable times I believe this is best for our community. I like the idea that my children can get to know their teacher and classmates in 2.0 and hopefully return to school in 2021 when things are more predictable.
kroneslena	Please reconsider hybrid model. My boys need to learn from a classroom not a computer.
britt.brodzinski	I completely understand needing to protect the health and safety of all staff and students but I'm also concerned about my daughter starting kindergarten on the computer, along with the fact that she's never met the teachers in her school. I'm also worried about how we're going to do this since my husband and I work full time. I know this is not an easy decision but I appreciate all of your time and effort in trying to do the best you can. And thank you in advance for listening.
sherri.spitzer	With the plan of online school I suggest that school starts a week later on September 8 th. Even if that means going a week later in June at least that would be in person instruction.
mistiemaisch	Will the school be providing supplies to complete all work, are activities, etc that would have been provided in school?

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
bethforte45	<p>I believe students need to return to school. If parents are uncomfortable then they have the cyber option. They should not be concerned with what I believe is best for my children. I am not judging their beliefs. I think all teachers need to return to work. Unless they have a health issue. We are all returning to work, I'm confused why they can't? If kids return to school can the teacher live stream and zoom with the kids from home at same time ? I am going to forward an email I just sent Dr.Scanlan about our situation. Dr. Scanlan,Thank you for your hard work in making this decision. I can't imagine how hard and stressful.I feel strongly that both my boys need to repeat their grades and I will explain below how I made that decision. Thank you for taking the time to hear me out. Virtual will not work for my family for many reasons. To start, as I witnessed in the spring, they will not learn through cyber or staring at a screen. My husband and I need to physically be at our jobs. I can't stay at home and dedicate all this time to their school work as much as I would love to, it's just not possible. I don't even know where they're going to go while we are at work. That's another huge challenge to us. Lastly, AJ, my 8 year old [REDACTED] and Bryce needs [REDACTED] [REDACTED] I have had meetings with your staff every year for AJ [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Every year I've gotten talked out of it. I understood [REDACTED] [REDACTED] I always took their advice and respected it. Well, he has not received [REDACTED] since March, he missed [REDACTED] and he will not learn this fall during cyber therefore [REDACTED] I've been trying so hard to work with him but I'm just not capable. I can't imagine them getting new material this year, it will be a struggle. I would like him and Bryce to [REDACTED] I do feel like I was heard and understood by you and I appreciate it. Yet, I don't feel like anyone has addressed my unique situation or offered any solutions. So this is my solution. Thank you for your understanding and I look forward to hearing from you about our next step. Sincerely, Beth Forte</p>
rio1414	<p>Can students have the assignment books given to them before school starts? It is a very good tool in keeping them organized. I have an 8th grader now and she still used it when we had to go remote in March. It also helped me in checking to make sure she was on track. Thanks for considering this.</p>
stefdoyle11	<p>Will the district provide bussing for student attending private schools if the district goes fully virtual?</p>
kroneslena	<p>Please reconsider hybrid model. My boys need to learn from a classroom not a computer.</p>
acepro	<p>I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS A TOUGH TIME FOR MAKING THESE KINDS OF DECISIONS, HOWEVER THE CHILDREN WITH IEPS WILL NOT ,NO MATTER HOW GGOD VERSION 2.0 IS , WILL LEARN FROM ONLINE LEARNING . THIS SCHOOL DISTRICT HAS TAKEN FEDERAL FUNDS TO COVER IEPS FOR CHILDREN [REDACTED] [REDACTED] IF [REDACTED] CAN NOT HAVE THE [REDACTED] THAT THE FEDERAL LAW REQUIRES IT WILL FORCE [REDACTED] PARENTS TO TAKE LEGAL MEANS TO GET [REDACTED] AND OTHER CARED FOR .            THE PLAN SHOULD INCLUDE IEP CHILDREN TO GO TO SCHOOL.            THERE ARE 2000 IEP IN THE DISTRICT THERE ARE 20 BUILDINGS IN THE DISTRICT THERE IS ROOM FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING , THE TEACHERS ARE STILL WORKING ANYWAY .            I VOLUNTEER MY TIME TO HENDERSON STUDENTS AND PIERCE MIDDLE SCHOOL ICE HOCKEY PLAYERS , I GIVE HOURS OF MY TIME TO COACH THEM AND [REDACTED] [REDACTED] CANT GO TO SCHOOL ? UNACCEPTABLE            JEFFREY LASHER</p>

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
snair.pac	Dear School Board Members - With 2 children in the WCASD system, one a senior and the other an incoming middle schooler (6th Grade), it would have been great if everything was normal and they had the same experience as the classes before them. But things are not normal, people are dying every day. 150,000 innocent lives are already lost because of the callousness of a few. Even in Chester county, our family has lost friends and we know of families who have lost loved ones around the country. It is not safe even though you might not be affected personally by the virus yet. No one knows when the virus can affect you and your family. We applaud Dr. Scanlon and the school administration and the thousands of parents who looked at the scenarios and came up with the safest decision for our students, the teachers, and their families. As a family with both working parents, we know the next 4 months will be more difficult than the past, but we know that we have to make sacrifices for the better good. Our family's health and safety should not be sacrificed for the whims of a few who have not experienced a loss. Thank you for listening and hope you will approve Dr. Scanlon and the administration plan. In these difficult times let us stand together and support each other so that we can be together soon.
helaurin	I understand that there is no perfect option. That said, some students - my child included - have a great difficulty learning certain subjects remotely. I was really hoping for a hybrid model that would allow students to attend 1 or 2 days each week as a cohort for the subjects they find more challenging, or that need hands-on learning (such as art, robotics, math, etc.). With remote learning, I literally had to take a week off of work towards the end to help my child catch up. As a single wage-earner, I can't afford to do that every quarter. How will [REDACTED] students be supported in Remote 2.0?
chambersk1229	Please consider reopening at least as hybrid. I have worked to have my son, [REDACTED] in a good place for kindergarten. The work that has been done will now be eradicated because of a decision made without knowledge. Look at the pediatric data! The CDC, the American Association of Pediatrics, and parents are in favor of in person schooling. This decision is unfounded and unfair for so many reasons. Why were we sent a survey only to be ignored? This is a painful and sad ending to a stressful 5 months. Please reconsider. Especially for the students [REDACTED] Why were the children who need 80% support the only chosen to receive in person schooling? The others don't need enough to matter? This will be detrimental for my children and I ask again for you to please reconsider. Why are other districts choosing hybrid or full in person schooling? It is doable and the most healthy choice. Please reconsider....
tayloreric74	Please reconsider the plan to go virtual. The spring virtual education was terrible and I have no faith in a fall virtual plan. Please send the kids back to school at least part time. This all virtual plan is failing my children!
dbwalls43	I believe the school district should make every effort to allow the senior class in each high school to attend in person classes. This can be accomplished thru a staggered in person and virtual class schedule similar to what many businesses throughout the district, county and state are currently doing.
kenkrauss183	Please reconsider opening the school district this semester. Online learning is sub par at best and will further set back our children. Please make the right decision and offer brick and mortar school choice to the 40% who voted for it and desperately need it. With the online schooling only option, many working families/parents are faced once again with the difficult choice of how to care for and educate their children. Online learning will put a further a strain on families adding to their stress and hardships. Please do the right thing and off brick and mortar option
ddonoghue322	Many thanks to the district reopening teams and to Dr. Scanlon for showing true leadership during this difficult time. Remote learning is the best way to keep students, their families and all school staff safe and healthy. It is the right call! Vote yes for remote opening of schools.
gn_boyer	My daughter [REDACTED] how will this affect her if the first semester is online
kelmbobb_2000	What will happen with middle and high school sports?

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
hfranks125	<p>Please reconsider the full time virtual learning option, as elementary school age children (AT VERY LEAST K-3) NEED to be in school. I am the mother to an incoming kindergarten student along with 3 more children that will at be entering WCASD in the coming years. My children don't have iPads, play on our phones, or watch more than an hour of TV a day TOPS and that is something I pride myself in. Now we are being forced to have our children sit in front of a screen for 6 hours a day?! Research has shown how detrimental this is to a child's developing brain, and now our educators are forcing this upon us? IN THE CHILDRENS' BEST INTEREST????? My family has been excited to become part of the Westtown Thornbury Elementary community, but are now considering charter schools, Catholic schools, and even doing another year of preschool in lieu of virtual learning. Due to a full cyber option being offered and the majority (I've heard both 60% and 80%) of TAX PAYING parents voting for brick and mortar, I do not understand how the 20-40% that want virtual can't do virtual (along with the teachers that are not comfortable coming back) and the other families can take the risk they are comfortable with and send their children to school. I think everyone is willing and understanding of extra precautions and if the need to go to virtual once started if things are not going well, but to start out virtual will cause much many more challenges for the families in your district and damage to the children you are voted here to protect. Please reject the current proposal. Sincerely, Heather Franks</p>
sarabeyer	<p>I just wanted to send a message in support of the reopening plan unveiled by Dr. Scanlon. It was clear from his presentation that much thought and deliberation had been considered before presenting his recommendation for reopening schools. This is not an easy decision for anyone, especially parents trying to juggle virtual learning, work and family life however, it feels necessary at this point until we can make sure we have a healthy environment for our students, teachers and WCASD support staff.</p> <p>Thank you so much for all that you do and are being asked to do. We thank you for your thoughtful consideration for our community.</p> <p>Sincerely, Sara Beyer Mother of Lily Beyer (7th, Stetson) and James Beyer (2nd, Westtown Thornbury)</p>
casanorge	<p>I greatly appreciate the communication provided by the superintendent throughout the process. I also appreciate the way the schools adapted when this went down in March. While the process was not perfect, I felt they did the best they could given the circumstances. However, I am not okay with that same teaching environment moving forward. I see that 60% of the parents wanted their kids to go back to school either full time or a hybrid model. This is a democracy, and I think parents should be allowed to choose what is best for their children. I appreciate WCASD has provided an online option, and for parents that want that, they can use it. However, for those of us that don't, I do not feel the minority should dictate what we do. It is somehow okay for everyone else to go to work, gas station attendants, grocery store workers, day care centers, restaurant employees, retail workers, government employees, law enforcement etc, but it is somehow dangerous for our teachers? How is that possible? Kids are playing travel ball, little league, soccer and other club sports, but somehow they can't go to school? We moved to the area specifically for the schools, but I don't feel as though our children are getting the education they deserve through online schooling. If you start with the hybrid model and there are outbreaks, then you can transition to online schooling, but at least you would have tried to give the children the best education and mitigated risk. Currently, the accuracy of the data is all over the place. As a parent, I am happy to sign something regarding liability if that is a concern. My daughter was in elementary school last year and during online learning, spent not more than 60 minutes a day on her work. Again- I accepted that due to the crisis. I do not accept that moving forward, and school is much more than what you learn in class. It is about learning social interactions, meeting a more diverse group of individuals, exploring and broadening your horizons. They will not get that with online schooling. Please give parents more than online schooling as an option.</p>
Jeff	<p>Would the Board consider implementing Healthy Kids Running Series as a part of the physical education curriculum for elementary and middle schoolers?</p>
mkgagliardi	<p>How much importance was given to the mental health consequences of no in-person classes, emotional health, lack of social interaction. There will be many more cases of these types of health issues than there will be catching Covid.</p>
jmstank	<p>Please do not allow the children to stay home for online learning. Those that want to stay home have the option. The children will suffer even more by not being in the classroom. Please allow them back to the classroom. If safety measures are put in place there is no reason for them not to return.</p>

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
s_bernadowicz	I registered my granddaughter who will be 5th grade this year, with WC cyber school. Can I let her do the exton Elementary Remote instead so she can be with classmates she knows Thank you
kimfanning65	A majority of schools around us are either going back to school full time or in some kind of hybrid model. Catholic and private schools are going back. How is that our schools are not even trying to go back? AAP and other medical professionals advise kids need to be in school. The incidence of children spreading the virus has proven low. Kids/ teens are a very low risk age group. Children with risk factors can choose to go cyber. Otherwise healthy children are being severely impacted for what? Who exactly is this benefiting from keeping our children home! Not them nor their parents who are struggling to work everyday and at the same time support their children who are being isolated and who's education system is failing them. I have been in WCASD for 15 years and have always been an active, supportive parent. I am now extremely disappointed in this decision and the school district. If my child was younger I would definitely be transferring out! I am requesting you deny the school district request of keeping our kids at home and continuing this social, educational nightmare they have been living since March.
aliciaburns99	Send our children back to school with live in person teacher instruction. Do NOT approve this 2.0 plan. If parents are fearful of sending their children to school, then these parents can enroll their children in the WCASD cyber school program. Please follow the SCIENCE and the facts regarding Covid-19 and its effect on the under eighteen population. According to Johns Hopkins University "children and adolescents are less at risk for severe COVID-19 symptoms, and the prolonged social distancing and failure to return to in person school instruction will have more of a negative impact on children's physical and mental health than the risk posed by actually being in the classroom". I completed every survey WCASD sent to parents. I am happy to sign a medical release form permitting my children to be in school and releasing the WCASD of any and all responsibility for the slight chance of any Covid-19 illness for my senior, Samantha Burns, and my freshman, Sabrina Burns, at Rustin High School. Teachers are ESSENTIAL employees much as pharmacists, nurses, doctors, grocery store employees, etc. are essential employees. Therefore it is ESSENTIAL that teachers return to work IN SCHOOL with face masks and a plastic head shield. If a teacher does not wish to return to the classroom to actually teach due to fear of Covid-19, then it is time to retire and find another career. There are hundreds of college graduates with teaching degrees that would love to work in the WCASD. Stop pandering to the teachers' union. WCASD has had months to prepare for in person school instruction and to acquire face masks, plastic shields, plexiglass and additional cleaning supplies. It is time for teachers and all students to return to school. Covid-19 is viral much as the flu is viral, and we need to return to work and return to school. We can not hide in our homes and not work and not attend school for years. My school tax bill is \$7,782.18 and I fully expect all children to return to in person school instruction at the end of August. If teachers do not want to teach in person in the WCASD then give me my \$7,782.18 so I can send my children to the school of my choice. Do NOT approve the plan. Teachers are ESSENTIAL in the classroom, and it is essential that students return to class in person. The CDC and the President of the US want the children in school. Have everyone wear a mask. Put America's families first. Protect the teachers and the children. If a teacher does not want to teach, Walmart is hiring and their employees are essential.
nathan_reiser	This is the email I sent to Dr Scanlon yesterday. I'm forwarding it for your review. As we completed a survey that already expressed our opinions, I don't understand why your even asking for more input when the first survey results gave you all the information you need. But here ya go, again. <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/reopening-schools.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/reopening-schools.html</a> Good morning sirl cannot understand your decision to have our schools closed based on the above link and recommendations by the CDC which are very clear and precise about how imperative it is for children to interact in their schools. Failure to follow their recommendations but then stating that you need to follow the recommendations that they've already laid out for "public safety" is double minded. As our district superintendent I'm sorry to say but you are failing every child in the district through your choices in leadership. I do not say these words lightly and this is an extremely difficult time for all of us. However the children's future is what we need to be looking at, not the temporal present. Please know that this choice will be something you will be held accountable for years to come. The time to take true leadership is now and I would implore you to reconsider your decision and stand up to the nonsense and false narratives that are being tossed around in the interest of "public safety." I do not need a response to this email as my words are my own and I will except responsibility for them. You do not need to justify yourself to me. The 100s of children suffering irrevocable damage by your choices are the ones you need to someday look in the face and apologize to. Nate Reiser

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
me_jacoby	In the survey, a majority of teachers said they had concerns about their ability to teach through virtual means. How is this going to be addressed? In addition, the district is pulling its technology-savvy teachers for the cyber program which is going to cause a greater gap.
lmsliney	I respect and accept that school will be virtual for a while. As a parent of 3 athletes, I Pray that the kids will be allowed to play fall sports. PIAA has given the go ahead, however I felt that Dr. Scanlon's brief comments regarding sports leaned toward the fact that they may not play. When will we know? Our kids have been playing their travel club teams (soccer) for the last month and a half and it's gone very smoothly with everyone accepting and following all safety protocols, along with waivers signed that we (parents) take full responsibility if any covid related issue occurs.
cwilkocz	I understand that this decision was a tough one. The health and well being of the students and staff is priority. We love this district and we trust your judgement. But what is the plan if a vaccine doesn't come this year, or any year? I ask this because so many of us are making huge sacrifices financially to make this work for our children. For many of us it is unsustainable for much longer. Not to mention the worry we feel about how this is impacting the students. If going back was impossible in April last year, and is again impossible this fall, then what makes going back after Thanksgiving or even next fall any better without a vaccine? I am struggling to see how we have any chance of going back to school this year. Is it a very real possibility that our district could remain virtual for the entire year, or even years to come without a vaccine? I am hoping that you could provide some insight into this for me. Thank you.
michaarnold	This is the right plan. It lets teachers focus on teaching and removes unnecessary stressors/distraction/risk to teachers and children from being colocated.
sanj409	I'm really afraid of what starting out the year as completely remote will do to these kids educationally. As parents I believe we felt we could all get them through the end of the year, when we suddenly went remote in March, but this is so different. They don't get that chance to develop a rapport with their teacher, or set that structure that even a hybrid model could set that says, "hey this is a new school year- its time to transition". It is going to be a really difficult transition for them. Although I will obviously do everything I can to facilitate my children's learning from day one, I'm honestly afraid of how effective this model will be for them to truly be given the education that they deserve. We have so many great teachers in our district, and I know they will do their best, and I know our district officials have done their best this whole summer to figure things out, but I feel as there is no replacement for face to face instruction for elementary school children, even if it is part time.
kimberlyleecanpbell	If virtual learning is decided can there be exceptions where students with intense reading needs or IEPs could be able to attend in school learning a few days?
aourourke1260	Please consider other stats other than number of positive cases ie hospitalizations. I'd prefer the students start in August and finish school in November as many of the colleges are doing. Regardless, your efforts in this no win situation are appreciated.
cherylwhalen	<p>I understand that there are no easy answers to the pandemic. Although I didn't anticipate children returning to school 5 days/week, I thought they would at least attend school 2 days/week, which I think is a safe environment and a good balance that takes into consideration the safety of children and faculty as well the academic/social and emotional needs of the students. I'm glad that sports are running even if there is no true season. Maybe some games could be organized within our own District. Listed below are my concerns:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Children have different learning styles and some will have an extremely hard time adjusting to an on-line environment.</li> <li>2) Schools were not designed to educate children on-line and teachers will have to learn an entirely different teaching style in less than 1 month - it will take them time to adjust even with training provided by the District as there's will be a learning curve.</li> <li>3) Face to face interaction is needed for students to develop relationships/rapport/comfort level with teachers as well as teachers with their students.</li> <li>4) Students need opportunities to socialize, make new friends and be exposed to new interests through clubs/activities/specials.</li> <li>5) If schools don't reopen now, how likely is it that things will change in November? It's not realistic to keep kids out of school if/until a vaccine is available.</li> <li>6) It'll be very difficult for students to do labs on-line and write adequate lab reports. This will be a huge lost opportunity for students, which may result in them being 1 year behind in labs.</li> <li>7) Will all students with IEPs and 504 Plans be able to receive in-person instruction as needed or will in-</li> </ol>



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	<p>class instruction be limited to students in the life skills program? If not, special education students will digress and it'll take much longer to for them to recoup skills/knowledge.</p> <p>8) Will study skills classes be offered and/or teachers available on a regular basis to help with math, chemistry, biology, physics, etc.? My older son often used his lunch/study hall to seek additional help, especially prior to a test.</p> <p>9) Although teachers will be available for some small group help, I'm not sure how teachers will be able to provide as much support as needed by students in a virtual environment (through no fault of the teachers) because I anticipate that the number of children who need additional help will increase. Will any additional staff be hired to accommodate these needs for students and teachers?</p> <p>10) Many students don't feel comfortable asking questions/participating in class on-line. How will this impact their grades? Lost learning opportunity for students who need most practice/support to learn to advocate for themselves.</p> <p>11) Students need socialization, which is part of their development. Without any in-class instruction, children may feel isolated and withdraw, and are at greater risk for depression and anxiety. They need some sense of normalcy.</p> <p>12) With students not being in class at least a few days a week, it puts undue stress on everyone - working parents, creates financial strain when many parents are out of work and/or had to take pay decreases.</p> <p>13) High school students are at a disadvantage since their grades count towards college admittance. If they digress academically, they have much less time to catch up, especially in math.</p> <p>14) I recommend that all classes be "live" as well as recorded so teachers have access to white boards and other tools used in the classroom and to have the virtual environment mirror in person instruction as much as possible.</p> <p>15) How will children be adequately prepared for the SATs/ACTs if they get behind/digress in Math and English?</p> <p>16) Although I understand that the situation with COVID is fluid, much of the communication about plans for the fall indicated that students would be in school at least 2 days a week. Was there something that came up at the last minute that greatly influenced the District's decision to do 100% virtual education? Note that I'm not faulting Dr. Scanlon as I think he did a good job communicating with parents throughout the summer. However, it puts parents and faculty in a very difficult position since school starts in a few weeks.</p> <p>Teachers with underlying medical conditions and/or who are older can request special accommodations through the Americans with Disabilities Act, which may include allowing them to only teach virtually and not in the classroom.</p> <p>Thanks for your consideration. I understand that the administration has spent a lot of time and effort evaluating the options and seeking information/guidance.</p> <p>Cheryl Whalen</p>
michaarnold	This is the right plan. It lets teachers focus on teaching and removes unnecessary stressors/distraction/risk to teachers and children from being colocated.
tarafischerirvine	You made the wrong choice in going against what 80% of your parents wanted. You disrespectfully wasted the time of parents who volunteered to give input in focus groups. We won't be voting for you in any upcoming elections if you choose to discount parents' wishes. Other lower income school districts are making hybrid work. In a district like ours, you could have as well with some defined restrictions and creativity. It feels like you sided with teachers, whose salaries we pay with hard earned tax money. Shame on the board for choosing to ignore parent pleas.
rsnussbaumer	I wish West Chester would offer 100% synchronous learning. All the other districts around us are offering it during these times. I feel our kiddos will fall behind the other districts.

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cwilkocz	I understand that this decision was a tough one. The health and well being of the students and staff is priority. We love this district and we trust your judgement. But what is the plan if a vaccine doesn't come this year, or any year? I ask this because so many of us are making huge sacrifices financially to make this work for our children. For many of us it is unsustainable for much longer. Not to mention the worry we feel about how this is impacting the students. If going back was impossible in April last year, and is again impossible this fall, then what makes going back after Thanksgiving or even next fall any better without a vaccine? I am struggling to see how we have any chance of going back to school this year. Is it a very real possibility that our district could remain virtual for the entire year, or even years to come without a vaccine? I am hoping that you could provide some insight into this for me. Thank you.
justinsara125	I understand the need for safety of all. However, my child will be starting kindergarten this year and it is not ideal at all for him to be doing it virtually. He struggled at the end of PreK last year (half day, 3 days a week) without being in the classroom with teacher guidance. I do not see him sitting at a tablet every day for a full day (breaks included), with the distractions of others in the household, including his baby brother and his father who works from home, constantly on zoom meetings. He does awesome inside of a classroom, not so much without teacher guidance. My main concern is that he, along with many other small children, will not be able to focus and will fall behind, it being their first real year of school and most of them aren't self-motivated or know how to keep on a schedule.
katak3799	I do not feel my 2nd grader will benefit from remote learning. The covid learning/zoom mtgs were not helpful and the kids did not pay attention. My husband and I work full time jobs, how is it feasible for us to effectively teach our child remotely? We do not want her to be on her iPad all day.
amandaiacono	<p>-Can you clarify whether the plan will be reevaluated at Thanksgiving break as stated by Dr. Scanlon on Wednesday or will be reevaluated every three weeks as stated in the August 3 Special Board Packet.</p> <p>-Does the district expect ZERO new cases in the community for two consecutive weeks to be able to move forward with a hybrid model as stated in the August 3 Special Board Packet? ..."As we see rates slow down, we will consider the hybrid model with three to six feet of social distancing, beginning with youngest students first. For example, if infection rates in the community show no new cases for two consecutive weeks, we can consider bringing in kindergarten and first grade students with three feet of social distancing." This is not a realistic parameter.</p> <p>-If our county is in the green phase, why are we following recommendations listed for the red phase?</p> <p>-In order for parents to go back to work during the Remote Learning 2.0 model, we will be forced to send our children to daycare, such as the local Y. These daycares will have as many or more children in them as our schools. Our children's education will be supervised by UNQUALIFIED individuals and they will have just as much- if not more- exposure to COVID-19 in the community. If exposure to other children is inevitable in order for parents to continue to earn wages, why not allow that exposure to occur within the context of a high-quality in-person education? Who better to teach our children health and safety protocols than their highly-qualified teachers?</p>
rnalini143	For kids safety online classes are better than in person ..
melissafort	Every child/kid wants to be back at school. They understand that masks must be worn. All the parents who don't feel like their child will be safe is opting for cyber school. I have 4 children in 3 different schools. My youngest is supposed to be headed to Kindergarten but now I'm unsure what to do. Kindergarten through 4th grade is useless to do online learning. I can see the older kids being able to do so, but the elementary kids need to be in school. Unionville is having full day 5 days a week for K-3rd grade, which makes absolute sense.

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MODonnell1985	<p>My wife and I both work full time out of our house. The WC Cyber option is not going to work for my son who is entering Kindergarten. We also have a 3 1/2 year old that we need to take care of as well. We cannot do school work with him at 7:00 pm at night, and do everything else we need to. The remote learning option is the only one we have left, and I am extremely worried I am going to lose my job because now I have to assist him with remote learning. The little Kindergarten kids need to be in the school building. Even for half days. What happens if parents lose their jobs because we have to help assist our children?</p> <p>Also, why does the Oscar Lakso YMCA get to operate as a full time, in person, Kindergarten when they are part of, and governed, by the WCASD. Shouldn't they be held to the same standards as the rest of the school district? They are charging for public school. Shouldn't we as tax payers receive an allowance from the school district if we choose to sending our students to private school because the district is forcing remote learning on its tax payers, that really would prefer an in person classroom teaching environment? These are our tax dollars. We should be able to choose whether we want to accept remote learning or not. If we don't we should be able to reallocate our tax funds to a school that lan willing to educate our children for the school year.</p>
murph5670	<p>My question is for students who have IEP's., How are teachers going to progress monitor them to ensure that they are making gains towards their IEP goals.</p>
chermak053	<p>Please don't keep our children in a "virtual classroom ". I believe that children learn far more about social interaction at school than anything they learn in any of their classes. I do believe that the Coronavirus is a real threat, but no more than the common flu. I also believe that we live in such a sterile environment anymore, it's no wonder there are so many people with allergies these days. I believe our children need to be exposed life...period!!! Everything that comes with life to include social interaction, bacteria and viruses. By exposing our children to these things I believe that we will produce human beings capable of thriving in life, both social and physical well being. If there is a segment of our society that wants to live in fear then let them stay at home. Please keep the classrooms open for the segment of society that wants live life.</p> <p>"If you're not experiencing life, you're just a spectator. "</p>
jbdotson17	<p>Thank you for placing the safety and health of our children, teachers and community as the top priority in deciding how school should open.</p>
ktd404	<p>Please APPROVE Dr. Scanlon's proposal to start the school year in Remote Learning 2.0. Let's continue to follow the advice of the Medical Experts! Thank you.</p>
juliereid9504	<p>Our children have struggled to work independently and with many [REDACTED] challenges especially through the spring quarantine. I've read about the possibility for children with learning differences having the opportunity to have some in classroom learning. What will this look like and how often would the children attend the school in the building? Thank you.</p>
ktd404	<p>Please APPROVE Dr. Scanlon's proposal to start the school year in Remote Learning 2.0. Let's continue to follow the advice of the Medical Experts! Thank you.</p>
natasha.norton	<p>I don't think the board has considered people's lifestyles and how difficult this will be for a lot of the parents/students. I have 4 kids (one is a newborn) and we struggled 98% of the time doing virtual school in the Spring and I fear this will only be worse. The reopening plan doesn't take mental health into consideration. My family will suffer greatly from this.</p>
armensevag	<p>Hello, please clarify why private schools are somehow able to comply with health recommendations and have in person learning and your public school proposals can not. Further, what should parents who can not work remotely do when the learning is proposed to be remote exclusively? Are you suggesting we quit our jobs to accommodate your policy? The CDC and American Academy of Pediatrics both recommend a return to in person classes. Thank you.</p>

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haiiachker	<p>Hello, could you please clarify and consider why private, catholic schools and camps and daycares are able to reopen and operate following CDC guidelines and the public schools are held to different standards?</p> <p>The Director of CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics recommend students K-12 return to in-person schools following the safety guidelines.</p> <p>What do you suggest parents who both do not work from home nor have the option to work from home (front line workers) do when they have to stay at home to help their kids with virtual school lessons? Do we quit our jobs and lose our jobs?</p> <p>In many ways, teachers are essential workers and school is an essential part of a child's life. If the front line workers have worked through the entire Pandemic ( grocery stores workers, hospital staff, post office) then certainly teachers can safely be there for our children while social distancing. We do appreciate all the hard work teachers do!</p>
lisag19380	<p>Please strongly consider the hybrid schedule (with masks!) for the students vs Remote 2.0...if 2.0 comes to pass, please consider doing away with homework/ projects unless for extra credit. Fully remote, at home before a screen all day will be incredibly taxing on students.</p>
laurenaharvey12	<p>I support Dr. Scanlon's decision.</p>
starxcheng	<p>I believe it is crucial that students go back to school this fall. While young people are seen more resilience reacting to the Coronavirus, I suggest schools to put in extra protection procedures for teachers. Also, schools should ask parents to help to prevent sick children from going to school.. Remote learning should be available also to live streaming classroom teaching for kids staying home.</p>
sarafedako	<p>I strongly support the virtual only reopening plan. It is a wise decision to prepare for this from the start, as it seems to be widely accepted that schools will end up remote at some point this fall anyway. I appreciate the district prioritizing the health of students and staff. I trust that the district will do all that it can to support the neediest students and families during this time.</p>
mhornbach	<p>In my opinion, cyber/virtual is a mistake. The educational as well as social shortfalls will continue to grow. To evaluate again at Thanksgiving is essentially green lighting closure of the school for the year. 80% of the parents surveyed responded with a need/desire for our children to be in school in either a full or partial capacity. Yet we appease to the minority vote. Why take a poll at all if the decision had clearly already been predetermined?</p>
zebulundavenport	<p>Can you address how high schools sports are being allowed when there are concerns of spreading this virus in major league sports and collegiate sports?</p>
rdm37rdm	<p>Covid is now understood to be supremely infectious and often asymptomatic depending on the strain.</p> <p>Any indoor distancing protocol will be ultimately futile unless everyone will be wearing full biohazard gear with it's own air supply.</p> <p>Therefore, initially permit only teachers &amp; pupils who have already tested positive for antibodies back to physical school. The risk to all involved will be minimized due to herd immunity until the disease is ubiquitous and the population will have herd immunity.</p>
katiebr2233	<p>What support and resources will be made available to working parents?</p>
katiebr2233	<p>What support and resources will be made available to working parents?</p>
mckim604	<p>Please send our kids back to school, they need in room class time for many reasons. We are doing them a huge disservice by keeping them home.</p>
lmg1231	<p>I wanted to thank everyone who has taken their time to work through all of the difficult decisions that you have had to make. I commend you all and am EXTREMELY grateful that your priorities remain consistent with keeping our children and the teachers and staff safe. My family is _____ and we are thankful that our children will have the opportunity to learn remotely until appropriate. Thank you!</p>

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sasunseri	Its extremely disappointing to me that the reopening plan is "one size fits all". The plan does not take into consideration the different needs of students within the district. A kindergartener has significantly different needs than a student in high school. Children with special needs require consideration aside from the "average" child. There seems to be little to no differential thinking or solutioning in any planning that has taken place.
wbags	As the students will not be in the classroom will district move Fall athletics to the spring or not have them at all?
vgs0525	I like the remote option for normalcy, however, I am against masking. My concern is that my child will be forced into a building with a mask if I do not pick cyber.
wbags	As the students will not be in the classroom will district move Fall athletics to the spring or not have them at all?
jpribolsky	Thank you to Dr. Scanlon and the WCASD administration for making the tough call to recommend Remote 2.0 for the opening of school. There are no easy or perfect answers. Thinking about all of the many, many variables that have to be considered, I truly agree that this is the best decision for WCASD. I am proud of Dr. Scanlon for his leadership, professionalism and civility. I have faith in our WCASD faculty and administration. Of course this is not ideal. But I know that we will make this work.
klsrococa	What is the best option for parents who want to limit screen time as much as possible?
kamilazrebiec	Please consider the hybrid model for the new school year. It can be done safely without further sacrificing students' education and mental health. Thank you.
mowery5	I believe a hybrid model would be best for the students to get in person instruction-with half of the class attending in person classes 2 days per week. Perhaps the teachers can have their classes outside while it is still nice weather? If classes are going to be held on-line, can the teachers teach the classes virtually, live, so the students can get a chance to ask questions and interact? Lastly, will the school district be providing money to families that want to send their child to a school that is holding in person classes, as the president has suggested?
christina.atkins4	Thank you for keeping our children and families safe as we navigate this challenging time. We are very relieved to be starting remotely and will be going that direction if the recommendation stands! It will be a challenge but during these unpredictable times I believe this is best for our community. I like the idea that my children can get to know their teacher and classmates in 2.0 and hopefully return to school in 2021 when things are more predictable.
chrissymcfadden	<p>As a parent in the district of two children, I am begging you to not approve the submitted reopening proposal. This plan which says is to keep our children 'safe' is far from doing that. Having the children stay at home full time has so many more devastating consequences than sending them to school.</p> <p>Studies show children are not getting seriously sick from the virus  Increased depression and anxiety among children as a result of low social interaction  Education - it's hard to believe on line education is really going to change that much from the spring.  The spring was appalling.  Parent work balance / while children staying home</p> <p>We must take a more balanced approach and move forward with the hybrid model. While this is a very tough decision and I understand no one will be happy, the balance approached is the best approach.</p> <p>In the presentation Dr. Scanlon showed that over 80% of families preferred some hybrid/brick mortar approach to online. Only 19% preferred full time on line. So, what are we pursuing this option? The pessimistic side of me tells me there is more at play here than our children. Our children and their education is not top priority.</p> <p>Please make the education of children a top priority and vote NO to the current reopening plan. Our school district has been dropping in the polls for years. Here is a way we can provide better service in a time of need. GO HYBRID!</p>

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susannerichards12	If the YMCA has been running camps all summer with no outbreaks, why can't schools try? If we're going to be offering childcare in the buildings how does this differ from offering actual school instruction in a socially distanced way? I understand these are hard decisions but the ripple effect of this is HUGE. Both my husband and I work out of the home with no chance for remote. Are we comfortable with possibly exposing babysitters in our buildings but not teachers? It's just hypocritical.
chrissymcfadden	Children NEED to be back to school. This plan does not put the children and their education first. This plan puts other groups first. It's unbelievable that the majority of the community and children want to get back to school in some fashion and the district still suggests complete virtual. According to statistics from Johns Hopkins, children are not getting sick - especially the age group we are working with. Even if they contract the virus, minimal symptoms are presented. Children are more anxious and depressed when they have been locked up for months and now will continue to be locked up without social interaction. Children are suffering from lack of education. Dr. Scanlon stated the virtual fall program will be better than the spring. Honestly, even if that's true, the experience we had in the spring was so abysmal, that even a step above will not be sufficient. I have two daughters in the district and I can name one teacher for each of them that actually tried. It was still lacking in content significantly, but at least those two teachers tried. That's not a good statistic. Education is our right! Education is essential. We must push through this and approve at least a hybrid approach. Allow those who are fearful to go with the cyber option, but allow the rest of us to enter the building. These children cannot afford anything else. Please vote NO to the proposed reopening plan.
tpdelgiorno	I have many concerns about face-to-face instruction particularly at the middle and high school level: students are very social, this age group tends to be asymptomatic, and they do transmit the virus, thus COVID cases will increase among students, staff, and community members. Along with health risks, I also fear the psychological damage students may face if they feel responsible for transmitting the virus to more vulnerable friends, staff, and family members.
alicia.neary	Has there been more consideration of bringing our very youngest learners into our schools (Kindergarten) 1/2 day? It seems more developmentally appropriate to have them for AM/PM Kindergarten (which would allow for social distancing) than for them to be sitting in front of iPad screens multiple times/day. Anything at that age falls directly and heavily on the parents (many of whom need to work during this difficult time). It appeared to be in the plan that they will be the first brought in when we start the transition, so can we consider starting that process off now while we have the space and resources? Thank you for your time and consideration during this difficult decision.
ddelcampo	I totally agree with postponing in person learning at this time. I think revisiting the opening at a later is very smart.
chrisie323	How will my son's goals be addressed. He received no progress reports after March.
cnsshoop	Can you please provide more specifics And clarity on the recommended criteria for moving to in school instruction. The agenda states on page 13, "At the end of September, we will evaluate by reviewing the infection rates in the community. As we see rates slowdown, we will consider the hybrid model with three to six feet of social distancing, beginning with youngest students first. For example, if infection rates in the community show no new cases for two consecutive weeks...". The statement if infection rates show no new cases for two consecutive weeks" should be clarified. It is highly likely that continued cases will be seen for many months to years. Are you stating that in person instruction won't be possible until no new cases are occurring?
cnsshoop	Agree that young students should be prioritized for the return to school, high school junior and seniors should also be prioritized given the importance of those years for colleague admission and readiness, especially in light of the spring semester. Please comment on your plans to bring high school back and the timelines as it relates to the plan of starting with the youngest grades first.
rosado1222	Please reopen the schools. My two kids have been going to the YMCA in west Chester all summer with other kids and they have been safe and fine. We should reopen on time in September with all the safety protocols put in place. We can't live in fear. Thanks Jason Rosado

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wenleary72	<p>West Chester Area School Board,            Thank you, in advance, for making the decision to open schools in a remote fashion. I know you do not take this decision lightly and I know that it difficult for some families. But, I truly believe it is the only decision that ensures the safety of our children and the staff of the schools. I am sure you are receiving countless emails asking you to rethink the decision, but please stand with the recommendation of Dr. Scanlon. Again, I thank you for having the courage to do the right thing based upon the rising number of cases in our county.            Wendy Leary            915 Briar Wood Circle            West Chester PA 19380</p>
zebulundavenport	<p>Can you address how high schools sports are being allowed when there are concerns of spreading this virus in major league sports and collegiate sports?</p>
rosado1222	<p>Please reopen the schools. My two kids have been going to the YMCA is west Chester all summer with other kids and they have been safe and fine. We should reopen on time in September with all the safety protocols put in place. We can't live in fear. Thanks Jason Rosado</p>
andrewjbella	<p>Everyone we know is looking into options for private education, either at an institution or hired teachers to come to their home. Closing in person public school will not prevent children from gathering, and our community will still have in person interactions outside of school, while following safety guidelines. What I'm saying is that shutting down in person school does not accomplish your objectives of eliminating the risk of virus spread. It's also going to create an even further divide in our society with people that have the income to afford to send their children to private school and those who cannot. I recall systemic racism and equality being two areas the WCASD wanted to focus on and improve, this accelerates what you're trying to do 100 MPH in the opposite direction. You don't want to open in person schooling because you fear YOU will be held accountable if someone gets sick. That is not your fault. Put them in the best position to be safe and it's their own accountability. For those who want you to go virtual / remote, no one is forcing them to go in person, they can teach their own children remotely, but don't make a decision that will have such wide scale negative repercussions across our ENTIRE community.</p>
kristinastufflet	<p>I am wondering why the school district is proposing a plan that the majority of parents do not want. They sent out a survey and approximately 40% wanted brick and mortar, 40% wanted hybrid and only 20% wanted a totally remote option. So it seems to me that the wishes of the community were disregarded and that's why so many people are so distraught. Other local school districts are doing a hybrid model. Why can't this school district? The demands of the teacher union were not mentioned in Dr. Scanlon's talk the other night... How much do they play into the proposal made? What type of financial reimbursement will be given to families where one parent has to quit his/her job? I am sure that everyone who is in favor of the proposed plan do not have that type of worry. Aren't they the fortunate ones! A totally remote model is not feasible for so many families for practical reasons. But more so, it is so unhealthy for our children. All the research shows that they do not learn well in a remote environment and socially and emotionally, this could be absolutely devastating. The latest recommendation from the CDC is that the greatest effort should be made for children to get back to school in some capacity. We must do better by our children!</p>
cseagraves62	<p>Thank you to Dr. Scanlon and the administrative team for making the decision to opening schools online. It has really given my family a sense of peace knowing that our daughter, [REDACTED] will not be with other students and teachers during this pandemic. We believe this is the right decision for now.</p>
sstartup	<p>Please follow Dr. Scanlon and the task force recommendation of going virtual until Thanksgiving.            Thanks</p>
nora.day	<p>Thank you to Dr. Scanlon and the taskforce for the hard work and effort you put into making this difficult decision. We know that have the health of your students, teachers, and staff in your best interests!</p>
myerscm1410	<p>I am very concerned about opening of schools in my area of West Chester. Please follow the guidelines. We must follow the health guidelines for our area very carefully. Thank you for your attention.</p>
myerscm1410	<p>I just submitted a comment several minutes ago and I forgot to include my address. 1015 Andrew Drive West Chester PA. 19380. Thank you. Constance Myers.</p>

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aaronfredricks	Considering all of the resounding agreement from medical leaders and government that children are not only extremely unlikely to contract Covid but are also extremely unlikely to carry the illness to others, combined with the strong urge from medical authorities and government that in-person school is in the best interest of children, both their physical and mental health, why are we delaying them going back to school in person?
tara.t.oneill	We would love for our children to attend school in person in the fall. A hybrid model is something and better then nothing. We would be thankful for that. We don't know outcomes if we don't try. I am very concerned over children's mental health. Thank you for your consideration.
robin1030	While I personally hope the board votes to approve Dr. Scanlon's recommendation for schools to be virtual at this point, what will happen if the board does not vote to approve Dr. Scanlon's recommendation? What options will parents be given? If the board votes to open schools for attendance, will the Cyber option enrollment be extended?
juliepfaff5	While I understand that this is a very difficult decision, remote school impedes the academic, social and emotional progress for most students. This is likely one reason why 80% of parents surveyed wanted their child returned to school on a full time or hybrid basis. Remote school also hamstrings parents ability to work - particularly for our most at risk families who have limited childcare options. Finally, as a parent with a child [REDACTED] I feel particularly affected. Without assistance [REDACTED] my child cannot access the curriculum online. My husband and I both work full time and cannot sit with my child all day to assist him. He will suffer the most. I urge you to reconsider a hybrid model.
tpdelgiorno	I have many concerns about face-to-face instruction particularly at the middle and high school level: students are very social, this age group tends to be asymptomatic, and they do transmit the virus, thus COVID cases will increase among students, staff, and community members. Along with health risks, I also fear the psychological damage students may face if they feel responsible for transmitting the virus to more vulnerable friends, staff, and family members.
natashazirbser	Please consider not approving the district's 100% remote learning plan and having the kids attend a hybrid schedule this fall.
jcimb	Only consideration of Dr. Scanlon's recommendations should be considered. There has been no information or discussion shared (that I can recall) to determine the criteria for closing schools should COVID 19 levels spike while following CDC guidelines in a hybrid model.
me_kalia	Everybody first preference is safety so in order to do if they're is a delay in opening the school that is acceptable and I prefer my child to go with cyber studies rather than going to school as it is high risk for kids safety as elementary kids did not go with mask thing and 6 feet apart rule !Thanks everybody for your hard work and take every possible measures to make any decision.
mskizzy1	Thank you for not opening the schools. I think it is the right thing to do for the safety of of community
kari_beaton	Thank you for your tireless efforts in creating a safe way for our children to learn and our teachers to educate. Although not ideal, our current climate does not allow for traditional education. I genuinely appreciate the thoughtfulness of this plan and keeping the health and safety of all paramount above all else. We fully support Dr Scanlon's plan and implore the board to approve it as is.
wendymj	Doctors are saying children should go back to school.. How are a group of children at one house, for the virtual much different from them going to school. All those parents have been out and about, so they could pass on to children.
jrheintz91	<p>Since I am a teacher, I understand more than most how important the academic and social development of our students is; however, the climate is too dangerous to risk their lives or ours. Personally, I am a teacher, and I am not comfortable being exposed to 1000+ students every week even in a hybrid schedule. The US did not handle the virus like other countries, and we are not in a position to safely bring students and staff back. And please understand, I say this while virtual learning creates hours of extra work each day for me.</p> <p>Also, CNN reported that a school in Indiana reopened and had to shut down on day 1:</p> <p><a href="https://www.cnn.com/2020/07/31/us/indiana-student-covid-positive-school/index.html">https://www.cnn.com/2020/07/31/us/indiana-student-covid-positive-school/index.html</a></p>
elizmontgo	I fully support the decision to begin the school year virtually. Our children and teachers are incredibly important and deserve protection. Thank you. Elizabeth Montgomery-Lewis



email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
bjl5763	Virtual start is the wisest choice. Thank you for keeping everyone safe. Now shut down sports. Not sure why they are even practicing.
mathman3141	<p>I am a teacher, and I am not comfortable going to back to school and being exposed to my students. I care about there safety; however, they are not the high risk population. I am a bit older, so contracting the virus could be deadly or have serious repercussions. It is great that WCASD is offering cyber for students (especially for those high risk or in frequent contact with someone at high risk), but what about teachers? If we go back brick and mortar or even hybrid, what will the district do for teachers at high risk or in frequent contact with someone at high risk? I see virtual learning as the only safe option for teachers.</p> <p>I miss my students, and I hope this passes soon. I want nothing more than to safely teach them back in my classroom.</p>
jackkerry2011	There is no decision that will appease all parents, students, and teachers. However, there is a decision that can be made that makes the health and safety of students, teachers, and parents the number 1 priority. That decision is to keep students home and attend virtually until it is safe to return. I thank Dr Scanlon, the entire administrative team, and all others involved in making this touch decision. I will applaud the board for approving the decision. Thank you.
pardinger	When considering the go back plan whether it be Sept or Nov, can we please consider getting the class of 2021 back into an in person scenario so we that they get some time together to create Sr Year memories, it would be a shame for them to lose their entire Sr Year.... thank you for your consideration....
lmsliney	I respect and accept that school will be virtual for a while. As a parent of 3 athletes, I Pray that the kids will be allowed to play fall sports. PIAA has given the go ahead, however I felt that Dr. Scanlon's brief comments regarding sports leaned toward the fact that they may not play. When will we know? Our kids have been playing their travel club teams (soccer) for the last month and a half and it's gone very smoothly with everyone accepting and following all safety protocols, along with waivers signed that we (parents) take full responsibility if any covid related issue occurs.
barosica	<p>I am a parent of two middle school boys in the West Chester Area School District. I wrote to you in early May asking you to push back on the Governor to be able to open up schools for our children. Today, I implore you to NOT approve Dr. Scanlon's proposed plan to start the new school year almost 100% virtually. I want you to know that I am huge supporter of Dr. Scanlon and the entire West Chester Area School District. I have a Ph.D. in Education and continue to be impressed with the high quality of instruction that is provided in our district. I volunteer my time regularly in our schools, serving on both Elementary and Middle School PTOs and the PTOC. Since the shutdown began in March, I have been writing and calling our elected officials to get schools reopened. I was privileged to testify at the PA Senate Committee workshop on Tuesday and shared my very strong feelings that schools must reopen. I fully understand and recognize the challenges and the risks associated with opening school, and I know that there are many diverse opinions about what to do. However, 80% of our families want school to open in some form with 41% asking for 5 full days and 39% asking for a hybrid model. It seems incredibly irresponsible NOT to open school in some manner. While the District has worked hard over the summer to train teachers to provide a higher quality of instruction virtually, we all acknowledge that remote learning is not a replacement for in person instruction. Our children are going to continue to fall behind both academically and socially. And in a time when social justice and equity are of paramount importance, our most vulnerable students are going to suffer the most. I realize that one of the key issues is liability for the School District and the School Board. When I testified, I shared that I would be willing to sign a waiver relieving the District of any liability in the event my children get sick or even die as a result of attending school. One of the other panelists did not think that it was possible for parents to waive those rights, but I still think it is worth consideration and research. Other school districts in the state are opening in some form, and it is not fair that West Chester is not. I am now pursuing private school options for my children because I am fortunate enough to be able to afford that. My kids along with all the students in District are entitled to an appropriate education. Remote learning is not appropriate for my children. For those families and students who need remote learning for whatever reason, the cyber option is available. I am willing to assist the District in any way possible to facilitate the opening of school in some manner. I am devastated at the thought of leaving the District, but my children had a very difficult time with remote learning, and I cannot put them through that again. Please consider doing the right thing for our children and our community and open up our schools. Thank you for your consideration.</p>

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juliepfaff5	<p>While I understand that this is a very difficult decision, remote school impedes the academic, social and emotional progress for most students. This is likely one reason why 80% of parents surveyed wanted their child returned to school on a full time or hybrid basis. Remote school also hamstrings parents ability to work - particularly for our most at risk families who have limited childcare options. Finally, as a parent with a child [REDACTED] I feel particularly affected. Without assistance [REDACTED] my child cannot access the curriculum online. My husband and I both work full time and cannot sit with my child all day to assist him. He will suffer the most. I urge you to reconsider a hybrid model.</p>
rachel.langan	<p>REOPEN SCHOOLS. I am mom to 5 children: 5th, 10th, and 11th graders, plus 2 WCASD grads. I will be pulling 2 of my kids out of school to homeschool them if schools are online because online education DOES NOT WORK for us. However, my 11th grader will remain a WCASD student. But how is he supposed to do AP Chem and AP Physics if he's not in school??? Is he supposed to watch an experiment online? How is he going to be prepared to enter a competitive university (he has his sights set on the Naval Academy) if he is doing all his learning remotely? WHY CAN'T MY KIDS GO TO SCHOOL???? If they want to go, and I want to send them, why can't this happen? People who are afraid to send their kids or who are afraid to teach in person can choose the online option. PLEASE REOPEN SCHOOLS.</p>
erinlynnyons	<p>I find the fact that our only options are cyber or remote learning is unacceptable, when other districts in the area have found a way to bring students back for some face to face instruction. As a parent of high school student, I'm concerned with how they are supposed to compete with students who are receiving better instruction</p>
maq.construction	<p>I fully understand the decision not to have in-person learning, but online learning is certainly not comparable to a complete education. It also places additional time and financial burdens on parents to facilitate learning from home. I think it is entirely fair to request or even assume a refund or at minimum a rebate of the school tax. There will be a cost savings for the school district for not opening schools (utilities, busing, events, staffing, etc.). Conversely, parents incur the added costs of either loss of income or childcare. Please provide your thoughts, as I have not heard anyone discuss the school tax as it relates to the decision to keep schools closed for online learning. --Mike Aquilante</p>
tleary1977	<p>West Chester Area School Board, Please vote in favor of Dr Scanlon's recommendation for remote learning for the fall. With rising cases in Chester County it is the only responsible way to keep our kids and the staff safe. I know it is not an easy decision, but it is the correct one. Thank you.</p> <p>Tim Leary 915 Briar Wood Circle West Chester PA 19380.</p>
krissandra.shick	<p>I support the school district's proposal. My children are in 2nd, 3rd and 9th grades. Please do not cave to the parents that oppose this, as they seem to be the loudest right now. There is a lot of support for the district's plan. Also please do not bring back sports. Right now, it is clear how unmanageable this is by what we are seeing with Major League Baseball. If they can't contain it, how will school athletics be able to? I would of course prefer in person instruction with a hybrid model, but I agree it does not seem that this can be safely implemented at this point in time. Plus in my opinion the country seems to be headed for another shutdown in the near future. (Because people refuse to wear masks and social distance).</p>
emm3339	<p>I was hoping for some sort of brick or mortar, but if we are 100% virtual, For Remote Learning 2.0, please consider class requests for elementary. We live in a neighborhood where we can create pods, but I asked and received a message back from Dr. Sokolowski that they will not allow requests for kids to be in the same class, because of "alpha range" and that the schools may look segregated. These are unprecedented times, and flexibility With class request would greatly help for childcare purposes and socialization, especially for parents like myself who work outside of the home as an essential medical provider. Thank you.</p>
zebulundavenport	<p>Can you address how high schools sports are being allowed when there are concerns of spreading this virus in major league sports and collegiate sports?</p>

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tleary1977	<p>West Chester Area School Board, Please vote in favor of Dr Scanlon's recommendation for remote learning for the fall. With rising cases in Chester County it is the only responsible way to keep our kids and the staff safe. I know it is not an easy decision, but it is the correct one. Thank you.</p> <p>Tim Leary 915 Briar Wood Circle West Chester PA 19380.</p>
pardinger	<p>When considering the go back plan whether it be Sept or Nov, can we please consider getting the class of 2021 back into an in person scenario so we that they get some time together to create Sr Year memories, it would be a shame for them to lose their entire Sr Year.... thank you for your consideration....</p>
kaklanica	<p>I am writing regarding the current reopening plan being presented by WCASD. I reside in Westtown Township. I am a parent of a rising senior, a healthcare provider, and have been a contract employee with the district for the past 8 years. While I understand the tremendous burden and responsibility the district shoulders in making the best decision for the students and staff, I disagree with the decision to go entirely remote for the fall. There is already an option in place for those families who choose to keep their children home and teach remotely. By offering a remote plan as the only other option, you have taken away any choice to have classes in a school building. I feel that as long as social distancing would be implemented, masks would be mandated and hand washing stations would be available, the risk to students and staff would be mitigated to a large degree. I would be happy to sign a waiver that absolved WCASD from any liability should my child get sick. I work in an elementary school and I understand the great difficulty in having small children abide by all of these regulations. Has there been any consideration to just bringing the high school students back to the buildings in some capacity? They are older and better able to understand and follow the rules. The rising seniors need to be back in the building and have a chance to participate in some of the "senior experiences," even though they would be in a different way than usual. I work with a low incidence elementary school population. I completely understand and agree with the decision to bring those children back into the building. They need consistency and hands-on instruction. Virtual sessions are extremely challenging for them! However, they also need the most support physically. I would not be able to maintain 6 feet of social distance with any of these children who I work with. When I work with them in person, I am sitting next to them, often providing hand over hand assistance (and getting drooled on in the process:). Some of my kids need physical assistance for their mobility needs as well. My point is that this population requires the most close contact, and is the least likely to be able to follow any of the current health guidelines. As was pointed out in the presentation, the pilot ESY in-person program with these students has been successful and to date, no infections have occurred. If this can be achieved under these circumstances, it seems logical to assume it could be achieved with a small population of students who are able to maintain social distancing and follow guidelines such as wearing a mask. As I stated above, I agree with the decision to bring the low incidence students back to school, but would it not make sense to at least try to bring back some portion of the neuro-typical population as a pilot for the eventual return to school of all children? I am proposing to bring back the senior class to an in-person model (even if it is hybrid). Those students who choose to stay home can still do the cyber program. If just the seniors participated, it would also minimize the number of children on buses, as most seniors have their own transportation to school. In addition, I would also like to advocate for the high school kids to play fall sports this year. I understand all of the logistical difficulties (I was on the extracurricular committee) but I feel the benefits outweigh the risks. I believe if mask wearing was mandated and no spectators were permitted (as the PIAA has already ruled) the risks again would be outweighed by the physical and mental health benefits of participating in a sport. You also need to take into consideration the opportunities that are being taken away from some of these children because of the lack of opportunity to play. My daughter has already committed to play volleyball on a full scholarship at a D1 school. However, I know there are other children who were relying on this year to help propel their athletic career, and if they can't play, they very well may lose out on the chance to play in college. As a healthcare provider, I am well aware of the challenges and risks of this virus. My family and I are diligent with social distancing and mask wearing and taking all of the precautions that we can. My above suggestions are not made in ignorance of the virus, but rather after careful consideration of the risks and benefits for return to school. I know that your current plan weighed those risks and benefits as well, and you believe that is the best response at the moment. However, I would like you to consider giving</p>

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email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
	<p>families the option to choose the amount of risk that is acceptable for them. If you only had one grade level come back, then teachers and support staff would also be able to choose whether they wanted to work in brick or mortar or virtually, as you would not need all of the teachers in the building. I am sorry for such a lengthy response. I appreciate your time and hope you will seriously consider my input. I will respect whatever decision is ultimately made. Sincerely, Karen Klanica</p>

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
kaklanica	<p>I would like to take this opportunity to provide feedback on the remote 2.0 plan that was presented at the meeting. While I do not agree that this should be the plan for the return to school this fall, (I am a proponent of returning in a hybrid model) I recognize the need for such a plan to be in place, whether it is to be used out of an abundance of caution, as now is the case, or in a situation such as a mandated shut down or outbreak in one of our schools. I disagree with the structure of the currently proposed remote learning plan specifically for high school students. In my opinion, it makes the most sense for the high school students to follow their typical schedule (as they would if they were attending brick and mortar school), and have LIVE instruction provided in each class throughout the day, every day of the week. The benefits of live instruction include the opportunity for the children to ask questions and interact with not only their teachers but also their peers. This allows for a better learning environment for all involved. I understand that it is not ideal to sit in front of a screen all day, but I believe that built in breaks between classes, along with including a lunch break, would provide the necessary time needed in order to allow the students to regroup and focus during class instruction time. If the goal is to provide education that is up to the normal high standards of WCASD, then the only way to possibly achieve this while providing virtual instruction is by giving daily live lessons in all core subjects, in as close to possible the same way lessons would be provided in the school building. Asynchronous learning is essentially having the child teach themselves, which I think would be far below the standards and expectations of such a respected school district. While I agree that some asynchronous learning can be used as a supplement (such as watching a video for homework), I do not believe that it should be used on a regular basis for instructional purposes. At the very least, during each period of each day the teachers should have a mandatory check in with the class to go over any new material, explain the assignment and see if the children have any questions. I have great respect for teachers (they are my colleagues) and I understand how difficult remote teaching can be, especially if you are at home and trying to care for your own family. However, at this point, given that the only options provided by WCASD are remote learning options, every single family in the entire district is in the same predicament, and most parents do not have the luxury of only doing part of their job in order to attend to their child's needs. I believe the ultimate focus of any type of reopening plan should be about how best to provide a free, appropriate public education to all of our students. And I believe the best way to do this if a remote option is chosen is by providing daily live instruction in all subjects to all students at the high school level. I am sorry for such a lengthy response. I know you are getting a ton of opinions right now, and I appreciate your time and hope you will seriously consider my input. I will respect whatever decision is ultimately made. Thank you for your time Sincerely, Karen Klanica</p>
klsrocceca	<p>Based on my research deaths are way down in our area since businesses have begun to reopen. Maybe cases are up in some places but cases should not be a factor in this decision as simply having this disease has not been shown to be dangerous other than in the elderly or high risk individuals, those of which are offered a cyber school option. I think it's necessary to back up this decision with evidence otherwise parents are to assume the decision is political or made to avoid a lawsuit rather than for the overall health and wellbeing of our children. No research exists that supports the idea that the risks of going to school outweigh the benefits to children's health especially when considering emotional, psychological and social wellbeing. Can anyone even prove that social distancing makes a difference and should be such a driving factor in whether we should open? Yes, everyone is scared but but it's because this fear is encouraged.</p>
klsrocceca	<p>Why are options for home learning that don't involve hours of unhealthy screen time not being considered? How about a required reading list or workbooks or worksheets that parents can take pictures of and submit to teachers? This is so simple and obvious, less expensive and mentally draining and infinitely healthier for our children.</p>
klsrocceca	<p>If all of the catholic schools in the area are opening, why aren't we? Shouldn't the risks be the same as we all live in the same area? They aren't even requiring fulltime masks or social distancing just keeping children in the same groups so cases can be contained to those groups. If they are willing to make the effort to do what's best for the children, you should step up also.</p>
scmcclallum	<p>I fully support Dr. Scanlon's recommendation for remote learning in the fall. Although none of the options are ideal, with the rise in COVID-19 cases in Chester County, remote learning is the only prudent decision. It is not worth the risk to potentially jeopardize the health of teachers, school staff, or family members. It is my hope and request that the school board approve Dr. Scanlon's remote learning plan.</p>

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klsacrocca	If day cares and camps have been open all summer and will continue to be, it doesn't make sense to not open school. The goal should always be to have children in school normally, why wait until Thanksgiving to reevaluate? Why commit to believing the worst for so long? Why not be positive?
klsacrocca	Why not just open school and have parents who choose to send their children sign a waiver? If teachers were in the profession for the right reasons and putting the children's best interests first, they wouldn't be fighting going back to work unless they were elderly or high risk, those of which could teach the cyber students.
hcolonelli	Can you please consider keeping the same classes from last school year? I think it would be an additional challenge for the kids getting to know new friends remotely. I think that by keeping same students would facilitate class interaction. Thanks
klsacrocca	I don't understand how you can claim to be putting everyone's health first yet the only solution offered is having children sit alone in front of a screen all day like robots. How is this ok? It's laughable. I can't begin to take this decision seriously, how could anyone? I would delay making a final announcement until you come up with something better. I would read saint peter and Paul's website about all of the steps they are taking to open school full time yet try to be safe. I would think about how schools never shut down despite all the infectious diseases in history and everything turned out ok.
klsacrocca	If all kinds of nonessential places are opening up, how does it make sense to keep school closed? School is drastically more important than so many places that are open. Everywhere we go we are walking by others and not staying 6 feet apart, why is this suddenly so critical among the population least affected by the disease? Deaths are drastically going down since businesses have begun reopening, how does this support shutdowns and isolation as a way to curb the death rate?
mfigrs	Weighting the danger of illness from coronavirus and danger of losing another semester of education and social interactions, I think in the end it is better to open the schools - at full capacity, with no social distancing or masking. Just make sure the sick children stay home - for example by making parents fill out a clearance form each morning and checking kids' temperature before entering school (or even bus). I see school districts around the country racing one another to who will invent the most ridiculous measures to mitigate the COVID19 danger, but none of them really taking into account the dangers of not opening the schools. Here, I think the problem of education is last to consider. Kids are stressed out, bored to death, gaining weight, sinking in depression, and so on. That is, I think, worse than COVID.
klsacrocca	Delivery and curbside pickup have become a new normal, if you really refuse to open, at least just allow parents to pick up worksheets or teaching materials to submit, there is just no valid reason for children to be forced to be in front of a screen all day. This has to be so detrimental especially to the younger students.
hickeyfamily1	I am so disappointed that we are not hybrid model, but if we must be remote learning, Please require all subjects to be taught via live zoom meetings. There is absolutely no reason that a teacher should not be on a live zoom during every class that is scheduled. Teaching, taking attendance and ensuring that the class is learning together. If a teacher can not teach during the scheduled time due to home commitments, they should go on FLMA and a class should be taught by a live teacher!
aislinnreno	I understand the severity of this newest outbreak. If at all possible I would like my child to go to school a couple days a week for socialization and to get to know the teacher and kids in class. Even if it's half day. They'll learn so much better and faster. Thanks!
lauren.glime	While I very much understand your rationale for all remote to start the year. Please reach out to community partners to allow for reasonable rates for options for students whose parents have employers that do not offer flexibility to stay home to supervise children in remote learning. Acac is offering a program at \$330a week, United sports at \$250. This is in the same range of Tuition at West chester university. These companies seem to be taking advantage of parents.

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june.ancona	I strongly encourage the board to vote to open the school in person with the mask mandate and 3-foot distance. Please consider that the survey had the majority of parents preferring full opening or hybrid opening. Parents who are concerned can choose the cyber school option. As we've seen in the spring, with the on-line courses, parents cannot work and children do not learn sufficiently. Learning gap has widened. Covid-19 will not go away in 4 months and vaccines won't be available for everyone by the end of this year. (I work in the pharmaceutical industry, so I have a realistic view.) We have to learn to live with caution. If you are afraid now, we will not be able to open the school for the entire school year. We should be concerned about the consequences to the generation (academic underachievement and lack of social/developmental opportunities), in equal gravity as concerns for a few that may get sick.
jcb5001	I support the decision for virtual opening by the school administration. As two parents in healthcare who see first hand the effects of COVID-19 on people, I believe the safety of the children and staff of West Chester schools needs to be first in thought.
sstartup	Please follow Dr. Scanlon and the task force recommendation of going virtual until Thanksgiving. Thanks
conthing	I am deeply concerned with the fact that athletics are moving forward but in person academics are not. How is it that we are putting sports before education? My son is a rising freshman [REDACTED] [REDACTED] I am extremely concerned with how his needs will be met in online classes. I am also concerned with the idea that English and Math are the only classes that will be live every day. How is this a balance of work for teachers? It seems that the English and Math teachers will be overworked and the other subjects will be left to the students to teach themselves. I feel that the best thing for our students would be a hybrid model so that they have in person interaction with their teachers to for bonds and get the education that they deserve.
wolffjaney	As a parent of middle and high school students, I am in FULL SUPPORT of the proposed plan. Aside from keeping students and staff safe, the effectiveness of the students education is also important during this time. The virtual plan provides teachers the best opportunity to prepare and teach - and removes the constant anxiety of wondering when circumstances could change forcing a switch in the method of teaching. I am very concerned that a hybrid plan would not provide quality education on any day of the week, regardless of whether the students are in school or home (an impossible situation to effectively teach in). Thank-you for serving on the board.

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markgunther3	<p>WASCD School Board,</p> <p>I want to start by thanking each and every one of the board members for your service on the board during this “pandemic”. None of this has been easy on any of us but especially more difficult for your team as we look to see how we can have our children return safely back to the great “in-person” learning environment that WACSD has established. I understand that you are all trying to make decisions in the best interests of the students and faculty with not always the best guidance from local, state and even the federal government which is most definitely not easy. Although not a fan of the online start to the fall semester...I understand but still I need to voice my opinion and provide some guidance regarding fall athletics.</p> <p>Not a topic specifically identified for the 3 AUG meeting, I am concerned that the board is “gearing up” to make a decision on whether or not to proceed with the Fall 2020 sports season under the guise of “Safety” on the agenda. I CANNOT and WILL NOT support a cancellation of fall sports. Most of these are outside sports, the PIAA has provide guidance for a safe re-opening so therefore any liability for WACSD should be mitigated. However, allow parents to sign a waiver relieving WACSD of any liability if their student contracts the COVID-19 during the participation in sprots. If coaches and support personnel do not want to participate then cancel the individual sport season. As a parent of a 2020-2021 Senior on the football team I want the board to hear my, my wife’s and our son’s voice. Based on discussions with other parents who attend Henderson H.S. I am not even remotely alone in above response.</p> <p>I appreciate the board and even more specifically Henderson’s faculty for always looking out for my boys (I also have a sophomore) best interests, this a parental decision on whether to play and not the boards. I implore the board not to do a one size fits all solution because it is easier.</p> <p>Thank you and I hope that the the WACSD Board, faulty and students all remain safe.</p> <p>Mark Gunther</p>
the_original_x_factor	<p>At-Home learning fails our students, especially our youngest. Many parents assumed the hybrid model would be proposed this past Wednesday night, which was less than ideal, but somewhat pragmatic and manageable. At-Home is neither of these, and flies in the face of all the recommendations recently published by the CDC et al, plus runs counter to the studies from schools that have opened elsewhere, e.g. Germany. Young kids are not spreaders, see entry testing requirements internationally for inbound travel- age demarcations are typically 13 or 14.</p> <p>The social and mental development of our children is important, their safety in classrooms is manageable, and the lack of vision by this district- which is resource rich and usually forward thinking- is disturbing and hints at acquiescence to overhyped fears promulgated by various media, parent, and teacher groups. Considering the cure/vaccine comments in the agenda, these kids will never be back in school with their peers with such unrealistic and overreaching benchmarks. At-Home schooling and development is impractical for single or working parents, and cannot be significantly aided or solved by technology. Childhood development requires education from multiple, trusted and caring resources in person (not remote) and concomitant learning and free play with their peers.</p>
ncraig123	<p>I agree with Dr. Scanlon’s request for remote learning at this time. It is the safest decision and health needs to come first. People are upset right now but they would be upset a week into school when it would be shutdown bc the virus is spreading throughout our schools. Please keep kids and teachers safe and vote for remote learning! Thank you,Nicole Craig</p>



email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
telesara3	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to send comments. I have seen so much anger over the superintendent's proposal, but I strongly support his plan. I think you'll be getting a lot of people fighting to go back to in-person but I'm a parent who's juggling life like everyone else- working full time my job that usually is out of the home- but now working from home as the governor has still mandated telework. Will it be hard to make sure my elementary school-aged daughters are engaged and learning? Yes, but at least they'll be safe, comfortable and healthy on our home with live access to their teachers who will be able to teach with their full faces showing- not fearful for their lives and the loves of each child in the room. I strongly support the virtual choice and will advocate for it to continue to be offered full time for those of us who want to choose virtual learning that connects our kids to the school and teachers they know.. but also keeps them safe... even when the district may choose to try hybrid scheduling. I hope that WCASD will pass this plan and allow for parents to choose to stay on virtual learning (without having to choose the cyber academy now) later if hybrid in-person instruction begins. Please consider this option as you continue to make decisions. Thank you.</p>
lauren.d.kane	<p>Would it be possible for elementary school teachers to use the first week of school to set up 1:1 in-person meetings with each student and their families? It is so important to establish a relationship between teacher and students in the beginning of the year and I'm concerned we won't be able to do that as effectively virtually, especially at the elementary level.</p> <p>Also, many families are discussing setting up "learning pods" with other families with children in the same grade. Will families doing these "pods" be able to request their children be placed in the same class, so that the children can attend their zoom calls together?</p> <p>Has there been any thought to having K-3 students attend in person while having the remaining grades attend virtually?</p> <p>Thank you for all of your time and efforts on this!</p>
bellemitch	<p>Having served on the elementary parents task force, I felt blindsided by Dr. Scanlon's presentation last week when it was revealed that all students in the district would be returning to virtual learning in the fall. All our conversations to date were centered around logistics of returning both full time, and later, when more guidelines were released by the state, to a hybrid schedule. As a parent of two boys, ages 6 and 8, I am deeply concerned about the emotional and mental effects of more on-screen learning, especially as my 6-year-old is still learning to read. This is not simply "not ideal;" It's unacceptable. If other school districts are finding ways to accommodate their K-3 students in the physical classroom, why can't West Chester?</p>
awfrasch86	<p>We are both full time working parents with a 5 and 6 year old. Has there been any ideas on how we can teach them everyday and also being able to afford the extra cost that we have already been paying to continue putting them in daycare</p>
me_jacoby	<p>In the survey, a majority of teachers said they had concerns about their ability to teach through virtual means. How is this going to be addressed? In addition, the district is pulling its technology-savvy teachers for the cyber program which is going to cause a greater gap.</p>
burtonrider99	<p>I do not want just virtual learning my child does not learn well from that 3-4 days a week of in school would be best for my child</p>
sharonkmurphy	<p>Teachers should be considered essential workers providing some type of in person learning. 80% of parents surveyed expressed this yet the preliminary decision was to go online only. This is doing a disservice to kids already falling behind. Why can kids play sports but not get classroom learning? We should not be putting grocery workers, delivery drivers, coaches , healthcare providers, laborers ABOVE educators. Can we try hybrid in person first then make a shift depending on conditions? Our kids are worth the risk; they're our future after all.</p>
debgib4	<p>My question is, why was hybrid been removed from discussions? A lot of parents chose to do hybrid and it was completely taken off the table. If you have families choosing the cyber option, then why couldn't the other students that chose hybrid attend school? There would not be that many students in the building at a time. Do 2 days on with one group, 2 days on with another...Freshmen and Seniors, Sophmores and Juniors. One Day for cleaning! I know that these are not easy decisions. Thank You for all you have been doing...concerned Senior parent!</p>

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
bellemitch	Having served on the elementary parents task force, I felt blindsided by Dr. Scanlon's presentation last week when it was revealed that all students in the district would be returning to virtual learning in the fall. All our conversations to date were centered around logistics of returning both full time, and later, when more guidelines were released by the state, to a hybrid schedule. As a parent of two boys, ages 6 and 8, I am deeply concerned about the emotional and mental effects of more on-screen learning, especially as my 6-year-old is still learning to read. This is not simply "not ideal;" It's unacceptable. If other school districts are finding ways to accommodate their K-3 students in the physical classroom, why can't West Chester?
ashley.pettia	My son [REDACTED] [REDACTED] The regression is already apparent and another few months of not being with his peers will be detrimental. I'm a healthcare worker and understand the risk vs benefit of this - it's worth the risk for a child like mine.
seynon	ALL children should stay home until there is a vaccine. Sending them back will result in community hotspot, illness, hospitalization, and even death. Life is more important at this time than education.
pguzman3	Please allow high school students to change their schedules. Many need in person instruction - if that can't be provided they should be given the opportunity to rethink their course selections.
alicia.osborne26	I appreciate all of your work! I know this has been a stressful and trying time. I would really love to see K-3 in the classroom, even if it is a hybrid model to start. Virtual learning is not very effective with this age group and they will be severely behind. With other districts and schools opening, our WC kids will fall behind quickly. Please consider bringing the younger children in ASAP. Reassessing at Thanksgiving is too far out and should be reassessed much earlier. Thank you for the consideration.
africk324	I've always considered WCASD as a top tier school district but after seeing the reopening plans that has changed. Families options were stripped away from them leaving many of us to scramble. This is supposed to be about the children but it has turned into politics at its worst. Not having any type of in person instruction will have long term effects on children but also on the school district as you will start to see families leave for private or charter schools. While COVID is real and very scary, children are shown not to transmit to adults and they have a very low rate of infection. Hospitals are no longer at capacity and the death rate is way down. I urge the board to not approve the current plans and push for some type of in person instruction with a remote option for those who do not want to send their children.
rkarrmann	I agree and support Dr. Scanlon. No one has looked at this like he has. He knows the district better than anyone else. He has always been very level headed in these decisions. Just remember for every unsupportive message, there are many who are happy with his decision.
pameuprecht	Thank you for taking the appropriate actions to keep our children safe. The remote and cyber options are what we need right now to keep our children safe until science catches up a little and the number of virus cases decline. Please stick with the plan of remote and cyber.
llec19	Please remember the parents who'e children with IEPs will be affected greatly by this decision. Even if they can be in school for three days a week or two days that's better than nothing. 80% [REDACTED] is just ridiculous. Some of our children really need this in classroom time. We shouldn't have to pay for it either
scholden1	I'd like to see our schools to open with a hybrid plan - at least 2 days a week. Revisit after 4 weeks to re evaluate. Our children need to be in school not only for academics, but socially- - both needed for their emotional and psychological well being.  Also, I sent Dr Scanlon and WCU an email a month ago about having the WCU Education students fulfill their student teaching requirements by being assigned a few students to check In with 2-3 days a week for help with their homework, tests and time management.
brian.l.richardson	Have the impacts to low income families where parents have to work been factored in?
cmackrell2002	The mental health and well-being of these children is going to suffer because of a very very small risk of this virus schools should re-open
claracpitts	I am strongly in support of the recommendations made by Dr. Scanlon and the administration. I believe the best and safest options have been provided to us, as parents. I strongly encourage the board to vote in favor of these recommendations.

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
rew1106	The decision to go completely virtual is horrible. Kids learn better when they are in classrooms. This decision would be devastating to working parents. Private schools are remaining open; other districts are offering hybrid. Our children will be behind these other kids. Are you going to provide childcare for working parents?? It can cost anywhere from \$300-\$600 a week!! That is just not doable for everyone.
toni0325	I am all for virtual schooling but I am trying to have 2 kids (2nd and 3rd graders) pair up with another family with second and third graders so I would really like for our second graders to be in the same class and our third graders to be in the same class whether it's cyber or a remote. It would be so convenient to be able to request that for this year alone to make life so much easier in an already stressful situation. Thank you.
lorinforcine934	Please consider bringing our seniors back. It speaks volumes how these kids want an education that they have worked hard for and entitled to. These kids, especially our seniors are our future and deserve a chance to be in school if they want and if families feel it is safe. Many of them are 18, and by law able to make their own choices but are lucky enough to have our support and guidance. We are here to help them and guide them and support them. Utilize outdoor and indoor space. Use gyms auditoriums and space them out. Facilitate a "no mask or school" rule. Most seniors have late arrival and/or early dismissal, I think it's able to work. Many students have never wanted to be in school before and they are realizing how important being there is. They want to be there. Hear their voices. Their opinions matter. By us not listening we could be creating a bigger issue. Please consider bringing the seniors back to start. The rest can follow as success occurs. Families know it may not be easy but are willing to help in any capacity. The students want 1 day, or a hybrid model. Anything. Please just listen to them. Consider working with them not against them. There is no right choice here, and it's a tough choice but they deserve a chance to try and succeed. All they are asking for is a chance.
lisaroak	I want to thank you in advance for voting with Dr. Scanlon's suggestion of virtual school for the beginning of the 20/21 school year. It is the safest option for our children, families, teachers and staff, and community as a whole. The decision was difficult as the next few months may be, but it is the right choice for safety and health.
jackiebmandel	Please consider a model like Unionville with k-3 going to school and older kids distance learning. Younger kids will struggle and fall behind. Having all kids home makes no sense. Many large districts are opening and those that choose to stay home have the option of cyber. It many corporations can figure out how to keep their employees safe so CSS at schools.
wilcomes	Why are other area schools using a hybrid model and WCASD is not? Can the Board and Superintendent outline what specific obstacles our district faced that were different from other school districts' obstacles. Was it bussing? Will teachers be obligated to adhere to a daily schedule to provide students with structure and consistency? Also, if sports are permitted in-person, will clubs be? Non-athletes could benefit from in-person activities as well.
michellesscarcelli	Please open schools for the emotional and physical well being of our children. The cost of living is so expensive on top of taxes because we live in a great School District. Please re-open as a full time working parent, my boys need to be in school. They are better off being in the brick and mortar than being at home. Thank you.
jackiebmandel	Please consider a model like Unionville with k-3 going to school and older kids distance learning. Younger kids will struggle and fall behind. Having all kids home makes no sense. Many large districts are opening and those that choose to stay home have the option of cyber. It many corporations can figure out how to keep their employees safe so CSS at schools.

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
kellyjamali	<p>I feel strongly that schools should resume with an in person option on Aug 31st. Since WCSAD is now offering a cyber program for families that do not feel comfortable having their children attend in person, families who feel their children NEED in person instruction should have that option, even if it's a hybrid model. Learning in a virtual environment is not as powerful as in person instruction, especially for kids with 504 plans.</p> <p>Aside from wearing masks, washing hands and social distancing, there are ways to minimize risk to the virus spreading. One of those ways is to use products that guarantee surfaces are sanitized and the virus cannot grow. I know that Servepro of Media offers a service that guarantees this for 90 days through a one time (fogging) application. It's a service being used by the State Police, supermarkets, retirement homes, medical facilities and other commercial and residential buildings. Another way is by providing a hand sanitizer that is guaranteed to protect the wearer for 6 hours, even when in contact with someone else. Both products are offered by Servepro and are fairly inexpensive. Using these treatments in our schools would be hugely beneficial to the safety of the students and staff and would give them, and their families, piece of mind knowing that they can't contract the virus from surfaces that they touch, or each other.</p> <p>Bottom line, our kids need to be in school. If there are products like this available, then why are we not using them to our advantage? After experiencing online learning with both my son and daughter last Spring, I can attest that it does not have the same impact as being in person and I urge you to reconsider the decision for an all virtual Fall semester. If you would like more information about Servepro's services, please contact Jeff Fichter [REDACTED]. Thank you, Kelly Jamali</p>
jackiebmandel	<p>Please consider a model like Unionville with k-3 going to school and older kids distance learning. Younger kids will struggle and fall behind. Having all kids home makes no sense. Many large districts are opening and those that choose to stay home have the option of cyber. It many corporations can figure out how to keep there employees safe so CSS an schools.</p>
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meghan.r.johnson	<p>We are very supportive of our school district and understand that they are doing their very best to do what is best for our kids and the teachers. While we would have happily, and without fear, sent our kids to school this fall if that's what was decided, I do, with great conviction, believe that remote learning is the safest option during this time.</p>
jackiebmandel	<p>Please consider a model like Unionville with k-3 going to school and older kids distance learning. Younger kids will struggle and fall behind. Having all kids home makes no sense. Many large districts are opening and those that choose to stay home have the option of cyber. It many corporations can figure out how to keep there employees safe so CSS an schools.</p>
lisamonahan	<p>Establish a task force to bring the kids back to school and a time frame. Get them back in the school, 5 days a week. If people don't want them to go, then they can do cyber. Stop this Political madness, please, it is destroying our kids</p>
lisamonahan	<p>Establish a task force to bring the kids back to school and a time frame. Get them back in the school, 5 days a week. If people don't want them to go, then they can do cyber. Stop this Political madness, please, it is destroying our kids</p>
jackiebmandel	<p>Please consider a model like Unionville with k-3 going to school and older kids distance learning. Younger kids will struggle and fall behind. Having all kids home makes no sense. Many large districts are opening and those that choose to stay home have the option of cyber. It many corporations can figure out how to keep there employees safe so CSS an schools.</p>
coopers1996	<p>Will all children who have full time aides per their IEP have 5 day in school education? [REDACTED]</p>
jackiebmandel	<p>Please consider a model like Unionville with k-3 going to school and older kids distance learning. Younger kids will struggle and fall behind. Having all kids home makes no sense. Many large districts are opening and those that choose to stay home have the option of cyber. It many corporations can figure out how to keep there employees safe so CSS an schools.</p>
jen.eynon	<p>I don't think it is safe for any students or teachers to return to in person schooling. We need to wait for a vaccine or until the Infection incidents are so low that contract tracing and quarantine allow for control of community spread. People are not safe from infection under current conditions.</p>

August 3, 2020

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jackiebmandel	Please consider a model like Unionville with k-3 going to school and older kids distance learning. Younger kids will struggle and fall behind. Having all kids home makes no sense. Many large districts are opening and those that choose to stay home have the option of cyber. It many corporations can figure out how to keep there employees safe so CSS an schools.
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jackiebmandel	Please consider a model like Unionville with k-3 going to school and older kids distance learning. Younger kids will struggle and fall behind. Having all kids home makes no sense. Many large districts are opening and those that choose to stay home have the option of cyber. It many corporations can figure out how to keep there employees safe so CSS an schools.
jkranztz	For working parents who don't have the luxury to stay home, or afford the extra unexpected expense, what are your plans regarding childcare?
melzer12	I am disappointed that this proposal is being sent to the board based upon rumors, lack of accountability on the behalf of the superintendent and without strong provisions to support children of low-income/at-risk families with learning center support. While nothing can now be done about the first 2, please ensure that adequate discussion and support is given to the latter so that these families don't have to make a choice between job or child and the kids have the chance at a real future. Also, a plan needs to be in place to safely allow students to meet their peers and teachers offline...perhaps in groups of 4, short meetings with their teachers during asynchronous time since they will not be in front of the camera and should have time. I supoet our teachers wholeheartedly and believe that this will make their jobs easier and the children far more successful in the long run.
hastewart630	Thank you to Dr. Scanlon and administrators for doing the best job they can in a no-win situation. We look forward to getting through this pandemic and returning to the buildings when it's safe for everyone. God bless.
tariq.zubairy	Kindly consider in person school as there is no replacement for coming back to school. Even a couple of days in person will make a huge difference. Thanks & Regards,Tariq Zubairy
andrealynn86	I understand Unionville-Chadds Ford is bringing in K-3 for in person schooling. Is this possible for west Chester?? I feel it's so important for the little ones to LEARN how to learn!! Parents can teach letters/numbers but they can't teach how to learn! Only in person schooling can do that!

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
dschatz	<p>Dear School Board Members,</p> <p>I want to express my appreciation for the work of Dr. Scanlon and the school administration, and encourage you to adopt their recommendations. As a parent who had opted for the hybrid program, albeit with reservations, I recognize the wisdom in the proposed plan, especially given the rapidly increasing COVID-19 caseload in our region.</p> <p>While I recognize this is difficult for many families, I hope you will not allow pressure from parents, politicians, or others to harm our children, teachers and staff. In the long run, we can all return to normality much sooner if we take every necessary step to contain this pandemic. Requiring children and youth to spend extended time in close quarters would not only place the school community at risk; it would also place every person who lives with our children, teachers, and staff at risk. It could increase the spread of the virus at a time when we desperately need to improve containment.</p> <p>If the schools were to hold classes in person, the Board of School Directors would need to address certain questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How will the school system keep children, teachers, and staff safe during a time of rapidly increasing community spread of COVID-19?</li> <li>2. How will the school system handle it when a child, teacher, or staff becomes infected?</li> <li>3. How will the school system handle the death of a child, teacher, or staff member?</li> <li>4. With neighboring school systems favoring an online model, how would the reputation of West Chester Area Schools suffer should a return to brick and mortar lead to higher infection and mortality rates in our community?</li> <li>5. Is the school system prepared to move once quickly to an all online program in the event of a widespread outbreak in our schools, due to inadequate social distancing?</li> <li>6. How will the school system keep small children and youth with boundary issues from placing teachers and each other at risk?</li> <li>7. How will the school system address the reality that some parents will inevitably send their children to school even though they or their children are sick?</li> </ol> <p>I recognize that there is a great deal of pressure to "reopen schools" from the current administration, and from many of the President's more ardent supporters. These political considerations have caused the CDC to revise its guidelines, with a strong push for "re-opening schools." However, even the new guidelines make clear that social distancing is essential, and that communities with substantial uncontrolled community transmission need to take serious steps, including school closures. In a county in which COVID-19 cases spiked over 40% in a single week due to uncontrolled community transmission, a return to full time brick and mortar school would simply be reckless.</p> <p>The truth is our schools were never closed, and the teachers who learned new skills and techniques in a short time period so that our children could continue to receive an excellent education deserve full credit. I hope that in your messaging, you emphasize the amazing work of our teachers, and do not allow yourselves to fall into the trap of describing our schools as "closed." They are not.</p> <p>I know this has not been an easy decision. Thank you for your dedication to our children and our community, and your attention to science.</p> <p>Sincerely,  Rev. Dan Schatz  Stetson Middle School parent</p>

August 3, 2020

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
cottinger8	Thank you for considering an all virtual start to the school year in order to protect students and staff. I know that this is a difficult decision and a difficult time, and while not a perfect solution, it is the safest alternative at this moment.
brostick	Thank you for all you are doing! The WCASD staff supports you.
meganschell0415	As a parent and teacher in the district, I am in full support of a remote start to the year. It is in the best health interest of everyone involved. The teachers are ready to take on this challenge and make this a terrific year. Please consider approving this remote plan. Thank you.
DUTTONDN4	Going remote is really the only option at this point. We must keep our kids, teachers, staff and community safe. Period. We can make this an interesting and fun experience for the kids if we just put our heads together and move forward. We can do hard things in order to get to the other side. Vote Remote! Thank you for all your hard work and I'm guessing sleepless night!
beckimonte8	Thank you members of the School Board for you support of public safety. This is a very difficult time, and I appreciate you looking out for everyone's health and safety.  Sincerely, Becki Monte
kdemi	Thank you to the WCASD administration and task force team for making the decision to protect our students and staff by going remote. As a teacher, there is nothing more that I want than to go back to normal and be in my classroom with my students. However, we are not in a place where that is safe just yet. I take pride in being trained and being able to protect my students to the best of my ability, and the idea of going back into the classroom was causing great anxiety. How would I protect them and keep every student safe from not only this virus but also a fire, weather emergency, or a school shooter? It seems like an impossible task and a lot of weight to put on teachers shoulders. Thank you for making one of the hardest decisions and choosing to protect our students.
aparry	Thank you for taking the health and safety of both students and employees into consideration in this decision. I support Dr. Scanlon's recommendation.
kdeleo	Thank you Dr. Scanlon and the WCASD School Board. You are certainly in a difficult position and I respect your hard work and commitment to our students and our community. I am in full agreement with the plan presented. I have full faith that the excellent teachers in WCASD will meet the needs of our students and that the students will reach their personal best, despite the circumstances. Thank you for all you do.
lbagatta	As an educator in WCASD, I just want to say that I support the decision to move forward with virtual learning to start the school year. I am so appreciative of everyone involved in the decision-making process, and their ability to make the right choice – even when that's the hard choice – shows how much they care about their employees, their students, and their community. I'm proud to be a teacher in WCASD. Thank you for supporting all of us during these difficult times!
ndoan	Dear School Board & Administration Reopening Committee, I wanted to thank you for the thorough measures you took to create a safe and equitable plan for the beginning of our school year. As a district teacher and resident, I know that we all wish we could return to normal, but that it is not feasible nor safe at this time for us to be in the physical classroom together. I am thankful for your commitment to keeping teachers, staff, children, and our families safe during this unpredictable time! I am looking forward to creating new and exciting ways for my students to bond and learn in our virtual classroom this year. I am also beyond grateful for the training the district is providing us in this area! Thank you and be safe!
icelanddogus	Thank you for your support during these incredibly difficult times. Starting online is in the best interest for the safety of the students, their families, and staff. We appreciate how tough these decisions can be. Thanks again!
kparise	Thank you Dr. Scanlon, administration, and the school board for keeping our safety a top priority with the remote learning decision. It brings me great relief to know that we are starting this way while maintaining continued optimism for getting back to our schools when health and best practices become a possibility.
susiejmuntz	Thank you for supporting the safety of our students, staff, and community by starting the school year remotely. Please vote to pass Dr. Scanlon's proposal.

August 3, 2020

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
stewart.cm18	Thank you for making the difficult, yet necessary choice to not open schools in the Fall. My wife is the guidance counselor at Glen Acres and my daughter a student there as well. I'm very relieved that they will remain safe and the risk is minimized for them. I am also a school administrator in Montgomery county and not sure if I will have a choice to return. To be quite frank, it's scary. Overall, I am relieved to know they will be safe. Thank you for your consideration on what I know will be a tough vote.
21nannim	I am going to be a senior at Henderson High School. I would really appreciate if you would reconsider the options for school this year and vote for the hybrid option. I would like to complete my last year of school partially in person and to play my last year of athletics in some way. Thank you!
21nannim	I am going to be a senior at Henderson High School. I would really appreciate if you would reconsider the options for school this year and vote for the hybrid option. I would like to complete my last year of school partially in person and to play my last year of athletics in some way. Thank you!
lauraadetre	I am as disappointed as anyone that my kids can't go back into school buildings this August but the reality is that COVID-19 is still incredibly dangerous and the State of PA has not given districts good guidance as to how to open schools safely. I support the plan that Dr. Scanlon outlined in the video last Wednesday and hope that we can move forward and start to discuss the details of instruction this fall.
21nannim	I am going to be a senior at Henderson High School. I would really appreciate if you would reconsider the options for school this year and vote for the hybrid option. I would like to complete my last year of school partially in person and to play my last year of athletics in some way. Thank you!
danielle.yoch	I agree with the district's plan to open school virtually. Though not how we would like the school year to go, it's the safest choice for the students and staff.
kolinknott4	Thank you for prioritizing the health and safety of our students and teachers by moving towards online education while handling this unprecedented situation.
whitneypsharp	I appreciate you taking The employee's health into account when making this decision. It is a very difficult one and a lot of the burden DOES fall on teachers who are employees and many of which are parents themselves.
Dunnm32	I just want to thank the Superintendent and School Board for all their hard work in a very challenging time. Thank you for choosing remote learning to start off the year. It is the right decision for the students, staff and community. Thank you.
hselgrath	Thank you for your concern for the safety of our students and teachers. We need our teachers safe so that they can continue to educate the WCASD students.
mcalogero	Thank you for your caring and tireless work on our schools re-opening plans. I wholeheartedly support your decision for beginning the school year remotely. Thank you for making these extremely difficult decisions. I would love to see my students in person but because of this terrible virus, the correct and safest decision is to open remotely.
rwizanski	Thank you Dr. Scanlon and the Task Force for working super hard and for making the safe and correct decision to close school buildings until the end of November. Thank you for putting the health and safety of our students, staff, and their families first. We will not be safe in our buildings until there is a working vaccine and our life or quality of life is not worth risking. We are all in this together and will work very hard to make learning remotely a success!
erinbushnell	Thank you for your support and for keeping the health and safety of our students and staff as your top priority! Our family truly believes that the decision to start the school year remotely is the right call at this time.
tracy0217	I think WCASD should try the hybrid format and if parents / students aren't comfortable with it then they can choose the cyber option. I also think that senior parents should be allowed to watch their seniors play their last volleyball season. Require masks to be worn and have them sit 6 feet apart just like the restaurants are doing in WC. I also think the senior students should be allowed to attend football games ... 6 feet apart and with masks. There is plenty of room in the stands for that both indoors and in stadium.
jdems1	I fully support the decision to open school remotely given the current health concerns for students, staff and faculty. I would hope that special consideration be made to allow for sports and activities to resume if at all possible as the mental health of our students will be compromised by the lack of social interaction due to the remote opening .



August 3, 2020

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
jandyclose1	As a teacher in the district I thank all f you for your efforts and diligence in coming to this difficult decision. I strongly support you the recommendation for remote teaching to begin the school year.
dmcmillan	Your fair and equitable decisions for all staff & students to be safe in our schools is appreciated greatly. Thank you!
awarner	I wanted to thank Dr. Scanlon, the administration, reopening committee and the school board for putting out children's health and safety first. No one wants to teach or learn remotely, but it is the only option to keeping our kids safe. Thank you again for all you do for our school community.
cliberace	<p>My son (11th, Henderson) is currently enrolled in the hybrid cyber program -taking math and 2 chemistry classes in the building; English, history and gym via cyber.</p> <p>If the decision is made for no in class instruction, will he be permitted to remain in this hybrid model? Math / chem via remote 2.0 and the other classes via cyber? This is the best scenario for him as it would facilitate an easier transition back to the building when/if schools are able to open.</p> <p>Thank you Lisa Liberace</p>
rzwizanski	Thank you Dr. Scanlon and the Task Force for working super hard and for making the safe and correct decision to close school buildings until the end of November. Thank you for putting the health and safety of our students, staff, and their families first. We will not be safe in our buildings until there is a working vaccine and our life or quality of life is not worth risking. We are all in this together and will work very hard to make learning remotely a success!
Epolchin	Thank you for making this tough decision. I support the Remote Learning plan and think it's the best method to keep our community safe.
Jasona	We are doing our kids a disservice by not letting them go back to school. If only 40% want to go back to school then the 6' could be accomplished. The other 40% that does not feel comfortable can join the 20% doing cyber school.
bcj927	<p>I want to thank you for going remote. Having three members of my family in 3 different schools for the district it would be a nightmare. Indiana has proven how difficult it is to open safely.</p> <p>Thank you for making the right and more importantly SAFE choice.</p>
thower	Thank you for supporting Dr. Scanlon's recommendation to begin the school year with virtual learning.
carewood	As a teacher and parent of two children in the district, I am so very grateful for the decision to begin the year remotely. I feel it is the only way to guarantee the safety of students, their families, and staff members. I know this wonderful district will provide the best education for students this fall under these difficult circumstances. Thank you.
wck1438	I simply want to thank Dr. Scanlon and administrators for their time and dedication to keeping our children and community safe. I feel they have made the best decision in the best interest of our community. This was a difficult decision but I know that they did not take it lightly! Thank you, Dr. Scanlon, for looking out for all of us.
lmazzagatti	Thank you for for the remote learning and cyber options. We need to think of the safety of our community
agordon	Dr. Scanlon and Administrators: Thank you SO MUCH for keeping the health and safety of our students and families at the forefront of your decision! I am proud to be a WCASD teacher, resident and mother, and fully support your decision to teach remotely and have my son learn in the same manner. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help support you as you support us. Please continue to be well! -Angela Gordon, HHS Spanish & WCASD Cyber School Teacher
mck1438	I agree with Dr. Scanlon and support his decision. I feel that he is looking out for our children and community.
nfaggiola	Thank you for all of your continued efforts to make sure that our students and staff stay safe during this time. I would love to be back in the classroom but I support your decision and you know that the WCASD staff will do an amazing job no matter where we are.
bushnell102	Opening the school year remotely is the only way to ensure the safety of both the students and the staff in the district. Recent news stories highlight that children as young as 6-10 do contract and spread covid. Thank you for keeping the community's health as your priority.

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
anoone1	Thank you for putting the safety of both students and staff first! It isn't an easy decision to make but I truly believe remote learning is the right one until the spread of COVID has significantly slowed. I would much rather be teaching virtual classes than attending virtual funerals. The risk to student, staff, and their families lives is too great at this point. Thank you for all of your hard work in keeping everyone safe, healthy, and most importantly, alive.
mck1438	I am in full support of Dr. Scanlon and agree with his decision to begin with remote learning. He is looking out for our children and community.
wcasdforeducation	<p>The online only or cyber options should be only for those students that have higher risk health conditions (or family members in the household with higher risk health conditions). All other students should go back to school, have some sort of hybrid with school and home or at the very least have the option. This virus for students is more like the flu for them, with low mortality for their age bracket. The impact of no face-to-face learning and interaction will put students behind. This is not to mention the impacts of continued confinement, hardship on some families, and other more dire implications. The risks to students does not outweigh the benefits.</p> <p>As for the teachers, administrators and faculty all precautions should be taken to help keep them safe, especially those with existing health concerns or those that are more senior, as the virus has greater impact on them.</p>
tsutton316	With grandchildren in Fern Hill, Fugett & East, I don't believe now is the time to mess with the virus. Continue to have the children learn remotely. Neither my wife or I support in-class sessions at this time. It's too early. Re-assess after the first or maybe even the second marking period.
anoone1	Thank you for putting the safety of both students and staff first! It isn't an easy decision to make but I truly believe remote learning is the right one until the spread of COVID has significantly slowed. I would much rather be teaching virtual classes than attending virtual funerals. The risk to student, staff, and their families lives is too great at this point. Thank you for all of your hard work in keeping everyone safe, healthy, and most importantly, alive.
ecast820	Thank you for taking our health and safety into consideration. I appreciate that this was a difficult decision, but thank you for trusting staff to be creative and make remote learning equitable, engaging, and rigorous. We all love our students, and many of us are at higher-risk for contracting COVID. Remote learning may not be ideal, but if there is even a chance that one student or faculty member could fall seriously ill and die, it will be worth the sacrifice. Thank you again for choosing remote learning through November. -A proud WCASD teacher
mtaglang	<p>School Board and Cabinet,</p> <p>As a 21-year veteran teacher in the district, I'd like to commend and thank you for making this extremely difficult decision to resume school remotely. This is the only way for us to insure the physical safety and health of all of our students and staff. Best of luck navigating the path forward.</p> <p>Matt Taglang</p>
cdemarco	I want to thank Dr. Scanlon and the administration for all they have done to make an informed decision about reopening schools remotely this fall. As an employee of the District, I feel fortunate to have such a professional and caring leadership team at the helm. Thank you in advance for supporting their recommendation!
JosephESweeney	<p>Just a note of support and thanks for the work that the Board, Administration, Faculty, and Staff are doing to try and provide education to students in the district during the pandemic. We are about to experience a very challenging year as a district for parents, teachers, and especially students. I suggest that we try to think of this as providing learning online while at home during a pandemic and not fall into the trap of thinking that the outcomes, experiences, and services can meet the normal expectations. If we are fortunate we as a nation will develop better testing, contact tracing, and treatment within the coming year and perhaps look forward to returning before our seniors graduate.</p> <p>Our parents, teachers, administrators, and students will all need extra patience from and for one another this year. I hope to rise to that challenge and trust that we all will attempt to do so.</p> <p>Kind regards, Joe Sweeney (resident, parent of two in the district)</p>

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email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
kellymboris	As both a parent and elementary classroom teacher in the district, I am truly grateful for the care and consideration you have shown while creating the reopening plan for the WCASD community. I fully support the plan to reopen with remote instruction for the first marking period. I believe this is a plan that makes health and safety a top priority. Thank you for the obvious hard work and dedication that you have put into the creation of the reopening plans. I am proud to work in a district that is truly putting the safety of our students, families, and staff first. THANK YOU!!!!
mbolner	I would like to thank and support those who proposed a remote model for the beginning of the 2020-21 school year. It is absolutely a hard decision and there are many questions that comes with it, but the safety of the students, teachers, and school staff must be prioritized and I am very proud to be a part of a district that recognizes and prioritizes the well-being of our school community. I am very much looking forward to going back in person when it is safe to do so!
winfield.m	I support the board's decision to delay in person classes. I believe it is in the best interest of students and staff to postpone in person class until November when hopefully the virus has receded appreciably.
amyfayrobinson	Thank you very much for keeping the safety and health of our students and staff a top priority. I really appreciate the remote start to the school year as it helps keep everyone safe (even family and community members the students and staff interact with)!
avebeatty	<p>A quick google search will show you the following direct quote: "I don't think I can emphasize it enough as the director for the Centers for Disease Control, the leading public health agency in the world — it is in the public health interest that these K through 12 students to get the schools back open for face-to-face learning," Dr. Robert Redfield told lawmakers with the House Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis.</p> <p>The school board must vote to reopen schools on 31 Aug 2020, allowing students to return in the building full time or opt to remain remote full time. Enough people will opt to remain remote which will allow the social distancing guidelines to be maintained. This can be done.</p>
reynawcaea	Dear School Board and Cabinet, Thank you for giving equal consideration to the health and safety of our teaching staff. Chris Reyna
sroesener	I want to thank you for your diligence and thorough decision process that led to an outcome that will help students, families and staff members remain safer until more researched medical interventions and/or a reliable vaccine are in place. I know this was not an easy decision and ultimately, I believe it will truly make a difference in the health of our community. Thank you! -Staff Member and Parent of a WCASD Elementary Student
tsiripakarn	I think that we must stay online until covid19 situation is far better than this or even vaccine is available. We have to safe both students and teachers. Because they can carry virus back home and transfer to family members. We have been spending week after week to plan to re-open. We don't want to close on the first day like one of Indiana schools ( <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2020/08/01/us/schools-reopening-indiana-coronavirus.html">https://www.nytimes.com/2020/08/01/us/schools-reopening-indiana-coronavirus.html</a> ).
Lcostello	Thank you for taking the time to review the safest way to begin the school year. Parents have already begun making social plans, creating babysitting cohorts, and adapting to the changes ahead. Teachers will work tirelessly to ensure good sound virtual schooling. With an unknown path of this virus, we just can't take chances. We are all in this together but most importantly we won't have to worry about the possibility of anyone getting sick or worse. Thank you for all that you do!
mreilly	We all understand this is an extremely challenging decision to make, but I wanted to thank you for keeping the best interests of the staff and students in mind. I am grateful that I will not be putting my husband and two young children at risk and can continue to social distance safely.
jlepage	I support the administration and am appreciative of the time put into making such a difficult Decision!
carltontull	Thank you for making a decision to move to an online format that best serves your student, family, and employee populations. In these uncertain times, we need to keep each other's safety at the forefront of our minds. We do not know everyone's health situations or the health conditions of their loved ones. Though this format is not ideal for learning or logistics for parents, it's the safest and most responsible. No one every said doing the right thing was easy/ popular. It's often the opposite. Thanks for being willing to make the tough/ right decision.
chasson	Thank you so much for considering the virtual option. We appreciate you making student and staff safety a priority.

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lanasutton316	<p>I am a resident of West Goshen township, and my husband and I have grandchildren who attend schools in the West Chester Area School District. Our own children graduated from East. I fully support your decision to offer only remote instruction for at least the first marking period.</p> <p>I am very familiar with the layout of both Fugett and East. The classrooms and hallways are not large enough to maintain distancing of six feet. It's important to stop the spread of the Coronavirus, and it is obvious to me that your decision is a wise one based on saving lives.</p>
jenstone1323	<p>In-person instruction is needed at the elementary level and we feel we should do the hybrid model for returning to school so they get some in-person instruction. As a working parent, I will not be able to give the needed support to my 2 elementary students (K and 1st). My first grader needs [REDACTED] [REDACTED] struggled with the virtual learning last year. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] I hired a tutor over the summer. I will now have to hire someone to help us with the online learning for the 2020-2021 year. I can't see how I will be able to help both children navigate the virtual learning at once, in addition to keeping up with my work. This is way too much stress to put on families!! Not to mention the attention span of my K and 1st graders...virtual learning does not keep them engaged. I also have an 8th grader who will most likely need my help from time to time. But, I think online learning is doable for middle and high school age. Just get the elementary children into the schools please!!!!</p>
bethanyhechinger	<p>WCASD's plan to begin the year with entirely remote learning was met with tremendous relief by our family and we strenuously hope that the decision will be supported by the board. We feel very strongly that a remote start until at least Thanksgiving is in the best interest of everyone— students, teachers, staff &amp; the community at large. We have grave concerns about the possibility of aerosol transmission in indoor spaces, enforcement of distancing &amp; mask-wearing, and a nationwide lack of [REDACTED] testing/tracing that could cause small outbreaks to explode and only move us further away from the goal of driving down infections in our area. We also have concerns about the disruption in learning that would be caused by periodic shutdowns — a remote start would enable schools &amp; teachers to plan ahead months at a time, rather than weeks at a time. Paramount as well is our concern for the personal health and safety of all involved, especially teachers; while we can choose to put our own children into cyber school, we think it is gravely unfair to force teachers and staff to work in an environment that could be, frankly, devastating or even fatal to their own health or that of their families.</p>
achessock	<p>As a teacher and parent in the WCASD, I want to thank Dr. Scanlon, the Cabinet, and the School Board for making the decision to open with remote learning until it is safe for the children and staff to return to school during the Covid pandemic. While I look forward to teaching in person in the near future and I miss a classroom filled with amazing students, the data indicating the current rate of positive Covid cases in Chester and Delaware counties is alarming. We, as a community, must prioritize the health and safety of all children, staff, and their families until the risk of Covid is manageable.</p> <p>Respectfully,</p> <p>Amy Chessock</p>
smcaleer	<p>Thank you so much for all the time and energy you have been exerting during this difficult time. We are so grateful for your patience and dedication and support the position that you are in. Stay safe and well!</p>
jbc86	<p>Thank you for considering the health and well-being of the entire West Chester community by choosing to start school virtually.</p>
21meredithh	<p>As a student in the WCASD, I have dreamt of attending my final year of high school. It seems unfair that you haven't given going back to school a shot yet. I understand that you're trying to do your best to please but this is my senior year that you're stripping me of. If anybody should be given the opportunity to go back to school it should be the upcoming seniors. You only get one graduation, one senior prom, one chance to make senior jeans, one chance to win the spirit stick, and one last chance to make the most of your last year in high school. It is super tough for so many people to learn from their laptop sitting at home. They lack motivation and their academic performances decrease. Please reconsider how you're planning to take away the experiences you only get once. Thank you</p>
jconner	<p>I support the district's difficult decision to start school virtually! This is the best decision for the health of the entire community.</p>

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
shanny920	<p>First, thank you Dr Scanlon...you are amazing!</p> <p>Second, I'd like to suggest 're-evaluation' much sooner than the Thanksgiving time frame suggested....the reality is that Thanksgiving really means January. I believe we will have a good understanding of how the schools are handling hybrid schedules and will have some ideas from those schools pretty early on, so even if there's no change in the virtual learning plan after a month, at least we will know that things are being constantly evaluated and there may be some hope. Psychologically, it just gives students and parents a little bit of hope. In the meantime, I believe continued education about the disease needs to be required of all teachers and staff to allay the many fears and misconceptions. Finally, this may be a school by school decision, but I would request that there be some sort of live 'meet and greet' for students and teachers prior to the start of virtual learning. Of course, following all healthy distance protocols and in smaller groups, it is a necessary for bonding and creating relationships, especially with the elementary school kids.</p> <p>As an aside, I would urge the district to start putting aside funds and resources for the psychological impact this is, and will continue to have, on our students in the future.</p>
dnbb417	<p>I am writing to thank the WCASD administration for their recommendation to begin the school year virtually. Any decision that would be made during this time would present challenges and opposition from members of our community. I commend that the administration is putting the safety and health of our children, teachers, and staff first while also providing a sound alternative to attending the brick and mortar schools. I have experience in cyber instruction and have confidence that the district will provide a rigorous curriculum through an online platform. Thank you to the board for taking the time to read the comments and taking into consideration the best way to keep our families safe during the unprecedented time.</p>
hadussinger	<p>Thank you for prioritizing the welfare and safety of our students AND teachers.</p>
jmorrison	<p>I fully support Jim Scanlon's plan, as a teacher and community member. He has always made decisions that are in the best interest of WC children, and this is no exception. Please vote to accept his recommendations, and protect our kids and staff.</p>
cmeighan	<p>Dear Dr. Scanlon, School Board members, and Cabinet,</p> <p>My name is Colleen Meighan and I am a Speech/Language Pathologist (SLP) at Penn Wood Elementary and Rustin High School and a member of the School Reopening Task Force. I want to thank you for spending the time to research the best and safest possible options for our schools. I understand that there is no decision that will make everyone happy. As a SLP, I work with some of the neediest students in our schools. I understand the value and importance of in person instruction.</p> <p>I am in a unique position as a SLP because I also have the opportunity to work as an SLP in a hospital. My hospital, located in Delaware County, was one of the hardest hit hospitals in Pennsylvania during this pandemic. I spent every weekend while school was in session, and every Monday-Saturday this summer working at the hospital. As an SLP, I work on the frontline helping patients to communicate when on a ventilator/after a ventilator, providing swallowing therapy, and cognitive therapy to help patients through their delirium. What I witnessed was traumatic and heartbreaking. I spoke with families over the phone because they could not be present with their loved one in the hospital. I watched as my patients gasped for breath as I worked to coax them to safely swallow their medicines. I worked with doctors, nurses, therapists, housekeeping, and maintenance to provide the safest possible environment for my patients, all while wearing booties, a gown, two pairs of gloves, an N95 mask, a surgical shield mask, a face shield, and a bouffant. I did everything within my power and watched my colleagues do the same to keep our patients alive, often times, without success.</p> <p>I am writing to ask that you vote in favor of remote learning this fall. As educators, the safety and well-being of our students (and by default their families) should be our main priorities because it is only when our students are safe that they can be open to new learning and achieving their personal best. As Roy Disney said, "It is not hard to make decisions when you know what your values are." I ask that you keep the safety of the students, teachers, staff, and their families at the forefront of your decision.</p> <p>Thank you for your continuous support of the teachers in this district. I appreciate all of the time and energy you have spent working to create a safe and open learning environment.</p>

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
	Sincerely, Colleen Meighan
westchesterheather	I'm so relieved to hear that the administration of WCASD is going with the safest option possible for the start of the school year. The School Board's decision to vote in support of this is crucial for the safety of all constituents.
laz1964	Thank you for taking the safety of the students and staff into consideration when deciding to go remote
adonoghue5	As a resident, father of an elementary student, and the spouse of a district teacher, I cannot thank you enough for choosing a virtual opening. We need to focus on health and safety even at the inconvenience of some. This was the right decision! Thank you.
elizabethfremont	The decision to go 100% online was not made based on evidence and facts. It was not made with the best interest of the kids. It was made because of pressure from the teachers union. I completely understand, the teachers do not want to go back. They don't want to get sick. Well, honestly, neither did I but I went to work anyway. I am a healthcare worker who has not stopped working. I've walked in and out of Covid positive patient rooms. I protected myself so I wouldn't get sick. I protected myself so that I wouldn't get anyone else sick. Ask the union instead of pulling away the teachers, to support them in protecting them. No doubt you are being inundated with statistics, I will not bore you with more. I know hybrid will be a logistical nightmare but it can be done. It can! Aside from Downingtown, all of the surrounding districts are doing it. It can be done! It is being done. Parents, like myself, will be there to help. I am asking you to reconsider the decision that was made.
awarner	I wanted to thank Dr. Scanlon, the administration, reopening committee and the school board for putting out children's health and safety first. No one wants to teach or learn remotely, but it is the only option to keeping our kids safe. Thank you again for all you do for our school community.
ntrofa	Thank you so much for supporting all of the students and staff during this difficult time. As a teacher, I support your decision to start the school year with remote learning keeping the health of everyone as a priority right now.

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haiiachker	<p>Hello, could you please clarify and consider why private, catholic schools and camps and daycares are able to reopen and operate following CDC guidelines and the public schools are held to different standards?</p> <p>The Director of CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics recommend students K-12 return to in-person schools following the safety guidelines.</p> <p>What do you suggest parents who both do not work from home nor have the option to work from home (front line workers) do when they have to stay at home to help their kids with virtual school lessons? Do we quit our jobs and lose our jobs?</p> <p>In many ways, teachers are essential workers and school is an essential part of a child's life. If the front line workers have worked through the entire Pandemic ( grocery stores workers, hospital staff, post office) then certainly teachers can safely be there for our children while social distancing. We do appreciate all the hard work teachers do!</p>
mwhitcomb	<p>I just wanted to say that I think that the decision to go all cyber at least through Thanksgiving break is a very smart decision. I do not think it would be wise to move forward with any in-school learning at this time. For the safety of our students, teachers, staff, and all of their family members, all cyber seems to be the only logical option. Any in-school activity will all but guarantee the spread of the virus putting many lives at risk.</p>
rh4d	<p>In light of the circumstances I agree wholeheartedly with this plan. It's the right decision, and it is the only choice we have, really. You've done a great job with this impossible decision!</p>
ciscokids3	<p>I would like to thank Dr. Scanlon and the task force for making the decision to start the school year remotely. Being healthy and alive should be the priority for now. Socialization can wait a few months because this will pass. Remote learning is temporary and won't kill you but COVID-19 can. Please don't be swayed by the comments of others, because my own children need their mother alive.</p>
hselgrath	<p>Thank you for your concern for the safety of our students and teachers. We need our teachers safe so that they can continue to educate the WCASD students.</p>
cbland	<p>Thank you for your support for the health and safety of students, staff, and district families by voting for remote learning for the first marking period.</p>
victoria22h	<p>I support the online start to the school year. It is not ideal or easy for anyone but it is safest. We are in a pandemic and need to remember that. This year will be less than ideal but we need to make the best of it while keeping each other safe. I look forward to in-person school for my daughter but I will not do it at the expense of someone else's life. Thank you for listening to all points of view.</p>
kpatton	<p>Thank you for starting online. A difficult but wise decision!</p>
sberberichedmondson	<p>Please convey my appreciation for the chance to begin our school year safely through remote learning. We are grateful for your support as you prioritize the health of everyone in our school community. THANK YOU! ~ Dr. Susan Berberich Edmondson</p>
abkubov	<p>I feel for all of you during this difficult time when there seems to be no good options. That said, I support Dr. Scanlon's recommendation that we start the school year remotely. As much as we all want to return to normal, it is not yet safe to do so and health and safety has to be the first priority when considering our kids. Thanks for all you do.</p>
jmuzi	<p>As an employee and parent in the district, I am thankful for the decision Dr. Scanlon made. I know it won't be easy for many families, including mine, but if it keeps us safe, I support it.</p>
charker	<p>Thank you for taking the time to consider the remote option. As a teacher who loves what I do, I want to be in front of my first graders but am also very worried about exposing my own family. At this time, with numbers rising and mixed signals about the best practices, I think remote is our safest option. I have been on the reopening task force and have given many scenarios much consideration with an open mind. In the end, the safety of all involved has to come first. Please know that I will give my best effort to making our children and parents in the community feel supported during remote learning. I believe this is the best we can do.</p>

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mmize	I am a 2nd grade teacher in the district and I wanted to take the opportunity to share my appreciation and support of the district's decision to begin our school year remotely through the Thanksgiving holiday. I know this was a difficult decision but I truly believe that the students and staff will rise to the occasion and this will be the best decision for us all. Thank you for always making the health, safety, and well-being of the students and staff of the WCASD your first priority.
bjones	Thank you for your support during this difficult circumstance and for considering the health and safety of all people, including the staff.
bethanyhechinger	WCASD's plan to begin the year with entirely remote learning was met with tremendous relief by our family and we strenuously hope that the decision will be supported by the board. We feel very strongly that a remote start until at least Thanksgiving is in the best interest of everyone— students, teachers, staff & the community at large. We have grave concerns about the possibility of aerosol transmission in indoor spaces, enforcement of distancing & mask-wearing, and a nationwide lack of timely testing/tracing that could cause small outbreaks to explode and only move us further away from the goal of driving down infections in our area. We also have concerns about the disruption in learning that would be caused by periodic shutdowns — a remote start would enable schools & teachers to plan ahead months at a time, rather than weeks at a time. Paramount as well is our concern for the personal health and safety of all involved, especially teachers; while we can choose to put our own children into cyber school, we think it is gravely unfair to force teachers and staff to work in an environment that could be, frankly, devastating or even fatal to their own health or that of their families.
aturley	I want to sincerely thank you for putting the health and safety of staff and students at the top of your priorities. I am so grateful and relieved that my focus can now be on excellent instruction without worries about my health and safety or that of my family. Thank you for making this difficult decision.
Mmcfadyen1	I recognize what a difficult process this has been. I support the Remote 2.0 plan. Thank you for making safety a priority.
rnelbourne	<p>THANK YOU!!</p> <p>As a teacher at Rustin High School, I wanted to take a moment to thank you for your support of the health of the district's staff and students in your decision to reopen virtually. I personally feel a huge sense of relief because I will be able to not only be there for my own 2nd grade daughter who will need help with virtual schooling in our own district, but I also will feel safe and comfortable enough to continue to see my family without an added risk to their health. (Since I am a high school teacher, I would be in a closed classroom with 125-150 students in my weekly schedule - which doesn't include the other teachers and staff members I would be in contact with on a daily basis.) I come down with the flu and various other colds every year despite numerous precautions and I am grateful that by opening virtually I will be protected from a far worse illness in the form of COVID-19.</p> <p>A virtual reopening protects my health and also the health of my family, of my students, and of their families (basically all of the community members of our district). I feel a huge sense of relief and comfort knowing that we will be working virtually despite the numerous challenges this presents for all of us involved.</p> <p>I know that this decision was not an easy one to make. It is unfair that these types of decisions are being left to you at the local level because I know this means you will be on the receiving end of many, many comments and complaints from the public. I, for one, wanted to contact you with a note of thanks and gratitude.</p> <p>Gratefully yours, Robyn Melbourne</p>
sberberichedmondson	Please convey my appreciation for the chance to begin our school year safely through remote learning. We are grateful for your support as you prioritize the health of everyone in our school community. THANK YOU! ~ Dr. Susan Berberich Edmondson
Mbpollart	Please reconsider opening this year I understand if we may have to eventually close, but opening in a hybrid model would allow students to meet their teachers and new classmates. This would help students



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	feel accountability towards the teachers if there was a shutdown in the upcoming year. Thank you for your consideration.
cboyle	As a WCASD educator, I am grateful for your proposal to proceed with distance learning this fall. I realize how difficult this decision must have been (along with little guidance from the state and federal levels). However, for weeks, I have been wrestling with anxiety about contracting the illness when exposed to hundreds of children on a daily basis as well as having to stop seeing my aging parents for fear of being an unknowing carrier while in the school setting. Thank you very much for putting our health and our families' health first.
cmadiro	Thank you for supporting your teachers and students, school board members. While I dream of being back in my classroom one day, I am so grateful to be online in the fall. The safety of the teachers and students must come first. We can make up for this lost time in the future, but could never make up for lives lost. Thank you again!
hselgrath	Thank you for your concern for the safety of our students and teachers. We need our teachers safe so that they can continue to educate the WCASD students.
kararoot1569	Thank you WCSAD for your time and effort! I appreciate you thinking about the safety of the students and staff when deciding to begin the school year remotely.
kararoot1569	Thank you WCSAD for your time and effort! I appreciate you thinking about the safety of the students and staff when deciding to begin the school year remotely.
tfinegan	Thank you for your support to keep us virtual until Thanksgiving. Very happy with your decision!
kim.grandzol	While remote or cyber learning will be very challenging, I trust Dr. Scanlon is making the best recommendation for our schools and our community. My only hope is that the services many children need will be available in other forms- free meals, IEPs, therapies, etc. Thank you.
sneddons	In this pandemic the choice to be remote until Thanksgiving is the best choice for the safety of all involved in the public education process.
jleavens	<p>I strongly agree with the decision to begin the school year remotely, as the health and safety of our staff and students should be the top priority. I appreciate everyone's time and effort regarding this extremely difficult decision.</p> <p>Regards, Jamie Leavens (special education teacher)</p>
johannsedlmair	<p>Dear Madams, Sirs,</p> <p>I would kindly ask you to consider for your decision the holistic wellbeing and chance for normal development of our children. Please take into account the decisions that have been made by other school districts and school boards as well as in other countries across Europe. They also based their decision on science and overall well being for their children and opened regular school for the new school year. From my perspective a solution that could fit all is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* open schools up and mandate to wear face masks</li> <li>* allow children that have concerns to attend virtually, by active zoom meeting running in the classroom during normal sessions and providing learning material online</li> <li>* allow teachers with pre-conditions to opt out from active class participation</li> <li>* if a hot spot develops, temporary shut-down with virtual class sessions can be considered</li> </ul> <p>That way you will allow the children to get back to normal life by taking a very limited risk. Thanks for your consideration.</p> <p>best regards, Johann Sedlmair</p>
satwell	I would like to thank the Task Force and administration for the tireless work they put into their decision to recommend that schools open up virtually this fall. As a second grade teacher I was filled with fear about the possibility of returning to the classroom, knowing how impossible it would be to follow safety protocols. I was ready to write a will and make sure all finances were in order because I felt like going into school would be like walking into death. Thank you for looking out for the safety and health of all families, students and faculty.

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
ladams	I am a third grade teacher at FHE. Thank you so much for putting the safety and health of students and staff first at such a difficult time. It truly is an impossible situation for so many reasons but I truly believe the risk of losing a member of our school community is not a risk we can take, when we know we have the ability to avoid that risk. Implementing remote learning for the first marking period is the only way we can know for sure we are not putting anyone in our school community in harm's way. I know this is an enormously impossible situation for all involved but I also know that we are going to rise to the occasion and do whatever it takes to make this first trimester a productive, effective, and safe. Thank you again for truly caring about the wellbeing of staff and students. I am proud and grateful to work for this amazing school district!
dranere	To begin, I want to express my genuine gratitude and appreciation to our district and the ones who worked tirelessly to form the best and safest plan for this upcoming school year. My hope is that the district understands that any decision will be met with great criticism. As much as I as well as many of my colleagues would love to see our students and staff return to some type of normalcy, returning to in-person learning will still be far from normal and will put our members and students in great danger. It is understandable that guardians must return to work, however this responsibility should not be put on the shoulders of educators who are expected to be "glorified babysitters". Please know that behind the ones opposing this plan, there are so many more mothers, fathers, daughters, sons, friends, and loved ones breathing a sigh of relief. Thank you for keeping our members safe.
JRussell1	Thank you for making the safe decision to keep all West Chester Area School district students and staff safe as we continue to navigate this challenging time. Remote learning, while not ideal, ensures we will not play a part in the spread of the virus and ensures we will not have to mourn the loss of any students or staff.
joy.e.holland	Thank you for making the difficult decision to begin the year virtually. While this is a no-win situation, I appreciate the consideration given to the health and safety of everyone (students & staff). Of course virtual schooling is not many peoples first choice, but it is clearly the safest option.
mrunzer	Thank you for keeping students and staff safe by starting the year with Remote Learning 2.0. I fully support this decision.
hpreiffer	<p>Dr. Scanlon, all staff and task force volunteers are to be commended for their leadership in creating the Reopening Plan. We truly hope that the Board will accept their recommendation to be 100% virtual for the first part of the year. We know this is difficult for working families, but it was the right recommendation. We're one of those working families. We truly hope that the board will accept the recommendation do that Dr. Scanlon and his staff can focus on implementation so the new school year will be a success.</p> <p>Thank you for your service as board members, and we again extend our gratitude to Dr. Scanlon and his team.</p> <p>Heather and Mike Reiffer</p>
chindman	As both a parent and teacher in the district I understand how difficult the decision to reopen our schools through remote learning must be, but also fully support this decision, and know that it is the right decision for the safety of all students and staff.
grandmj5	Your decision to open school with students should be based on all the facts. What we are not told about the reported increases in "cases" of Coronavirus Infections is that while more people are testing positive, 99% of those people are not sick, not dying, and not being hospitalized ! All the data should be reported, including cases from the essential workers and the opening of day care centers. I understand you have to abide by the state recommendations, but they should not be allowed to keep changing them without all the facts, and should have to answer in person to the public. Please keep fighting to open our schools!
katiecloutman	I appreciate the West Chester Area School District Administration and their decision to support remote learning in the fall. While I would love for my children to meet their teacher and get to know their classmates, I believe this is the safest option for both students and teachers. As it happens, I am a parent and teacher in the district, and while the only place I want to be is in the classroom working with my students, I do not believe it is safe for teachers to return to the classroom.
ecwilson225	I support the decision WCASD has made about being virtual/cyber. We can not afford to lose any staff member or child during this time by forcing people to get back into the building. We are still living covid and should be taking many precautions. Thank you!

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
dhillplumbing	<p>First, I am certain—all those who have school-aged children and/or work for this district would want to have in-class school if there was no pandemic. Days ago, on the first of August, a study from a pediatric hospital in Chicago, Illinois examined the concentration of the SARS-CoV-2 in the nasopharynx, or the upper region of the throat that connects to the nasal passages, of children and adults. According to the results, children 5 years and younger who develop mild to moderate Covid-19 symptoms have 10 to 100 times as much SARS-CoV-2 in the nasopharynx as older children and adults. Whenever these young children cough, sneeze, or shout, they expel virus-laden droplets from the nasopharynx into the air. Think about this! How often do you think a student coughs, sneezes, shouts or laughs in one class period, bus ride, lunch period, or day? If these children have as much as one hundred times the amount of virus in their throat and nasal passages as adults, it only makes sense that they would spread the virus more efficiently. The study also shows that children from the ages of 5 to 17 (yes, that is from kindergarten to seniors in high school) also with mild to moderate Covid-19 symptoms, have the same amount of virus in the nasopharynx as adults age 18 and above. The authors of this study conclude it is likely that young children, while not as prone to suffering from Covid-19 infection, still drive its spread. The researchers found that although young children had a somewhat lower risk of infection than adults and were less likely to become ill, children age 14 and younger transmit the virus more efficiently to other children and adults than adults themselves. So when you say how will my child learn AP Biology or elementary science processes from home or online? Start with facts and science from scientific studies like this. And explain the best way to learn is at home because science shows that the risks of starting in school buildings in August or early September is a risk of lives.</p>
kmesi	<p>While the opening of schools have been one of the biggest debates of the summer, I am so thankful that WCASD has looked at all of the options and decided to start fully remote. No option was a perfect plan and I am appreciative of the countless hours everyone spent to make a decision that keeps everyone safety at the forefront.</p>
awheeler	<p>I would just like to praise Dr. Scanlon's recommendation to keep learning remote for our schools. I know this is NOT a desirable option for ANYONE, but the fact is NONE of our options are desirable. I would rather work through the hardships of remote learning and know we are doing our part to keep everyone safe, than try to come back and 'see what happens'. Coming back to school puts everyone in jeopardy and frankly (as you well know) is a logistical nightmare. People don't realize how potentially traumatizing it will be for the students (particularly the youngest ones) to be in school, with the kinds of regulations we will have to put in place. Thank you for putting health and safety first!! Virtual school over virtual funerals any day.</p>
damasa_81	<p>Thank you for all the support you have given to the teachers and students.</p>
mpgreenphotography	<p>Per the PA Dept of Health (data as of this message) Chester County has 344 deaths, 284 of those from nursing homes So 60 deaths in all other residents, of all ages. Population 550K 0 deaths in school age kids (under 20 yr old) in Chester County Positive Cases in Chester County have declined for three weeks in a row with the last full week being 143 positive tests. The last two recorded days totaled 2 new cases. So if these numbers aren't good enough to have in person learning even on a limited level what are the numbers we must see to allow in person schooling ? How many cases in our county will trigger in person learning ? How many deaths ? School age is already 0, we cant improve on that. How will you determine that we have reached a safe level for in person education ? With the addition of online learning why can't you allow parents to choose and see if the numbers then allow in person learning with appropriate social distancing ? You clearly know that online learning doesn't suit the needs of many children. When the grades suffer whats your plan to help those children get back on track? These kids have open swimming pools, club sports, PIAA sports are approved, they've been to grocery stores, beaches, and countless other places. Restaurants are open, home depot, target etc. How is the risk at school with masks and distancing so much more unacceptable ? At school they have the ability to wash their hands, use hand sanitizer and practice every available precaution we know of. Why is in person learning dangerous and how will you eliminate that risk when you are ready to open again ? Michael Green</p>
bgendron	<p>Thank you to Dr. Scanlon and the administration who ran the task force. This was an impossible task and remote learning, while never ideal, is the right choice to protect everyone's safety. We could not live with even one death on our community conscience.</p>
Akbell22	<p>THANK YOU for proposing to continue remote learning! We cannot put the health and safety of our students and staff in jeopardy.</p>

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
jronayne	Thank you for your continued support to keep our students, staff and families safe.
seyaw	<p>I submitted more lengthy comments via email on 7/30 which I incorporate here. As I said, I will have two daughters at Rustin this fall. In short, the administration's recommendation is based, at least in part, on the notion that positive cases are rising in the WCASD. The data from the Chester County Health Department does not support such a conclusion and, to the contrary, the positive reported cases are trending downward with the positive cases now being less than when Chester County moved to the green phase. I understand the Board/administration may also be considering determining whether fall sports will be canceled at this time. Probably 20%-25% of the district's students are student athletes in high school and middle school. The benefits of participating in both team and individual sports are well recognized and not just limited to exercise. If the district is compelling those students to spend even more time in front of a screen, one would presume the district would do everything possible, feasible and within its power to give those kids the opportunity to participate in team or individual sporting competition and exercise – safely, of course, as has been ongoing now for four weeks for HS athletes. Also, whether schools are remote should not be the determining factor for sports. The kids are playing sports now-- both at the rec and travel level and HS level for preseason voluntary workouts. Sports participation is theoretically a more "controllable" environment than even the school day setting. The notion that if the kids cannot be in school, then they can't play sports is just a false comparison. Maybe some think it is bad optics but the kids are playing now and aren't in school -- in a geographic area where the overall positive cases are trending downward. I suggest members of the School Board take the time to actually speak to head coaches about whether they believe fall sports can take place safely. For example two excellent resources for board members to speak with are Rustin football coach Mike St. Clair and Rustin girls basketball coach Lauren Stackhouse. Coach St. Clair has been monitoring his football players while they participate in voluntary workouts. Coach Stackhouse runs an AAU basketball program with 200 kids whose teams have been participating (indoors) in tournaments and practices for 5 weeks. Most importantly, taking in person school and athletics away from your student athletes again is going to be a further crushing blow to 20-25% of your HS and MS students. We are all mindful the decisions are difficult, but they take thought and adequate research and a willingness to do what's best for the kids including giving them the choices to (1) go to school in person or 100% remote; and (2) if applicable for their situation, allow them the choice to play for their respective schools this fall. Thank you.</p> <p>Scott Yaw</p>
dsimonian111	If 60% of parents surveyed voted for some form of in school reopening plan, why is 100% virtual learning even being considered?
jmckenna	As a West Chester district teacher, I support the proposed plan to begin the school year remotely. I understand the immense difficulty of the decision and appreciate the countless hours and research that has gone into making this proposal. I also appreciated the detailed explanation and thorough justification of the plan during Wednesday's presentation. I felt it was honest, transparent, and fair. I support Dr. Scanlon and the administration for all of the hard work and dedication they have put in to come to this decision. Thank you for putting the safety of students and staff first.
sunleo813	I support Dr. Scanlon - starting remote will keep all safe.
lanasutton316	<p>I am a resident of West Goshen township, and my husband and I have grandchildren who attend schools in the West Chester Area School District. Our own children graduated from East. I fully support your decision to offer only remote instruction for at least the first marking period.</p> <p>I am very familiar with the layout of both Fugett and East. The classrooms and hallways are not large enough to maintain distancing of six feet. It's important to stop the spread of the Coronavirus, and it is obvious to me that your decision is a wise one based on saving lives.</p>
dsimonian111	If I am back to work teaching group exercise classes at our local fitness center, my husband is back working in hospitals, and essential workers, Dr's, blue collar workers, etc can go back to work, then why can't our teachers and staff go back to work?
elinton	Thank you for making the decision to go fully virtual. None of this is ideal, but I think you made the right choice, and are helping to keep our staff and students safe.

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email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
adecicco	As an employee of the district I just wanted to thank you for recommending Remote Learning 2.0 for our fall start. I know this will bring on new challenges, but I am relieved that the healthy and safety of our school community is at the forefront of this decision. I am ready to for this new adventure in teaching!
dsimonian111	If St. Agnes, St. Peter and Paul, West Chester Friends, St. Pats, Malvern Prep, and many other schools in our area can go back to school 5 full days brick and mortar, why can't we? Are they more safe than we are? Are they more intelligent and creative in their planning and preparation?
dsimonian111	If the Director of the CDC, Robert Redfield stated recently that, "I'm of the point of view as a public health leader in this nation, that having the schools actually closed is a greater public health threat to the children than having the schools reopen," then why are we even considering a 100% virtual option? We, as parents and taxpayers deserve the truth. Thank you for your honesty.
awfrasch86	We are both full time working parents with a 5 and 6 year old. Has there been any ideas on how we can teach them everyday and also being able to afford the extra cost that we have already been paying to continue putting them in daycare
dsimonian111	If Governor, Tom Wolf made this statement on July 31, 2020, "I want to be clear: I am not closing school buildings or cancelling classes." Then, why are we?
rh4d	In light of the circumstances I agree wholeheartedly with this plan. It's the right decision, and it is the only choice we have, really. You've done a great job with this impossible decision!
mdummeldinger	The issues facing education during the pandemic are incredibly nuanced, and they present to us innumerable unforeseen challenges. I want to thank everyone involved in the decision making process for their service in pursuit of keeping our students, parents, and staff safe and healthy.
korlando	I just wanted to thank you for putting the safety of students and staff in WCASD first. These decisions will actually benefit countless others in the community even if some don't realize it at this time. Thanks for working to keep all of us safe.
larosakm	As one of the SLPs in WCASD, thank you for your support and effort to prioritize our health and safety!
21meredithh	As a student in the WCASD, I have dreamt of attending my final year of high school. It seems unfair that you haven't given going back to school a shot yet. I understand that you're trying to do your best to please but this is my senior year that you're stripping me of. If anybody should be given the opportunity to go back to school it should be the upcoming seniors. You only get one graduation, one senior prom, one chance to make senior jeans, one chance to win the spirit stick, and one last chance to make the most of your last year in high school. It is super touch for so many people to learn from their laptop sitting at home. They lack motivation and their academic performances decrease. Please reconsider how you're planning to take away the experiences you only get once. Thank you
szwiza	I am a property owner and taxpayer in West Chester Borough. I 100% support the decision to do remote teaching to being the school year. It is the safest path forward during the Covid-19 pandemic. It is not worth risking teacher, staff and their family's lives. Starting in person teaching will just put lives at risk and prolong the length of the shutdown situation longer. -Scott Zwizanski
jewelryfromerin	Thank you so much for your support in keeping our students, their families and all of the WCASD faculty and staff safe in this time of uncertainty! I appreciate all of you who have been working hard and doing what is best at this time, which is to start remotely at this time.
jewelryfromerin	Thank you so much for your support in keeping our students, their families and all of the WCASD faculty and staff safe in this time of uncertainty! I appreciate all of you who have been working hard and doing what is best at this time, which is to start remotely at this time.
sfanelle	As a teacher in the district, I realize the decision to go remote this fall was agonizing. At the same time, it was the right thing to do. The physical health and wellness of all those involved is the single most important component. This is only temporary and we will get through it. Thank you for considering what is best for the students, faculty and staff regardless of the negative fall out that may happen. I am honored and grateful to be a part of this amazing school district!
coachbruno	As a taxpayer, a parent, and an employee in the WCASD, I appreciate the time and effort that has been made to consider all possible options that keep the safety and health of ALL the number one priority. Thank you.

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
meganschell0415	As a parent and teacher in the district, I am in full support of a remote start to the year. It is in the best health interest of everyone involved. The teachers are ready to take on this challenge and make this a terrific year. Please consider approving this remote plan. Thank you.
rkline	I'd like to pass along a huge THANK YOU to Dr. Scanlon for the decision to start this year remote on behalf of myself and my family. As someone who participated in the task force this summer, I know there have been no opinions ignored and no shortage of effort put into the work towards this decision. I am SO appreciative to work in a district that truly has the students' and staffs' best interest (HEALTH) in mind. THANK YOU!
jfusco	Thank you so much for taking the community's health and safety into consideration when choosing to start school online. I think this is the smartest option with the information that we currently have. I feel like the district cares about my safety and won't sacrifice staff lives to open in person. THANK YOU!
raybauer7	Thank you to Dr. Scanlon and everyone who helped in coming to the decision to start the year with virtual learning. The presentation was excellent and very informative. I know it wasn't an easy decision but the safety of our children along with the teachers and other school staff have to come first. Hopefully as the year goes on we can get this virus more under control in our country, and return to in person schooling once it is safe. Thanks again!
wmr0722	I just wanted to express my appreciation for your commitment to keep students and staff safe during the pandemic. It is very smart to have remote learning at this time. Thank you for all you do to support the kids and staff in WCASD!
allsmilescsr	I support the work Dr. Scanlon and team done. Please keep listening to the science, supporting our educators, sharing data with the community and reminding people of the bigger picture. Thank you for all you have done.
snyholm	I want to take a moment to thank you. Thank you for your kindness, patience, and commitment to teachers during this difficult time. I'm so proud to be a teacher in the West Chester Area School District and member of the West Chester community.
jgruber	<p>Can teachers please be given the option to teach remotely from their classrooms? I am an elementary teacher. Since all of my materials and instruments and technology sources are in my classroom, I know that I will be most effective if I have the option to go into my classroom on different days to plan, record, and hold live Zoom classes.</p> <p>Thank you for all of your hard work with all of this. I know that these are all very difficult decisions to make and I appreciate all of the time and energy you have to put in to making the best choices for our students and staff, given the circumstances.</p>
pjepson	<p>The situation we find our selves facing right now takes a community approach to solve and now is not the time to focus on individual wants and needs.</p> <p>I fully support the great work that Dr. Scanlon and his team have done in building a proposal that balances the safety of the community and needs of the student.</p>
hdelancey	Thank you so much for all that you've done. I feel so lucky to work in a district that is trying to keep everyone safe. I'll try and repay the favor by working harder than ever to teach and take care of our students!
sarajo156	My husband and I cannot thank Dr. Scanlon, the administrative staff, and wonderful faculty enough. It is through their amazing leadership and dedication that we are blessed to have our children home safely while still continuing their educational goals. Thank you!
angmyrt1	I know there are many people who have voiced similar concerns as myself, but I'm gonna say it again. These kids need to go back and be around their peers. We have not even given them the chance to show how responsible they can be with masks. We aren't giving them a voice at all. All three of my kids cried when I told them. I'm heartbroken for them. I wish we would stop looking at the positive cases as a factor. We need to look at all data.
thesmiths1200	We thank Dr. Scanlan and everyone working so hard to keep our students safe. This is not an easy time but we are grateful to be a part of this district and support Dr. Scanlan's recommendations.

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
21yaws	I will be a senior this year, and I believe a hybrid option would be the best for everyone. I think the schools could make this work safely, and it would be more beneficial to the students. The ability to be in person and interact is critical in my opinion. I believe I learn more and better from in person instruction. Students are affected mentally and emotionally from not being in school, and more time at home could be detrimental to some students' well being. It would be greatly appreciated if the hybrid option would be considered. We are old enough and responsible enough to do what it takes to practice social distancing and make in person learning a safe environment for both students and teachers (if it means we can be in school at all)! For those who are concerned about attending in person, they could do the cyber program.
Juliepron	<p>Deeply disappointed with the recommendation of remote learning through Thanksgiving. Our district has a large number of creative educators in our community who were interested in creating choices and recommendations for the school district. The majority of parents/guardians surveyed expressed interest in some form of a return to school. While Dr. Scanlon recommends remote learning, the Board has the opportunity to listen to our community of students and families and offer a choice of hybrid education, so that students can experience in-person learning and not be expected to learn in front of a screen all day, everyday. *Only 50% of education is academic.*</p> <p>Please help our students grow by offering the educational choice.</p>
nrichardson1618	My son is going into 2nd grade and I would love the option of ACP having learning centers in each specific school. That way children are in their usual school environment. But I'd also hope that the staff for ACP will be able to fully help all students, especially the younger ones whose work won't be as independent as the older children. I don't want to see just groups of children with a staff member simply "overseeing" as the children do their work alone. I don't think I will be able to stay home from work another 3 months but I also don't want my child struggling to keep up or understand his assignments if I'm not able to help him how he needs.
ritapagan2002	I applaud Dr Scanlon and his team. They've worked tirelessly the past few months. I appreciate his honesty and consistent communication throughout this entire process. While my choice will be to enroll my children in the current WCASD Cyber program because I am not comfortable risking my children's life in this current situation, I believe Dr Scanlon made the right decision on starting the school year virtually. My children will not be coming back to brick and mortar until there is a vaccine for COVID. I'm sure you have received numerous criticism submissions through this form so I wanted to make sure to voice a positive.
rositacarbajal25	Will in person classes be offered to children with 504 plans? [REDACTED]
21thompsonl	It is my senior year and i would really like to be on campus even for two days.
jaynamber	Thank you to the administration team for working tirelessly to try to make the best decision for ALL involved. Deciding to go virtual was, I am sure, a difficult decision to make but in my opinion the right one. The health and safety of not just the kids, but the teachers and support staff should come first. Thank you for all that you do, and continue to do, in support of our children.
laurenaharvey12	I support Dr. Scanlon's decision.
melissa.graeff	I am extremely thankful for the choices the Dr. Scanlon and the administration have made. Great job!
tdsalome	<p>Thank you for keeping our teachers, staff, children and community safe by giving all of us time to get back to school virtually this fall. It's truly important to be safe for everyone with so much uncertainty. Your decision is not easy but necessary.</p> <p>Remote with unknown threats to close and open more than once can be much more disruptive to all. I agree with virtual to start with a reassessment in November.</p> <p>Kind regards.</p>
mcorr	Thank you, and even though I want nothing more than to be in the building with my students, I support this difficult decision.
21mckennad	This process of school reopening for seniors and for the rest of the school has been very unfair and biased. I think the students who are actually going through this situation should have some kind of say in the reopening of schools. Many people learn way better and more efficient in classroom settings including myself. I know I don't want to be home looking at a computer for the final year of high school.

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lauriesimpson9	Thank you for taking into consideration the safety of our kids, teachers, administrators, bus drivers, school support staff, etc. I know this is a tough decision but I stand behind Dr Scanlon and his recommendation. I feel he always puts careful thought and decides what is best for the greater good. I have three kids in three different schools [REDACTED] and a job so this isn't easy in my house but it is the best decision for public health. Thank you for reading my comment and hope the board will decide in favor of Dr Scanlon's recommendation.
Robi27	Thank you! We love Scanlon and support him and the school board.
sruchti	Thank you for putting the safety of our community and economy ahead of the demands of those ignoring science. Based on what I have seen in West Chester, too many parents are not modeling social distancing to their kids, so we have to worry that those kids will bring the virus from home and spread it at school. Kids will recover from a term or two online, but I don't know how many would recover from knowing they had infected family, friends, or teachers. Thank you for caring more about your students well being than some of their parents seem to.
lesyab	I'm in agreement with online only for now I hope that we can ease back in, i.e. teacher led outside activities at schools asap and opporrunities for a few hours per week for an indoor hybrid program (with 6ft distancing) at the elementary level. If WCASD sticks with the science, helps build community around kids/families who need it, and values education as well as the social and emotional needs of the children, this will all work out fine. We have a wonderdul district!
kelley.curry25	I am very happy to hear virtual school. I am too nervous to send my kids back just yet. I appreciate all the hard work from Dr. Scanlon and his team to protect his staff and students!
tasteofmandi	Just wanted to urge you to follow Dr. Scanlon's recommendations, it's not an easy choice - but it is the prudent one - not just for students, staff and bus drivers, but for the taxpayers who will have to foot the bill if we try an in school or hybrid option (at an astronomical cost) and are forced to shift gears because of infection, while opening us up to lawsuits. Also, consider the mental health of students with anxiety, worried about sickness and for those that might carry guilt forever if they spread COVID to friends, teachers or family members who might die. Tgree months is not a lifetime, it's best to err on the side of caution.
leaholland	I fully support Dr Scanlon and our teachers. They have risen to the occasion and do what's best for the kids.
mskeogh14	As a teacher, community member, and former WCASD student, I am grateful for your support to go virtual until November. I know it is always a top priority to keep students and staff healthy. Thank you again.
aoberecker	I applaud Dr. Scanlon's efforts to keep our students, faculty, and staff safe from harm. It is NOT time yet to open schools. Our children don't go out to eat, they don't have play dates, they don't play at the park, they do very few things because it is simply not safe yet. YET is the key word. This won't go on forever but for right now, Learning at home, online is the safest way to keep our children and staff safe. I applaud Dr. Scanlon's efforts and support him 100 percent. I beg of you to do the same. Thank you.
whit.dz	Thank you to all who have worked with Dr. Scanlon to flesh out countless scenarios that balance quality education with safety of students and staff!!! While there is unfortunately no one optimal solution for all, or even most, providing parents options is paramount. Some have called it callous or accused us brick-and-mortar supporters as downplaying the gravity of COVID, but there have been numerous accounts of children and teenagers testing positive with little to no symptoms, and many of them not even transmitting detectable levels to immediate family members. Consider that, along with the American Academy of Pediatrics recommending in-person instruction for the physical and mental health of students, then a hybrid offering along with remote/cyber would make the most sense. While some families' schedules would behoove 5-day, full-time schooling, many of the inherent benefits of socializing, peer interaction, etc, would be mitigated in the face of social distancing and other COVID precautions. Thanks again for taking the time to elicit the feedback of so very many stakeholders.
steven.curryrealestate	I wholeheartedly agree with the decision of the West Chester school district. It is the smart rational decision of leaders. Our job as parents is first and foremost to keep our kids safe. Everything else is secondary. This is how I view my role as parent and I am relieved to know the school district views their jobs the same. Well done by Dr Scanlon and his amazing team, I fully believe they are among the best in the nation.



August 3, 2020

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
trenalynnfranklin	Hello, my husband and I feel that the plan Dr. Scanlon announced last week is the right move. It is not safe for our children to go back into a brick & mortar school setting yet. As much as we would love to see them back in person at school, virtual learning is the best thing to do for them, our teachers and the community. Thank you, Trena Franklin
mridgell74	I feel Dr. Scanlon and the school board will do what's best for the safety of our children, teachers, and staff. I appreciate Dr. Scanlon, keeping parents informed every step of the way to the best of his ability considering the circumstances. I trust his decision for our school district and know it's in the best interest for our community . Not everyone will be happy whatever the decision but we will all adapt.
lisamreprogle	Thank you for considering the reopening plan presented by Dr. Scanlon. I am grateful that the safety of teachers and students is being valued at this time. I hope that you approve his recommendation and support virtual learning for all students in the West Chester Area School District.
chris	While remote learning is not the best option for my second grader, I believe Dr. Scanlon is following the guidelines provided and giving our community the best option of getting through this pandemic without making things worse. The plan is sound and a lot of discussion and thought went into it. It's the best decision for right now.
meganelder108	As an ██████████ employee of WCASD, I very much appreciate the administration's decision to begin our school year fully online. I was a member of the reopening task force, so I know and appreciate just how hard our administration has worked on our plans. I also understand how difficult this decision was, and I applaud them for choosing to prioritize the health and safety of our entire school community. Thank you.
sherriwark	<p>I support the recommendations of Dr. Scanlon and hope that the Board will pass those recommendations Monday night. I have 3 children in district-rising 9th at Rustin and rising 8th and 6th at Stetson.</p> <p>I was apprehensive about the hybrid plan and in no way support full opening without distancing and masks at this time. The hybrid plan still seems worrisome unless masks would be required all day inside WITH 6 feet spacing.</p> <p>Our family is still discussing our options between Remote Learning and Cyber. I am so happy we have this option as well.</p> <p>I understand this is a difficult situation and there is no great solution. I appreciate the many hours Dr. Scanlon and his team have put in as well as the community task force.</p> <p>Thank you-            Sherri Wark            Parent at Rustin and Stetson            Former HSA (PTO) President of Penn Wood elementary</p>
21bonde	I believe that if the students and parents are comfortable with a sending their child to high school, they should be allowed to. At the High school age students are old enough to maintain a social distance and practice Covid safety procedures. We should open the option to do hybrid classes to those families who are comfortable with it.
jennbayley	I give many thanks and my full support for the remote learning option to start the school year.

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
sewelter	WCASD School Board meeting 8/3/2020 Our question for the board: why is the following information being ignored? Dr. Redfield of the CDC latest remarks on July 19 that "youth are likelier to be negatively impacted by suicides, drugs, and influenza than if they were exposed to Covid-19". The Dr. went on to say that "I'd like to see the goal being face to face education five days a week". Not to be callous, but the Dr. discussed the youth mortality rate of 1 in a million for Covid-19 and for regular influenza being 5-10 times greater. Numerous studies have been conducted in other countries by Iceland, Ireland, Sweden, Netherlands, France and Germany showing ZERO cases of students infecting adults. Also, that if they are infected are more resilient against the virus. I have sent this information with links to the studies to our region 3 board members. Why is this information being ignored and reliance on individuals or groups where their motives are in question? Dr. Scanlon had mentioned that if we could reduce the social distancing guidelines down to 3' instead of 6', we could fully reopen. A recent study in the Netherlands has shown that mask wearing can actually increase the virus spreading and has dropped the mask requirement. If it is safe for European children and other local Pa. districts to go back to school, why can't we do it?? Based on this information, I fail to see an argument against decreasing the social distance to 3', require masks if you feel it's necessary and fully reopen the schools. Lastly to address Dr. Scanlon's comment about an uptick of cases in the area this is likely due to an increase of testing. Using this rationale would keep the schools closed in perpetuity since testing will be increasing for the foreseeable future. Please reopen our schools for in classroom instruction.
missfrancek	Thank you for your hard work and dedication keeping our children safe! Virtual is definitely the right decision to keep everyone from harm! Thanks again for your insight.
ksciola	I just want to say thank you for thinking about the safety of our students and staff! As a teacher, I want to be back with my students in person more than anything. However, I know that I don't want any of us to be put at risk. Thank you for your support in voting to begin with remote learning!
jesille.perez	I support the great work Dr. Scanlon, parents and staff have done during the summer to find alternatives for our kids. I fully support the decision of starting remotely and continue remote learning if needed throughout the year.
21crognalen	I am not sure how much this comment will mean to anyone, but in my opinion along with my friends opinion, a hybrid schedule is better than nothing purely for the fact we would get to go back to school. I would really appreciate if we could go back to in school learning in some way. Motivation is so hard to find when i'm at home doing assignments on my laptop. it is much easier when i'm at school doing the work there. i think we can go back and be mature enough to socially distance and follow set guidelines.
ordilletara	Would it be possible to do a hybrid plan for k-5 or k-8, and keep online for middle/high School students. Even 2 half days a week to help with working parents and childcare issues for younger kids? If not, perhaps offer a stipend to families w young children who now have to pay for all this child care because schools will be closed.
21thompsonl	It is my senior year and i would really like to be on campus even for two days.
kekneis	Dr Scanlon and his team worked tirelessly to find the safest solution for reopening our schools. There is only one way under the current situation: going back virtually!. Thank you, Dr Scanlon, for always having the safety of our students, teachers & staff In mind.
jdems1	I fully support the decision to open school remotely given the current health concerns for students, staff and faculty. I would hope that special consideration be made to allow for sports and activities to resume if at all possible as the mental health of our students will be compromised by the lack of social interaction due to the remote opening .
millki2003	I am happy with Dr. Scanlon's difficult recommendation. It is the safest course of action to go virtual in light of community spread of COVID-19 and all the challenges associated with reopening safely. Please vote to approve his plan. So many in our community are encouraging their children not to wear masks, do not believe that children can even get or spread COVID-19, and will not even get the Flu Vaccine in the fall. Having seen the devastating effects first hand from my family that live in North Jersey and New York, and having a husband who works in area hospitals I know all too well what more community spread of COVID-19 leads to and how it effects much more in the community. Also, many of the people opposed to closing because of socialization are socializing their children just fine with like minded people. I am also a mom [REDACTED] so going virtual is not ideal for my son but we are using this as a teaching moment to do what's best for the community as a whole. Thank

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	you for all that you do and thank you for trying to address issues caused by the shut down of in person school.
LkeL80	Excellent job Dr Scanlon and team. You guys made the right decision. I cannot imagine being in your position. You made the best call, keeping our kids and teachers safety as your top priority.
meganmmoore	<p>I would like the Board to consider the hybrid option for the fall. The survey put out by the district indicated that nearly 80% of parents would like hybrid or full brick and mortar. The teachers should view themselves as essential employees, and wear the appropriate PPE. Doing so will minimize risk to teachers and students. Other essential workers have been doing this since March.</p> <p>Students/parents who aren't comfortable with this can engage in the cyber option. If the board proceeds with 100% distance-learning, the teachers should be on Zoom from their classrooms to simulate as close to the learning environment as possible. I don't feel that the argument that they have their own children to teach at home is a valid one. They are being paid to perform that job, and other essential employees and workers throughout the US are figuring out options for childcare as well.</p>
kmccown	<p>As a special education teacher in the West Chester Area School District, I have never worked harder or longer hours that I did during the period of Remote Learning from March to June. My students, who have plans uniquely designed to their learning needs, often require hands-on learning opportunities, and daily practice with social interactions, which were all difficult things to model over Zoom. I regularly taught lessons with parents present because my young students required their parents to become their stand-in educators, and provide the type of involved support they require in order to focus, complete work, and make progress towards their goals.</p> <p>With that said, outside of my classroom, I am a new mom. I live with my husband, around the corner from my parents, and see my grandmother on the weekends. Before this pandemic, I had colds, sinus infections, and the flu, all from the exposure of working with young students who struggle with the social skills of being sick. I have spent the better part of these past 4 months TERRIFIED knowing that my young students with learning needs would struggle to follow the guidelines put in place for their safety. I am honored and proud to work for a district that recognizes that the health and safety of its teachers, staff, students, and families is paramount. I am grateful that I do not have to come to work in a capacity that makes me worry about my kids at work and my kid at home. I work alongside of people who have come up with the most creative ways to meet the needs of our students, even from home, and will continue to do that into this next school year. While I know there will be struggles, lapses, and missing pieces along the way, my kids will still make progress, and I will not ONCE have to worry about the safety of the students, my coworkers, or my family, all of whom I love and respect dearly.</p> <p>I am grateful to not be put in a position where I have to put my career before my safety, and I appreciate everyone who made the decision to keep us safe, so that we do not have to feel the weight of that decision every day.</p>
hdlancey	Thank you so much for all that you've done. I feel so lucky to work in a district that is trying to keep everyone safe. I'll try and repay the favor by working harder than ever to teach and take care of our students!
dob2003	Please support Dr. Scanlon and the reopening committees decision to keep schools closed. It is the only thing to do right now to keep everyone including our community safe.
Karen.braun	<p>From health plan, "For example, if infection rates in the community show no new cases for two consecutive weeks, ..."</p> <p>Does this mean the county current rate of 40 new cases a day needs to be 0 to reopen? Or are you looking only at towns that feed into WCASD?</p> <p>Please explain if Zero new cases means no new cases or stable amount.</p>
bbriamon	I support the superintendent's recommendation to close the buildings for instruction until Thanksgiving. There are too many unknowns. Safety first.
kathleen3707	I am beyond grateful for all your hard work and I think starting the school year virtual and then reassessing after the 1st marking period is the most responsible decision for our kids, teachers and all admin. No question about it! It's way too risky and it's changing daily. Thank you for making me and my family feel safe and giving us the piece of mind you have our best interest at heart.

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chconroy1	The American Academy of Pediatrics state that there is already evidence of the negative impacts on children because of school closures in the spring 2020. It also states that the goal of every school district is to have students be physically present in school. With this in mind, I do not understand why WCASD has decided to go fully online until after Thanksgiving. If there is such a divide in our community between in school and online learning, shouldn't it be the decision of the parent of what they think is best for their child? It is your job to educate our student and home base learning is not the answer for many students including my children. Furthermore, I do not know of any other employee in the country, who can choose not to go back to work when their employer deems their establishment safe and continue to keep their employment. Thus, teachers should have to choose to either go back to work or not get paid.
jferguson	Thank you for keeping everyone safe and preventing further spread in our area!
PJfosco	We haven't even begun to understand the long term effects of Covid19. Even if someone recovers, there is a possibility of heart issues, blood clots, neurological problems, lung damage, kidney failure, strokes, etc. Starting virtually this fall is the right decision.
jen26222	I support Dr. Scanlon's recommendation to start the school year remotely. Best decision for the health of our students and staff.
mjones5	Go virtual until there is a vaccine. Thank you.
christiancollinson	I am fully in favor of the School District's full online plan as stated. Given what we know (and don't know) about Covid19, they are making the responsible decision. I would hope the same would be done with regard to sports and not have the Fall sports season. If we can't safely have school 6 feet apart, we can't let student athletes sweat, spit and bleed on each other in sports. This really shouldn't be that difficult of a decision to make--no school district in America is equipped with the proper infrastructure (testing, contact tracing, etc...) to make this work safely. It is a failure on a national level to lead, and the buck is being passed to local leaders. That's a shame, but I won't make my child or my family pay for the moral failings and ineptitude of our national so-called leaders.
tina.deprisco	<p>I am grateful for the work that Dr. Scanlon and all the administrators and volunteers have put into this decision. There is no good option, but I really do feel that they made the right choice deciding to start the year with remote learning. Although many (myself included) would have preferred to get the children back in the classroom, that just isn't possible right now. I believe they were hopeful they could find a way to make hybrid work - the actual reality of executing is too difficult and problematic.</p> <p>I know that there are many who are angry and questioning this decision. While I understand, it just isn't realistic and easier to say "why not this or that" when you are only thinking of your own issues and the administrators have to think of every scenario. Many are pointing to the survey and seem to feel that just because families want their children back in the classroom that should have been the answer. Just because we want it, doesn't mean it's possible. Just because we answered a question months ago when we hoped things would be better by now, doesn't mean everyone still feels that way. I know I don't.</p> <p>I would rather see us start the year and hopefully transition to in class learning when it can feasibly be done. Please support Dr. Scanlon's plan, it is the right call.</p>
dsmith1	When the news reports that a student and/or a teacher dies from this virus, you can take some comfort in knowing that you made the logical decision to keep people safe at home.
larchambault	Just wanted to thank Dr. Scanlon and the school board for taking into account the safety of the entire staff and children of WCASD. We know this was an impossible decision with so many unknowns. As a member of the staff, I truly appreciate your support in caring about ALL of our health and safety.
heathpatton	<p>.</p> <p>As a mother of four children, one in elementary school, 2 in middle school and 1 in high school, I completely disagree with the WCASD decision to go fully online until Thanksgiving. I can already see the negative impact it has taken on my children. The American Academy Pediatrics has stated that every community should try to have students be physically present. While I understand this may not be an easy task for the administration, studies have shown that children are not being affected by the coronavirus and kids are being detrimentally impacted by online learning. Please reverse your decision and choose some in school learning for our children</p>

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bsullivan2	Thank you so much, Dr. Scanlon, for your proposal. While I am upset that face to face time with my students will be missed, I feel the proposal is the absolute safest option for our entire community. I have never felt so supported by my district. We will do what it takes in order to help our students succeed during remote learning. I am in full agreement of the proposal and thank the board in advance for your support!
Dana.castello	I fully support Dr. Scanlon's decision to start WCASD schools with remote learning and cyber school options until further evaluation. Safety of students and staff should be top priority. Period.
jmashbitz	I am writing in support of the administrative team's plan for remote learning to start the 2020-21 school year. The most important thing to consider is the safety of students, staff and their respective families. Starting the school year utilizing remote learning will allow the student learning to continue and as educators we will still be able to support our students social and emotional well being.
kmizak1124	Thank you for all the time and energy you have put into this. I am so very grateful for all the work and research Dr. Scanlon has done on this decision, and I feel he has put so much time and effort that we should abide by his recommendation. I am concerned about the ability of students to social distance and Covid is still a danger right now. Additionally I wanted to share my 86 year old Grandmother's comments to me after watching Dr. Scanlon's presentation. She has lived in West Chester since 1965: She said "Just a quick note to tell you how impressed I am with the District's plan for the students. More to the point it is the amount of time to research it including the input from parents it must have taken the team of educators, administrators, etc. This is not an easy situation to please all involved and yet they have provided enough information for the parents to understand decisions being made. There is no definite with this virus situation and only time will tell but I do hope our community will appreciate all your team has done and is doing.
amymullen	Thanks for everything you have done and are doing for our teachers and students. I'm proud to be a parent and staff member of WCASD. Our community will stay safe and our teachers and staff will work tirelessly to provide an excellent education. Together we will get through this!
pklr10	<p>The WCASD has done a remarkable job navigating the COVID reopening planning process. The presentation was thoughtful and informative to the types of inputs that have been considered and the decision-making criteria that have been put in place.</p> <p>Thank you for your leadership and transparency in determining the most reasonable path forward for the students and staff of the WCASD. We especially appreciate the consistent and frequent communication throughout this decision process. My wife and I fully support you and the team with this recommendation. Federal and State guidance has put you and your team in a no-win situation, and I hope that you continue to hear messages of support for your consideration and flexibility through this process.</p>
janeyswift	Both my husband and I strongly favor online education when school begins. It is the only science based solution that will accommodate both the students and our highly dedicated teachers.
katieschaleur	Opposed to virtual only option
dnkazmierski	I am a homeowner and pay school taxes to WCASD. If a student decides not to attend the WCASD public school, they should be able to attend a private, charter, catholic, school of their choice. I am extremely dissatisfied with the teachers union. They are only interested in their paycheck and not the student. Totally disgusted with the Teacher's Union.
janddharkins	Children need to be in school. While I understand there are significant challenges to bringing all kids back full time. Please re-consider the Hybrid Model - allowing students to be in school even it is on a limited basis.
elitofsky	Many thanks to all of you for keeping the safety of staff, students, and families at the forefront during this difficult process!

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barosica	<p>At a rally held today, I shared the following thoughts: My name is Beth Ann Rosica and I am the Mother of 2 boys in WCASD. I hold a Ph.D. in Education and have spent my career working with and for our most vulnerable young people in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. I love our district and our community. I am here today to advocate for my children, your children, and every child in the district, especially for those educationally disadvantaged students who may not be able to advocate for themselves. On Tuesday, I testified at a PA Senate Committee workshop to discuss how to open schools safely for the upcoming school year. One day later, the WCASD Administration announced its recommendation to start the school year with Remote Learning. Tomorrow the School Board will meet and vote to approve or not approve the recommendation. We are here today to say to the Board – Please do not approve that Plan. For any family who is uncomfortable for any reason in sending their kids back to school, there is a cyber option. The District worked hard to develop that option to give every parent a choice. But now, those of us who want our kids to go back to school are not being given the same choice. And 80% of families who completed the survey over last weekend indicated that they wanted some level of in person instruction. The Federal government guarantees every child the right to a Free and appropriate education. CFR 34 §300.101 states(a) General. A free appropriate public education must be available to all children residing in the State between the ages of 3 and 21, inclusive, including children with disabilities who have been suspended or expelled from school, as provided for in §300.530(d). Online learning is not ultimately Free nor is it Appropriate for every child. Parents who can afford it will be spending money on tutors, childcare, or learning centers being set up by the YMCA and other agencies. And for many kids, online learning is not appropriate. If online learning was ideal for the majority of students, we would have moved in that direction prior to this. While the District has worked hard over the summer to train teachers to provide a higher quality of instruction virtually, we all acknowledge that remote learning is not a replacement for in person instruction. Our children are going to continue to fall further behind both academically and socially. And in a time when social justice and equity are of paramount importance, our most vulnerable students are going to suffer the most. Mental health and substance issues are on the rise. Child abuse and domestic violence are on the rise. Our schools provide more than quality instruction, they also provide a safe respite for children whose home lives are difficult. Many parents do not have the luxury of working from home. Often social distancing and quarantine are luxuries of the middle and upper class. For these children, they may be left to care for younger siblings or attempt to complete school work on their own with little help or support. By not opening our schools, we are accepting that the achievement gap will widen between those who can afford resources and those who cannot. According to the PA Dept of Health website that I view every day, there are a total of 4,876 cases in Chester County with a total population 522,046. That calculates to less than 1% of Chester County residents testing positive for the virus. Of those positive cases, there have been a total of 344 deaths in Chester County and 284 of those occurred at long term care facilities. Over 82% of the deaths were in long term care facilities. 60 people outside of long term care facilities have passed away. And I know one of those people, and I am incredibly sad for their family as I am for every person who has passed away. But these statistics simply do not support the measure to NOT open schools. Our children are at very little risk of contracting this virus and practically no risk of dying from the virus. We take risks every day when we put our children on a school bus or let them ride their bike in your neighborhood. As parents, we should be able to evaluate our personal situation and make whatever decisions we deem appropriate of our children. For those of us who want in-person instruction, we should have that right. So today, we say to the West Chester Area School District Board – Please do the right thing and let parents decide what is in the best interest of their kids. Give those of us who want in-person instruction for our kids the same choice as those parents who want all online instruction. As of right now, 6 of the school districts in Chester County are proposing some level of in-person instruction, and 6 including WCASD are proposing all online instruction. Clearly there are many opinions on the matter, but at least half of the County districts recognize the importance of an in-person option. And the CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics also agree that the unintended consequences of NOT opening schools outweigh the risks of the virus for our children. And finally, the words of Nelson Mandela sum up our situation well: “A Nation should not be judged by how it treats its highest citizens, but it's lowest ones” Let us not be a community who abandons its most vulnerable members. Ultimately, my children will be ok because I can afford the resources to make sure they are, but for many others in our community, that is not the case. Please Do the Right Thing for our Children and Open Up Our Schools! Thank you!</p>
mgbauer29	The children need to go back into the classroom In September

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mreikob	<p>My family has selected the new Cyber Program. [REDACTED] We are fortunate that this option was in the works and ready to deploy given the circumstances.</p> <p>Families have been put in an untenable position, but the fact remains that with current guidance, it is impossible and unsafe for school to happen in person for the majority of students. Prioritizing at risk populations for in person return and creating community throughout remote learning options is prudent.</p> <p>Thanks to the administration and board for making these difficult decisions.</p>
bettenaughton	<p>Thank you for all you do and for putting the safety of our students and staff first. Remote learning will help keep Covid down until things settle down and they find a vaccine. WCASD will do a great job with remote learning and cyber school. Thank you!</p>
kalder	<p>To whom it may concern: As a teacher in the school district, I do have very mixed feelings and opinions about the return to school. Part of me feels we definitely should return to school; the kids need it desperately and so does the community. However, part of me feels that it really is not safe for all the adults in the building and we should not be asked to be put in that position.</p> <p>What I do know is that the task force and the cabinet and the school board and hopefully everyone can understand that we are trying to make the right decision for what we know NOW. That information could change tomorrow, or next week, or in a month. But, I know that the teams and people that have been working on this very difficult decision are trying to do what's best for the kids AND the health and safety of our teaching staff.</p> <p>Thank you to those that put in hours of research and discussions and information gathering to really consider everyone. As a community, we must stick together, support each other and try to stay positive.</p> <p>Karen Alder-Community member and WCASD teacher.</p>
mrzbn2	<p>Humans are social animals and social interaction is very essential for growth and well being, especially so for kids and young adults. Given that for the better part of the year the children have been away from their peers, I would ask the board to reconsider the decision to not have on-site classes at the beginning of the school year. Please realize that physical illnesses have symptoms that are easy to detect and treat, emotional ones are not that easy to deal with.</p>
jenniferschaub04	<p>I fully support a school board decision to delay the re-opening of schools and provide virtual learning via "Remote 2.0" or "WCASD Cyber". THANK YOU for prioritizing the safety of our community while continuing to provide excellent educational opportunities to our children.</p>
kdezeeuw	<p>Thank you for considering the health and well-being of your teachers and staff.</p>
jdavis1	<p>Thank you to the task force for all their hard work this summer! Each reopening option brings challenges, but opening virtually seems to be the best option to keep our community, teachers and students healthy.</p>
cassidy_mike21	<p>I am concerned that our neighboring school districts (Garnet Valley/Unionville) have in person options which will put our kids behind the learning curve for both social and developmental skills. From a covid standpoint we all go to the same stores and work locations. Is there a reason we can't partner with those districts for consistency and best practice sharing?</p>
lcraig2112	<p>We appreciate all your hard work and think that your proposed plan is in the best interest of students and teachers. Thank you!!!</p>
hgarvey	<p>I am very appreciative that the district has chosen not to risk the health and safety of our students and staff.</p>
charitogye	<p>Support online school format presented by Dr. Scanlon. Thank you!</p>
kmcgoldrick	<p>As a current teacher in the district, member of the community and former student of WCASD, I fully support the plan presented by Dr. Scanlon this past week. I appreciate the research, thought and effort put into this plan and was proud seeing this presented to our community. Teachers from other districts applauded our plan and hoped that their district would take a page from our book. I hope that after tomorrow we can finally begin moving forward as a district to best prepare ourselves and our students for remote learning. Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>
jsullivan	<p>I have two children who are teachers in the district and three grandchildren who are students in the district. Please keep everyone involved SAFE.... I think the proposal offered by Dr. Scanlon is the best possible option at this point. Thank You...</p>

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21bonde	I believe that if the students and parents are comfortable with a sending their child to high school, they should be allowed to. At the High school age students are old enough to maintain a social distance and practice Covid safety procedures. We should open the option to do hybrid classes to those families who are comfortable with it.
susanmattern750	Very disheartened by the blind sided decision that took place on July 29... my children will not be attending the district next year and my son [REDACTED] has reached out to us to schedule a game plan for our skewed plan for next year... my family and children are very upset ... my children have epically failed by the WCASD and this decision is a politically motivated by the left and the teachers Union ... the left wants the whole infrastructure to fail so they can blame our president but ultimately is effecting our children, our future generation and the teachers union is threatening to strike ... since day one COVID19 has minimal effects in children and if there are teachers or children who are COVID sensitive then they can do cyber... why are we limiting the masses for a disease that's percentages are still lower than other viruses like Strep and the flu ...these Children need to go back to school period
jcavuto	The safety of our students and staff must be our priority. Digital learning is our only option at this time.
dmleitner	I support mr Scanlon's decision. I listened to his presentation to both the families and the pa legislators and after hearing all the issues, I don't see a better decision for now.
oceancityth	Stick with the virtual 2.0 Please! Thank you for thinking about the safety of our students and teachers.
suzieqsully	I am the mother of two teachers in the WCASD and several grandchildren in our schools. Being very aware of many of the concerns involved in making this decision, I will state that I am fully in support of Dr. Scanlon's decision. Although it may not be the most popular decision it is the safest decision for all involved at this time.
ccbycas	I think Dr Scanlon had a difficult decision to make and I wouldn't want to be in his shoes. He is doing what is best for our children. I would like th option of cyber and 2.0 if possible so they can be hybrid cyber and in school for when they go back  Thank you
knanni	I respectfully urge you to reconsider voting for the hybrid option of schooling in conjunction with cyber option for those who want it, at least for High school age children. The social isolation and stress of online learning for high school students is taking a [REDACTED] toll on my teenage daughters. I know of many other districts in our area trying this option including unionville, methacton, wissahickon school district as well as the majority of school districts in Delaware county. I also beg you to keep fall sports with strict adherence to social distancing practices. Again canceling this important physical outlet would be detrimental to the [REDACTED] health of my children. I believe high school students are mature enough to appropriately social distance, wash their hands and wear masks. Many high schoolers have been working in the community and have been wearing masks for hours at a time. Thank you for your consideration.
mcorr	Thank you, and even though I want nothing more than to be in the building with my students, I support this difficult decision.
mkrik129	I just wanted to express my gratitude and appreciation to the administration and staff of WCASD through the last several months! We have felt very well informed and included in the process and while remote learning is not ideal I do believe it is the safest option for the community. I'm sorry there are people out there turning a public health issue into a political issue.
jen26222	I support Dr. Scanlon's recommendation to start the school year remotely. Best decision for the health of our students and staff.
forsalechesco	As a parent of two and also as someone who works in a school, I truly thank you for putting our health and safety above politics and all else. As hard as it is to go virtual, it will be ultimately keeping us safest. We lost an amazing principal last year and our school grieved. I truly can't imagine losing anyone else and knowing it was preventable. So truly I applaud and support the full virtual for all of us, and I say that as someone it outs out of work but I know that it keeps us so much safer. Thank you !
nernst	Thank you for considering the safety of students and staff in your decision.



email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
mer1231	Thanks for making the decision to go fully remote through Thanksgiving. I appreciate that you are taking into consideration the health and safety of students and staff, as well as all their families. I wish the district I teach in was doing the same. There are so many unanswered questions regarding opening school and the fact that you are focusing on the health and safety of all involved is so important to me.
kmorgenstern702	My husband and I support the decision made by Dr. Scanlon and his team. We believe they are working hard to ensure everyone is safe during this unprecedented and challenging time.
jknapp460	Please provide a hybrid schedule at the least. Some of these children will fall behind, will have mental health and behavioral issues because of not having the social aspect of seeing classmates but also the in-person instruction. It is ripping families apart not having the option of some sort of in-person instruction.
probrien	Please the seniors have some level of in person class? I just don't believe that if we don't try now it will not happen for them. Even 2 days for just morning. We owe it to them for their final year of formal education. If it's just senior there will be space to social distance and use outside especially omg never I g of year. I'm sure their are teachers that will support this. Not all teachers are afraid to be in person. Again, we should be giving a choice. If some seniors don't feel comfortable , they can do in line. But for those who do. We have to really try. So many parents want to help and support this idea. Our kids worked all these years. There had to be creative ways to keep all safe if we can get them back in for a couple days a week.
angelstar975	<p>I don't feel the current reopening plan considers parents who must work during the day and can't help young children with learning or afford any sort of additional childcare. This was a disaster in the spring and even with a more robust day, it sounds like a lot of activities will be asynchronous and dependent on parent help, even in virtual learning 2.0.</p> <p>I appreciate that there are significant safety concerns, but kids are going to fall through the cracks. My child thrives in the classroom, but we struggled a lot with focus with remote learning kindergarten, she didn't really learn anything, and I fear 1st grade will be much worse.</p>
Valdoc6	Thank you all. Thank you Dr. Scanlon on a job well done. You and your administration staff have gone above and beyond behind the scenes and I truly appreciate all of your hard work. Your dignity and honesty is beyond appreciated in times that are not fathomable. Keep your head high, continue to do exactly what you are doing making choices based on overall safety for all in the district. There's no easy solution, however, safety first and no superintendent should EVER have to make that call. Thank you ALWAYS and the WCASD. #WeAreInThisTogether #WCASDStrong
stephanie.piccini	Our family is in complete support of the recommendation to be 100% virtual to start the school year! Thank you for prioritizing the safety and health of students, staff and teachers. We have complete faith that everyone from the district will make this the best year possible given the extreme unforeseen circumstances.
erin	Thank you for making the difficult decision to keep our kids safe. I support remote learning.
valeriekosasih2011	Would it be some kind of a way to let the kids to see their friends? My daughter was so excited to see the new school year after months being home. How is the grading system for cyber program? What happened if my child is falling behind because she has trouble with the system and im not good enough guiding and teaching her at home?
montgomery19380	As a high school teacher and a mom of an incoming kindergartner I fully support the districts decision to use remote learning. It is sad that we will not be going back to normal but the reality is, going back wouldn't be normal. Returning to the buildings would be insanely stressful and I believe more of a detriment to the students mental health ( the majority of my career has been spent as an emotional support teacher with the CCIU). The anxiety of everything that would go into making the school environment safe would create extensive stress for everyone involved. I believe teachers can successfully implement remote learning and as a community we have to remember that this is only temporary. Socializing can be done in a safe way, directed by parents outside of the school setting without intermingling thousands of students and families on a daily basis.
jaivengal	Vote for virtual learning as the cases are still going up. Don't want any school staff and children be affected.

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clau4322	I think that the kids going virtual is 100% the correct decision. Thank you to Dr. Scanlon and the WCASD staff for all of their hard work from the time we closed in March until now. We are very grateful that your plan is to keep students and staff safe. Having the cyber school is also a great choice, especially since it is taught by WCASD teachers and it is the same curriculum. Thank you!!
kwnonly1	Thank you for everything you have done and all the meticulous details to give everyone at options in the fall given the changing parameters. Every organization, health agency, professional, parents, students, and businesses were equally included to help try and make this work. Thanks for thinking of everyone and the support system involved.
mhornbach	In my opinion, cyber/virtual is a mistake. The educational as well as social shortfalls will continue to grow. To evaluate again at Thanksgiving is essentially green lighting closure of the school for the year. 80% of the parents surveyed responded with a need/desire for our children to be in school in either a full or partial capacity. Yet we appease to the minority vote. Why take a poll at all if the decision had clearly already been predetermined?
alewis	I know tonight you will be making a very difficult decision regarding the opening of our schools. There is truly no easy answer, and I'm sure this decision is weighing heavy on all of you. But I ask that since there is no easy answer, that you choose safety above everything else, as your answer. Thank you for considering the safety of the students, teachers, and staff in your decision tonight.
kristenrcline	While I dislike the idea of remote learning made by Dr Scanlon, his presentation was flawless and I understand why he made this recommendation.
frankpatton17	I have two high school students [REDACTED] Online learning was extremely difficult for both of them this spring. My daughter will be a senior while my son will be a junior. I am extremely concerned that they will not be prepared for the next chapter of their lives without in person schooling. Please reconsider your decision.
mrsrobb2002	Thank you for all the hard work in putting together a return plan. We fully back the plan you presented last week.
samandally	I support the district and their decision to keep our kids and school staff safe.
drkr2018	Thank you so much for the amazing job you are doing!!!! I can't imagine the load you all carry. I pray for all of your strength each night!! Thank you!!!
mileeta1	Thank you for the time dedicated in deciding how to re-open schools safely. As a teacher and a parent, I realize that is a very tough decision. I would like to express not only my support of the position you are in, but also my thanks for considering the safety of teachers, children, and families.
tsutton316	With grandchildren in Fern Hill, Fugett & East, I don't believe now is the time to mess with the virus. Continue to have the children learn remotely. Neither my wife or I support in-class sessions at this time. It's too early. Re-assess after the first or maybe even the second marking period.
jessshortall81	I appreciate all the hard work Dr. Scanlon has put into the school reopening plan. This is not an easy task. While the public would like students to attend daily, virtual is a great start. We need to keep our kids and staff as safe as possible. Thank you for listening to science and the data. We appreciate all the hard work during these difficult times.
chrisire1	I know that the decision on how to start the school year is a very difficult decision. I appreciate that the district has reached out to the employees and families. Given all that was shared in the recent Zoom meeting, there are still many unknowns. I am most concerned about what to do if a student is sent to school having been exposed at home, and also what happens if a teacher or student tests positive after being in class, and thus exposing everyone in the class. I am also wondering what it will look like if we have teacher(s) out sick and have limited substitutes. We cannot combine classes, and if other staff substitutes for that class, then they are exposed as well. I know that these concerns are not unique to me. Thank you for doing what is the safest option right now. I think that re-evaluating at the end of the marking period is a decent idea, and inline with many other area districts. Thank you again for your service and for keeping us safe.
teffy82	Please vote to have schools go fully virtual until it is safe! Numbers in the county are climbing and there is no way to keep teachers, staff and students safe at this time!

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
jna862	I do not envy the decision before you and the administration and I thank you for all of your concern for the staff and students of the district. That being said, whatever the decision may be on reopening school, teachers must be in the classroom, not their homes/beach houses, to present lessons. There must be accountability that was severely lacking in the spring. Casual observations indicate many were spending time with family and their children and not pulling the same load as those without children. There needs to be equity and accountability. Additionally, the majority of the students in the district have not been following social distancing (just drive through town or the neighborhoods) since school has been out in the spring, and even more so during the summer, so why can't they be in school? Again, I do not envy your decision. I hope you do what is best for students and staff morale.
cmyarrison	Thank you for making the difficult decisions that come with keep our students and staff as safe as possible. I have full confidence that the district will continue to monitor the situation and bring students back into buildings as soon as it can be done safely.
adgy19	I appreciate all of the time and work that went into making the staff and children of the WCASD safe during these uncertain times. No decision is perfect, but I believe this is the best way to start the school year. Thank you to Dr. Scanlon and all those who were involved.
shraddhakhoshi	I am grateful to be a part of this school district that has shown utmost respect and care for everyone. The way in which they have operated so far has been phenomenal. And I am in complete sync with their decision and have faith that there is no one better to run the school district than the current crew. I hope when all of this is over they get the recognition they deserve!
mcnamara.jenn	I stand with the district's recommendations. I know the decision wasn't an easy one. I appreciate the options we have available. The administrators have been excellent communicating the benefits / differences of each option. Thank you for keeping our community safe even if it wasn't the "popular" option.
jenniferwilson	We appreciate the time and thoroughness with which the district administration has considered the approach for reopening to schools. While an all-virtual opening is not ideal, it truly seems to be the safest approach for the students, staff, and families in our district as well as our community as a whole. Any form of in-person instruction at this time would carry some risk, and with all of the necessary safety precautions, it would still not be the school experience to which our students are accustomed. Thank you for doing your best to ensure that everyone in our district stays as safe as possible.
susanannapaul	Thank you for keeping our children, family, teachers and staff safe. We support the decision for remote learning.
sfarrelly001	We appreciate the research and dedication of all community members, administration, staff, and school board. We respect your decision as the best options for keeping our children safe. Thank you.
falkowskifalcons	Just wanted to say basically all that I've been saying to family and friends but wanted it in writing here...I grew up in WCASD and now have four of my own children in the district. My eldest daughter starts middle school and my twins start kindergarten. While I'm sad we won't get those memorable pics in front of the big yellow school bus, and they won't see their friends they haven't seen in months, they have their health, thank god, and we know this too shall pass, but we need to be smart and make prudent choices. That's the reason I'm taking the time to write to the board this evening. I have felt the grueling decisions Dr. Scanlon has had to make through his emails. His transparency and leadership are appreciated, and it's clear he has the best interests and health of our children in mind. I taught for 15 years at the middle school level before deciding to stay home with my four children. We will make the best of this proposal, and it will work. Many in the community are helping one another and forming learning "pods". I myself have been asked by two neighbors to help their children, so the parents can continue with their full-time jobs. So many are pulling together, and it's going to be ok. My husband and I feel Dr. Scanlon's proposal has been well thought out and he has weighed pros and cons tirelessly. There's not one decision that will please all, but we firmly believe this proposal is safest for our children AND the school teachers, administrators, support staff, lunch and custodial staff...it's the safest...bottom line. All of these people have families of their own; I can see this situation from my teacher lens and my mom lens. Please approve Dr. Scanlon's proposal, so that we can all get and stay healthy and fingers crossed return at some point later in the school year. We love WCASD and know you all have peoples' lives and families in your hearts when making these tough decisions. Thank you for taking the time to read my comment! Most sincerely, Andrea Falkowski

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joannecr75	<p>I request the board re-consider the plan for re-opening the schools. I believe it is imperative that we begin the school year with the hybrid model rather than virtual. The students need to be able to build rapport with their teachers and classmates IN PERSON in order to ensure any success virtually. The students need to be in a learning environment to set the tone, they need the socialization, a bit of normalcy in their day when nothing is "normal" and they need the opportunity to reconnect with their schools to reignite their academic flames. COVID-19 has extinguished too many aspects of our lives; I believe that going back to school in some capacity is absolutely necessary for every child. I have a child in elementary, middle and high school. I can give different reasons for why each age group NEEDS to be back in school. I feel that our district is equipped to meet the challenges; I believe that parents can join with the schools/teachers to make this safe for all. I believe the board should consider pushing the start date of school back to after Labor Day to give everyone one more week to plan for a safe return to schools. Provide students with their teacher's names and schedules. Allow teachers/parents to collaborate ways to make this work for all! I believe that WCASD can lead by example on how to return students to school safely! I may only be ONE parent, with ONE voice, but I am hopeful that I may become ONE more reason why you reconsider how we start this school year. Thank you!</p>
21yaws	<p>I will be a senior this year, and I believe a hybrid option would be the best for everyone. I think the schools could make this work safely, and it would be more beneficial to the students. The ability to be in person and interact is critical in my opinion. I believe I learn more and better from in person instruction. Students are affected mentally and emotionally from not being in school, and more time at home could be detrimental to some students' well being. It would be greatly appreciated if the hybrid option would be considered. We are old enough and responsible enough to do what it takes to practice social distancing and make in person learning a safe environment for both students and teachers (if it means we can be in school at all)! For those who are concerned about attending in person, they could do the cyber program.</p>
freneybeth	<p>As a parent of four children in WCASD and a member of the Parent Task Force, I am writing to ask you to not approve the plan for Virtual Learning proposed by Dr. Scanlon. Virtual Learning does not result in motivated students but does create a sense of frustration and stress amongst students. We owe it to the children of the district to prioritize all children's educations, not younger students over older students. I do not believe the district has sufficient guidance counselors, psychologists and social workers to provide the mental health services the children will actually need while trying to learn from home because of the stress it creates. Look at the results of the parent survey, listen to the CDC, look at local hospitalization numbers for COVID, and fulfill your commitment to provide in person education to our students. If this is about liability have parents sign a waiver. If teachers do not want to work in person they have the option of a sabbatical. Start the school year off in-person for those families who desire this option. Those who do not want to be in person can choose Cyberschool. Our children are looking to you for leadership. Six feet of social distancing is not mandated. Three feet is acceptable with masks and the district can do three feet. The students will be motivated to follow the rules. Vote No for the proposed plan.</p>
kellyjordan712	<p>I have a child going into third grade this year. I strongly believe that the hybrid method would benefit my child much more than the virtual method of schooling. My child needs in class structure to advance. With at home virtual learning he cannot comprehend the difference between parent and educator. I feel as though if my child remains in at home virtual learning they will fall well behind the footprint, [REDACTED] My child needs structure and guidance, and with the at home virtual model I cannot give him that structure and guidance that is needed. Every child learns in a different way, every parent has different responsibilities, and I feel that in our situation the best way for my child to succeed would be for them to have that in-person learning experience.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
mpicc18	<p>Thank-you to the school directors for you service to our community. No one could have predicted the situation we all find ourselves in with the pandemic, also now complicated by the upcoming presidential election that we believe is impacting decisions made by politicians at all levels.</p> <p>We've sent emails to both Senator Killion and Representative Comitta indicating our dissatisfaction with the changing guidance that has come from the governor and PA's Secretary of Health and their lack of assistance in working with the districts to provide them with the resources needed to get our kids back</p>

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
	<p>to in-person learning. We have urged them to do what is necessary to work with the schools to get the teachers the safety equipment that may be needed for them to be comfortable to get back in the classrooms and resources needed to meet the requirements laid out by Governor Wolf to return to in-person learning.</p> <p>While I understand your decision to be fully online until Thanksgiving was ultimately based on safety of the staff and students, we think there are other consequences of continued on-line learning that will negatively impact our students that could be just as devastating as the actual virus. As you are probably aware, the CDC presented to Congress on Friday, July 31, the impact of not getting our kids back to face-to face learning, calling it the creation of an additional and likely far worse public health crisis than the virus itself. (mental health issues, social development, reduced physical activity, increased drug use, the list is long) I am sometimes surprised throughout all of this that teachers haven't been deemed essential workers due to the long term effects interruptions in our education system could have on the next generation. While I also have safety concerns about the virus for staff and students, I think they need to be weighted against the long-term impact to these kids by being kept out of in-person school.</p> <p>Judging by the survey results you presented last week indicating that 80% of respondents wanted some type of hybrid in-person or full in-person school, coupled with the crowd I saw dining out at PJ Whelians Saturday night as I passed by, it appears many in this community are willing to accept a fair amount of risk to get our kids back in school.</p> <p>With information changing every day, saying the earliest students will be back to in-person school is after Thanksgiving seems too long. I find it difficult to believe we have a high probability of sending our kids back to school after Thanksgiving, on the verge of flu season. I hate to think we are setting ourselves up for most if not all of the year being online by not attempting to get back in during the warmer months.</p> <p>I think finishing a school year online with teachers that have gotten to know students for 2/3 of the year is completely different than starting a new school year with new classes and new teacher/student relationships and no in-person contact. It seems a whole new set of challenges will need to be addressed by both students and teachers.</p> <p>The Sunday Daily Local had several articles that seem to support finding a way to get our kids into some type of in-person learning. Articles included commentary from PA House Majority Leader Kerry Benninghoff and front page article from Chester County Health Department indicating the rise in cases in our county is not unexpected and we are still much lower than surrounding counties.</p> <p>We have two kids in the district. Our daughter will be a senior this year and in June I participated in a zoom call offered by the district with various representatives from PA colleges talking about what their college admissions process may look like in the middle of this pandemic. One of the things said that has stuck with me was from the representative from Penn State University. He was talking about the decision of most colleges, including Penn State to make the SAT and ACT tests optional for the class of 2021 applications. Part of that decision is due to the cancellation of all the spring and summer 2020 testing dates and the uncertainty of fall dates but his significant point was related to students preparedness. He went on to say typically junior year curriculum is one of the toughest and they realize with the switch to online learning, a lot of content was lost and thus the scores on the tests would not be comparable to prior year applications for admission standards.</p> <p>As another 3 months of online learning for all our K-12 kids has been proposed, when will this lost learning be made up? What impact will this have on our students when they get to college or are in their first job out of high school and are competing with kids from other states and districts that found a way to get their kids back in school?</p> <p>I've posed similar questions to our state legislators. I appreciate your continued communication throughout the summer and time spent presenting the alternatives to the community. Thank-you.</p>

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jackie.matys	Where do we begin with our appreciation and utmost respect for Dr. Scanlon, his overall educational philosophy, and most recent recommendation for the 2020-2021 school year? From day one of this pandemic, Dr. Scanlon and his administrative team have gone above and beyond to support the needs of the ENTIRE community. His communication and dedication never ceases to amaze us which makes us forever grateful to be apart of this fabulous school community. As parents who are also educators in two different districts, we highly commend and most certainly agree with the current recommendation to reopen virtually. Safety has always and will always be a school district's priority. Thank you for taking that brave initiative for our children, our children's teachers, and the entire WCASD community.
cuse98	I fully agree with your decisions and feel that virtual is the only safe option at this point. Thanks so much for all you are doing for the health and safety of our kids!!
23farrellya	I think the school board made a very smart decision. They are protecting my mother and so many others in the school that are at high risk. Thank you, you made the right decision and potentially saved lives.
Michaela.freney	Please vote no to remote learning 2.0! As a Rustin senior I am scared for the mental health of myself, my friends, my classmates, and every WCASD student if we are doing online remote learning. March-June was horrible for our mental health as well as our education. Lack of social, IN PERSON interactions during the school day will have serious mental health consequences and already has. Homes are not academic environments and cannot be expected to be transformed into them. I can't learn effectively from home. We already tried it last year and I am telling you as a student I know I will fall behind and feel the mental health consequences. I feel safe going to school maintaining a 3-6 foot social distance and wearing a mask and getting a solid education. If I didn't feel safe doing that I would choose the cyber option as many who feel that way will. The remote learning 2.0 plan provides no suitable option for the 80 percent of us who have already said we cannot learn in a completely at home plan. The school district is supposed to provide an education for students. This plan does not do that for 80 percent of its students. To accept this plan is to turn your back on 80 percent of the students who are counting on you so that we can finally learn. To say remote learning 2.0 is for the health of students and teachers is not acceptable anymore. It will devastate our community's mental health and education. The CDC, American Academy of Pediatrics, and the Chester County Health Department have made it clear that it is better for our health to go back. Plus those who disagree can choose the cyber option but those who do agree have no say with remote learning 2.0. I also feel the need to mention as a senior I am still trying to cope with hearing my superintendent say that he prioritizes younger students over students my age. Age has no factor in the level of how much we will struggle with this plan. You can't measure that in any way. WE ARE STRUGGLING, YOUR STUDENTS ARE STRUGGLING NO MATTER HOW OLD WE ARE. How will I be prepared to go to college next year after spending my senior year in my bedroom? WE NEED SCHOOL BACK! WE NEED OUR NORMAL LIFE BACK EVEN WITH A MASK ON, BUT WE NEED IT! Please don't say this choice is the only option for our health. Teachers and students who don't feel comfortable going to school can choose the cyber option, but those who need in person school for mental health and education will have no option and we don't want to find out where that road may lead for our community.
rsrideepa	I think the best decision for children , staff and school is to proceed with remote learning 2.0 option . Dr Scanlon and team are doing a great job in putting the children's health as the top priority . So proud to be part of WCASD
stacy827	I agree with the recommended reopening plan. I was on the parent reopening committee.
21flemingj	I strongly feel that we should be cautious when it comes to reopening school due to the fact that the corona virus is so new and has many unknowns. As much as online school can be difficult, I feel that it is the safest option as of right now.
21schlackc	As a senior of the class of 2021, I understand the students who would like to return to school. However, with the rising cases and unknowns about COVID-19, I believe it is in everyone's best interest to stay home for a few months. Yes it will suck, but I would much rather have that than not go back at all because we rushed opening things back up, again. The petition that has been circling doesn't take into account the overwhelming amount of caseloads and the unpredictability of going back. For these reasons, I don't think we should consider going back to school in person until the re-evaluation in November.

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kujawski.suzie	Families and kids deserve the right to a free education. Me and my kids beg you to allow families to opt in for in person education. As a single mother, I would have to pay \$2160 a month for the ymca to babysit my kids. If they can go to daycare, they should be able to go to school. Virtual learning was horrendous for us last year. I do work from home, but my job is commensurate on performance. I cannot teach my 5&7 year olds AND be employed. The kids want to go back! Not one child fatality from Covid in cc. Please push back start date for in person and figure out an option! We cannot start the year like this. School is the most important thing for us and the reason we moved to West Chester. Kids can now play sports, eat out, play on playgrounds, daycare, but they can't go to school. Think about the IEPs, the poor and the abused. Not everyone has the financial freedom to hire a private tutor for their kids!
joanna618	Please have a hybrid option. It's hard, but not impossible.
dk1121	Thank you Dr. Scanlon for your dedication and time spent in making a decision that puts the safety of our children, our community, and the teachers and school staff first. We are thankful and lucky to have you as our leader during this unprecedented time!
csammameers	I completely agree with the proposed plan to not open schools. I think the West Chester Area School District is being smart and acting responsibly. School districts are faced with an impossible task. The plan to provide virtual/remote instruction as well as the option to utilize the cyber program shows that the school district is doing all it can do to keep everyone safe. They are putting the well-being and health of the students and staff in the district lives first and this needs to happen. This is a pandemic-school will not be anywhere close to "normal". There are far too many risks and unknowns if schools were to open now. Please support the plan to keep the schools closed and provide instruction virtually. Thank you for your time. This is a hard time for all and we need to stick together as a community.
jodilnawrocki	Thank you for working so hard to keep our children safe!
laurafhlax5	Disappointed the choice was taken away from us. Private school for us.
21flemingj	I strongly feel that we should be cautious when it comes to reopening school due to the fact that the corona virus is so new and has many unknowns. As much as online school can be difficult, I feel that it is the safest option as of right now.
sfd5003	Thank you for electing to go remote for the first part of the school year to protect the safety of the staff and students. I know it wasn't a decision that anyway wanted to make, but I believe it is the right decision.
katemcclain	Why does the online model have students going until November without earlier review? Every two weeks WASD guidelines should be reviewed to get kids back into the classroom into a hybrid model. Waiting until November with no check points to the ultimate goal of the hybrid model does not involve the community members who would like an in school hybrid model.
darshana.shyamsunder	I respect the difficult decision recommended by the School district and I favor it for the health and safety of all. Thank you for the leadership of Dr. Scanlon, the educators and the parent task force.
kntooke	<p>Hello. My name is Karen Tooke and I will have a junior and senior at Henderson this year. I was also an elementary school teacher for 12 years and am currently a district substitute. I urge you to reconsider Dr. Scanlon's proposal and allow our children to go back to school with the "hybrid" option. There have been overwhelming recommendations from doctors, scientists, and other health officials that going back is safer than keeping kids at home. Teen suicide rates have risen and child abuse detection and reporting will go down if teachers and other school employees have "eyes on" our children.</p> <p>Many students will not learn and retain new material by looking at a screen all day and will fall further behind than they already are. Working parents are unhappy and scrambling to figure out who will supervise their children. As someone who is very familiar with how an elementary classroom runs, I don't see how exclusively teaching remotely will work on that level. I could go on and on, but those are just a few examples of why remote learning is just a bad choice in general.</p> <p>I think most people in our community have had their kids at stores and restaurants, on vacations, at playdates, etc. this summer. By now, kids are painfully aware of how to wear a mask, wash their hands, and "social distance." For those who are in a vulnerable situation there is the cyber option. If our district is having a hard time figuring out how to make hybrid work, I implore you to take a look at how other districts are moving forward with it and use their models to help you. Thank you for your time.</p>

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email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
tsutton316	With grandchildren in Fern Hill, Fugett & East, I don't believe now is the time to mess with the virus. Continue to have the children learn remotely. Neither my wife or I support in-class sessions at this time. It's too early. Re-assess after the first or maybe even the second marking period.
skylax2	Our teachers are essential workers. In my opinion, it is imperative to get the younger grades back in school 5 days/week. A hybrid model can work at the high school, but not ideal. My children have been in camp/daycare the entire summer and have worn a mask the ENTIRE DAY (excluding swimming and eating). We have been given the option of Cyber school for families who are not comfortable sending their kids back. That said, parents who want to send their children back 5 days/week, understanding the risks, should be able to do so. It is BEST FOR OUR KIDS- mentally and physically.
aubreewindish	Thank you for considering the safety of students and staff and working together with our community to lower the numbers of infection.
mcastle	Can the Live lessons be recorded ? I think this would create less stress so parents can do the lesson with their children when it is a good time. Also Can there be a paper pack to print off to go along with the recorded lesson. This way the kids can pay attention more and we can do the lesson with them more than once. I asked for my daughters lessons during the last remote learning to be on paper and it was great to be able to have lesson lpad time, do it more than once and do it when we could so it was less stressful. This would really help working parents. thank you
katiekratz4	Thank you for the remote learning option for my 4 children. We feel it is the safest choice for us and will keep them connected to our school community.
karyn.heyem	I strongly support Dr. Scanlon's proposed reopening plan to begin the school year fully online. I am a registered nurse with more than 15 years of experience. I have two children in the WCASD and I am employed as a School Nurse in the WCASD as well. I believe that the health and safety of the students, staff and the community should be of primary importance when planning for the reopening of schools. The only way to safely open schools at this time during the pandemic is to have all students learn online. We all wish for a return to life as usual but it is not possible at this time. A fully online start to the school year is the best option we have to provide for the health and safety of our children, staff and community.
struong	I have been a teacher at Henderson for 18 years and I live in West Goshen. I am asking for you to vote to approve the plan for remote learning to start of the school year. The safety of my students, colleagues, and family are more important to me than I can express here. There is much uncertainty around Covid, but your vote can ensure that no student or staff contract Covid while in our school buildings. This teachers and community are grateful for your leadership and support during this difficult time.
dbmalizia	THANK YOU!!! I can not imagine the stress and just want to say thank you for all of your hard work and dedication.
chrisgeemail	I believe that the administration has done an excellent job communicating and evaluating the options for the upcoming school year. There won't be a perfect solution and it is difficult to please everyone - but Dr. Scanlon and his team have done everything to ensure a safe startup to the school year and I support their plan.
frankpatton17	I have two high school students [REDACTED] Online learning was extremely difficult for both of them this spring . My daughter will be a senior while my son will be a junior. I am extremely concerned that they will not be prepared for the next chapter of their lives without in person schooling. Please reconsider your decision.
jeanabraham74	We have a rising 4th grader [REDACTED] . We need her to be in school [REDACTED] . Thank you.
21feliceh	I think we should atleast try the hybrid method. i know i speak for many saying that online school and being stuck home for six months took a big toll on my mental health. school was the only thing that was pushing me through and now that may be taken away. Pennsylvania is doing amazing at trying to control the virus and i think hybrid model should at least be attempted so that kids can have some relief from being stuck at home all day.
ksullivan	Dr. Scanlon, I am in support of your proposal. Yes, I do want to be teaching in person, however, I feel as though this is the best decision for our community during this time. Thank you for all of your hard work with the reopening process.



email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
caitlentzart	I'm a current alumni proud to be a product of the West Chester Area School district. Respectively requesting the board to vote to open the schools remotely for the safety of our children and the community.
dbdoerr	I believe that school should resume remotely this fall for the safety of our students, parents, and teachers. I don't see that there is a safe way to do in person instruction in the current climate.
kmtooke	<p>Hello. My name is Karen Tooke and I will have a junior and senior at Henderson this year. I was also an elementary school teacher for 12 years and am currently a district substitute. I urge you to reconsider Dr. Scanlon's proposal and allow our children to go back to school with the "hybrid" option. There have been overwhelming recommendations from doctors, scientists, and other health officials that going back is safer than keeping kids at home. Teen suicide rates have risen and child abuse detection and reporting will go down if teachers and other school employees have "eyes on" our children.</p> <p>Many students will not learn and retain new material by looking at a screen all day and will fall further behind than they already are. Working parents are unhappy and scrambling to figure out who will supervise their children. As someone who is very familiar with how an elementary classroom runs, I don't see how exclusively teaching remotely will work on that level. I could go on and on, but those are just a few examples of why remote learning is just a bad choice in general.</p> <p>I think most people in our community have had their kids at stores and restaurants, on vacations, at playdates, etc. this summer. By now, kids are painfully aware of how to wear a mask, wash their hands, and "social distance." For those who are in a vulnerable situation there is the cyber option. If our district is having a hard time figuring out how to make hybrid work, I implore you to take a look at how other districts are moving forward with it and use their models to help you. Thank you for your time.</p>
konderdonk	Thank you for your careful consideration of all reopening options. You have been charged with an overwhelming task and I appreciate the weight of your responsibility. We are all in this together. Kim Onderdonk
k.knott811	Thank you so much for making such a difficult decision. It means so much to know that my district prioritizes the health and safety of the students and teachers.
awheeler	I would just like to praise Dr. Scanlon's recommendation to keep learning remote for our schools. I know this is NOT a desirable option for ANYONE, but the fact is NONE of our options are desirable. I would rather work through the hardships of remote learning and know we are doing our part to keep everyone safe, than try to come back and 'see what happens'. Coming back to school puts everyone in jeopardy and frankly (as you well know) is a logistical nightmare. People don't realize how potentially traumatizing it will be for the students (particularly the youngest ones) to be in school, with the kinds of regulations we will have to put in place. Thank you for putting health and safety first!! Virtual school over virtual funerals any day.
mlnelson99	WCASD must begin the 2020-21 school year remotely as cases of COVID19 are still high and the health of students, faculty, and teachers must be protected.
clynn0535	I request 5 days of school or hybrid. If the students do not go back until Thanksgiving that will be 9 months without in person learning. I will likely place my student in private school if they do not go back.
wamushow	Thank you for putting teacher and student health first.
rdeck5	First do no harm. That tenet applies in education as well as medicine. We cannot be assured that students and teachers/staff will not be placed in harms way by being brought into school at this moment. We do not have the information. The logistics of a hybrid model are daunting. I say this as an educator who has looked at the model. I want to be back in school, but we need to hit pause. We are capable as educators of making a remote model work effectively for the first marking period.
tswift	Although teachers would prefer to always be with students to start the school year, we appreciate the Science-based decision to open remotely for the safety of the students, faculty, staff and the community.
hmwyant	Hello, I'd like to request that schools open remotely. As a parent of two in this district there is no way to keep our children safe with so many students attending. They are unable to be kept 6 feet apart and enforce mask wearing with kids of all ages. There is a huge disadvantage to having them home and trying to work not to mention the social development stall, but our community's health is more important. We can catch up on the academic and social development but we cannot get the lives of our family and friends back.

August 3, 2020

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ltrembath	I support Dr. Scanlon and the remote learning plan. I was part of the teacher reopening committee this summer and Dr. Scanlon has done an outstanding job planning and thinking through the many different reopening options. I feel that remote online learning is the safest and best option for students and staff at this time. Thank you for your time and thank you for all you do.
jronayne	Thank you for your continued support to keep our students, staff and families safe.
rosec17	<p>I do appreciate all of the work that the WCASD team has put in working to come up with various scenarios to start school. I understand that this was not an easy task; but what I do not understand is the decision to start on line. Considering everything provided along the way it was looking like there was a good case that getting back in the classroom in some capacity would be possible. Then out of left field we are being told that is not going to happen. In looking through all of the data gathered and the various charts provided the majority of the community is on board for hybrid and or brick and mortar. Therefore why is the decision being made to start on line? Please reconsider and vote for at least the hybrid option as our children need to get back to some scence of normalcy and I do believe they can do it safely.</p> <p>If the final decision is to start on line then please make sure to keep sports and other extra curricular activities in some capacity. These kids need to have some outlets that can be safe. My one daughter has been playing club lacrosse &amp; soccer since June and we have not felt or seen any issues. There are definitely ways to do it if the effort is made. It is important to have the district do their part for those that want to be involved. If there are people who don't feel safe then they do not need to participate. I know that might sound harsh but everyone needs to make a decision that works best for them and their family.</p> <p>Thank you again and I will support whatever decision is made.</p> <p>Rose Colston mom of 8th grader &amp; Senior.</p>
allison10wert	I truly appreciate all the time Dr. Scanlon and the rest of our administration have unselfishly spent as they determine the safest way for our kids to return to school in the fall. I fully support their decision to start our school year teaching remote. It appears the logistics and financial requirements of a hybrid or 5-day schedule, along with the emotional and physical toll it will take on our teachers and staff make it nearly impossible to open this fall, and remote is the safest outcome for our kids and staff.
vdrobenak	Just a note to say how much my family appreciates the hard decisions Dr. Scanlon has had to make. In my opinion, his decision, while not the preferred choice for many working parents, is the best decision to not only keep our children healthy and safe, but our families, AND his entire staff - many at risk themselves. I commend him, and the reopening task force, for taking on such a stressful task and for making some brave decisions, knowing many people would push back if they weren't opinions of their own.
zephyr28cd	Please consider improving air filtration in schools before reopening with portable hepa air filters in classrooms. Thank you! <a href="https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2020/07/why-arent-we-talking-more-about-airborne-transmission/614737/">https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2020/07/why-arent-we-talking-more-about-airborne-transmission/614737/</a>
kape_22	Has the impact to low income families who have to work been considered as they have limited means to provide their children with supervision.
keithpusey	Please do not allow a select few on Facebook change the recommendation made by Dr. Scanlon. The facts presented are the true facts and experts are saying that this pandemic is only going to get worse. I believe it is best for parents to have a remote plan in place now because this is only going to get worse. Indiana schools opened last week and they already are facing cases in schools on the very first day. These are the true facts and are indisputable. For the safety of our children, staff and parents, please vote for the remote option.
swarrington	Thank you for prioritizing student and staff safety when making a reopening decision.
marisabreedon	I am so grateful to the WCASD administration, school board and volunteers for their hard work this summer in making such a difficult decision. I know it was an impossible task. As a teacher in the district, I thank you for your support and applaud you for putting the safety of the students and staff first.
sstraus	Thank you so very much for supporting the plan for school re-opening that is coming before you tonight for approval. To have our district put the health and safety of our staff and students first and foremost is

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	just one of many reasons that make me proud to work in the WCASD. Kudos to all who have been involved in this very difficult and stressful process!
rrcies	I am very concerned about the impact that the decision to not return to school will have on both the mental health and the academic health of the young adults in our community especially recognizing all of the other schools who are returning. I understand the complexities of returning but would have liked to hear more about what creative solutions were considered to get some of our kids back to school for those families and teachers who are comfortable doing so. I respect the recommendation that was made. Having said that, I am hopeful that we will be able to be more creative to address the tremendous stress that our young adults are feeling. For example, seniors in high school have not been able to take standardized tests and are fearful of being unfairly penalized as they apply for colleges vs their non WCASD peers who are returning to school and may be taking SAT and ACT tests. There is no reason why our community cannot figure out a way to administer these exams, assuming the College Board has approved. If our teachers cannot do it, the parents can and will. I am equally concerned about the example secondary school schedule which was laid out starting at 8:45 and having long periods with only one long lunch break, and separately the communication that we will have the youngest kids go back first. It is not clear to me what the parent task forces recommended, but I would ask that the Board consider engaging more / different parents and improving upon some of these aspects of the Return to School 2.0 plan
vls78	I am really hoping the school board will reconsider the decision to go all virtual. My children are entering grades 2nd and 3rd. Elementary students need in-person learning to some extent, whether it be a hybrid model or 5 days a week. Younger students can't learn virtually they do not have the attention span nor is it fair to them socially and emotionally. There are many other districts in the area that are using a hybrid model and I believe WC should be able to offer a hybrid model at least for elementary students. If other area districts can do this so can WC. We should not be using the excuse that WC is a larger district. If we are going to go all virtual then reassess before Thanksgiving break that is way to far out. TE is only virtual until 9/21, maybe WC needs to change their date to OCT 1st. We need to advocate for our children they have been stuck at home since March 13th now and they need to get back to school and this virus is not going away. I work in healthcare and we need to understand that we are just going to have to use proper precautions but keeping children home is not the answer. I hope that the school board will strongly reconsider the all virtual decision when voting as this is not the best decision for our children.
msk5200	Thank you for putting the health and safety of students, staff, and the community first in the proposed plan for the upcoming school year.
Jovelman	Kids need to be in school physically. Especially at young ages like kindergarten. How are parents suppose to work and teach? One we are not teachers and kids need that interaction with other children. I will be requesting cuts for taxes for school if we are doing all virtual!
agk80	Although I realize that this is a tough decision I do not agree with full time remote learning. There was a parent survey and the results showed that 80% of the constituents want some sort of in person learning for their children. I believe that the lack of social interaction is detrimental to all learners but especially to students in grades K-3. This is lost time that cannot be made up. The mental health of these youngest students is being affected negatively by this lack of social interaction. Also, many surrounding districts are doing some kind of hybrid plan. I feel that we will be behind these districts academically if we are only using remote learning.

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john	<p>Hello and hope this finds you well during these extremely challenging times. I wanted to share some personal observations that my family and I have experienced over the last 4 months. We moved last year from Delaware county. The transition was rough, especially for my oldest daughter, but with the support from the teachers, staff and peers at Hillsdale elementary, my children were able to adjust and fit right in. They love the school and we do too! We were BEYOND impressed with Hillsdale, and the in classroom education [REDACTED] our children were receiving. Then, well, as you're aware the pandemic happened, and threw everything in our family's life and the world into flux. This is by no means an easy decision for anybody, and to be honest, there is no right or wrong answer to fix what is a complicated situation with many different parameters at play. I want you to know that we understand that. However, upon hearing our district was going to be online only until November 17th at the earliest (we are all fairly confident that that date will move deep into 2021), I find some concerns with this approach.</p> <p>1. What is the plan for addressing socialization for our children, especially at the elementary level. Children need socialization, our children especially need tactile play. Zoom and online learning, do not provide a natural, fluid way of communicating, and feel this will have far reaching effects over our children's lives.</p> <p>2. What is the plan for addressing our students emotional needs? Many others we have talked to have mentioned our kids being generally sad, crying, and depressed. Our children personally adjusted to a new situation last year. They have been MORE than resilient. But they are children. They are sad, have many questions, or see others going to a hybrid/full time approach. We are asking a lot of our 6 and 8 year olds. I am not confident that this plan can put our children's emotional needs at the forefront.</p> <p>3. We have made a point of making sure our children are protected online, and monitoring the amount of time that they spend on devices. With moving fully online, we feel this an approach that is ripe to breed dependence and addiction on devices on our children's developing minds. Also, I do not feel it is right to have our children looking at youtube links, or other websites that sell information to 3rd parties. Our family is tremendously fortunate, my wife has an education background and stays at home with the kids. However, it is still challenging to navigate teaching 2 children online, in 2 separate grades at the same time. I can only imagine how difficult this situation is to navigate with 2 working parents, or a single working parent situation. This approach is not sustainable long-term, and will naturally lead to burnout and strain (at minimum) for the parents, caregivers and children in the community. Lastly, what is the back to school strategy? Is there something tangible we can use as a benchmark? We have to have an idea, maybe it would be the collective kickstart to buckle down and try to lower the numbers. Again, I can completely empathize with having to make this decision. It is by no means an easy one, especially with shifting rules and regulations, and unclear guidance and data from the state. We also do not want to put others in harms way. This is an incredibly contagious disease with 100 different outcomes for 100 different people. However, I hope you can empathize with the frustration we as parents are experiencing with the direction being taken, and hope there is a way to reconsider or at least figure out some way to have some level of in person instruction/socialization, or provide our teachers the creative freedom to do so.</p>
cletrinko	<p>I would like to that Dr. Scanlon and the board for taking the time to think through all of the options for reopening. It is evident that they have the safety of the students and staff as a top priority. Although this is a difficult decision to make, I believe that remote learning is the only safe option right now. Thank you for doing the best thing to keep our community safe.</p>
natalie.saenz143	<p>I believe the district must provide students with IEPs that have an assigned aide or PCA a in-home aide a few hours a week to assist with executive function, assignments and keeping track. Children with special needs will be the ones more impacted by the new structure in place, and the "inclusive" schooling that they have been advocating for years will be thrown down the drain. How are you going to make sure that FAPE will be protected for them?</p>
jskuegler	<p>I have 15 yr triplets and they are sliding emotionally due to not being in school since March. They truly aren't sure how they will learn much in the coming months through online classes. A hybrid model would at least give them a chance to develop a comfort level with teachers and a time to ask questions in person. I know this is difficult for all but we need to solve the problem and get kids back in school if they are willing. Thank you.</p>
ldbug0327	<p>Will physical textbooks/workbooks be made available to the students in lieu of relying on digital textbooks?</p>
msc479	<p>Why can't the plan be more accommodating to those who want more live instruction (Remote 2.0) but do not want their child to return to brick and mortar if the hybrid plan gets enacted after November break and there is no vaccine. We would like the flexibility to enter into the Cyber program at that time.</p>

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humphreys1112	<p>I have several comments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. You surveyed parents and are not following your data. Majority want in person instruction</li> <li>2. There are districts within PA opening in-person, many the same size as WCASD ( see Doylestown plan)</li> <li>3. This will cause long term academic issues for students especially those as they finish high school and move on to college</li> <li>4. The mental health of students will suffer greatly. The isolation will have long term detrimental effects on all children</li> </ol>
ehutchinson	<p>Based on the size of our district and number of employees, I feel the administration has made a wise decision on the reopening of school protecting the health and welfare of ALL parties involved. Our virtual platforms will provide structure, consistency, and quality instruction to meet the diverse needs of our students. Our technology leaders have provided many PD opportunities for teachers this summer on distance learning platforms.</p>
nittanyneen	<p>I am a single (professional) mother of three children in the district. We moved here one year ago specifically for the quality of education WCASD provides. I am also deemed an essential worker and have successfully worked outside my home for all of 2020. I limited screen time for my children and maximized tactile natural learning in our home- based on the recommendations of the APA and frankly, common sense. Our children suffer when placed in front of screens for more than 2 hours a day. There is plenty of data to support returning to brick and mortar school in a responsible manner to limit risks for all involved. There was a 40% response from families in WCASD to return to brick and mortar and 40 % supported a hybrid. District families overwhelmingly want to see our children IN the buildings! Remote learning is not appropriate education. As a working mother I have options at YMCA, ACAC and other day care facilities on the area if the SD decides not to return to the classroom, but WHY? Why can my children go to a day care but not a classroom? Please show Harrisburg that WCASD can responsibly balance our childrens education with the welfare of the community. Vote for return to the classroom! Jeannine McKnight</p>
carolynmdavis	<p>Thank you to the WCASD and especially Dr Scanlon for all your hard thought out work for the reopening plan this coming year. I know it was a difficult decision during a pandemic and trying to keep all families happy but ultimately I believe you have made the best decision for our children's and communities safety.</p>
stefiwein	<p>Thank you Dr. Scanlon and everyone who participated in making this gut wrenching decision. We appreciate everything you do and are so happy you continue to put the safety and well being of the students and staff first. We are prod to be in WCASD.</p>
janeyswift	<p>Both my husband and I strongly favor online education when school begins. It is the only science based solution that will accommodate both the students and our highly dedicated teachers.</p>
cmt63079	<p>First I want to thank the school district for all their hard work over the past few months as I know it's not easy. Second, I'd like to understand why many schools in close proximity to West Chester are still opening for in person instruction in one way, shape or form, but our district is not. All summer the plan was with full day or hybrid and it quickly changed. My children are elementary level and they need in person instruction and some sort of socialization. I'm concerned for their mental health. In addition, why is it ok for our kids to be sent to a daycare to learn, but they can't go to school? This doesn't make any sense to me. Thank you for your time - Christine and Tim Flynn</p>
bmilowicki	<p>Please consider TRUE CHOICE when discussing our options for reopening our schools this fall. Teachers who wish to teach remotely, should teach kids who want to learn remotely and Teacher who wish to teach brick &amp; mortar should teach students who wish to attend school in the building. Even if students could return to the buildings for the first two weeks of school, immeasurable benefits will surface.  <a href="https://thehill.com/opinion/healthcare/509699-fear-first-education-last">https://thehill.com/opinion/healthcare/509699-fear-first-education-last</a>  Please review the above article which expresses the true nature of this virus. Our kids are depending on YOU. Thank you.</p>
erinbovejordan	<p>I support Dr. Scanlon's decision for remote learning. Throughout this process he has really analyzed all options and spent countless hours trying to do what's best for the community, which is a difficult task. While there's no one size fits all for this kind of situation, remote learning is the safest for students and staff. Thank you!</p>

August 3, 2020

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stephfatscher	<p>Less then 1% of Chester county residents have tested positive for covid. How does this warrant starting off the school year virtual? The federal government guarantees every child the right to a free and appropriate education. Virtual learning is NOT appropriate for my children or many others.</p> <p>Delco #s are far worse and those schools all seem to be starting with the hybrid model. Why can't wcasd at least try this?</p> <p>I am extremely disappointed that scanlan changed his tune within a few days to no longer go hybrid.</p> <p>Please do not vote this plan in!!</p>
jgnittanylion	<p>I think our district has done a wonderful job of exploring all options. They have taken the safety and well being of both students and teachers very seriously. Our family is relieved that the students will not return to school in person. Especially after all of the resent information coming out about how kids do spread this virus.</p>
tswift	<p>Although teachers would prefer to always be with students to start the school year, we appreciate the Science-based decision to open remotely for the safety of the students, faculty, staff and the community.</p>
kwerner	<p>Dr. Scanlon, School Board members, and ALL who have been involved in the plans for reopening....I simply want to say THANK YOU for all of your hard work and countless hours of thinking, discussing and planning that you have put in over the past several months. This has likely been the most difficult situation our district (like so many others across the country) has had to face and I especially want to thank you for putting everyone's health and safety above all else. We will rise above this difficult time and continue to be the GREAT school district we have always been! Sincerely, Kendra Werner - East High School Choral Director</p>

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
llunardi	<p>We are here today to say to the Board – Please do not approve that Plan.            For any family who is uncomfortable for any reason in sending their kids back to school, there is a cyber option. The District worked hard to develop that option to give every parent a choice. But now, those of us who want our kids to go back to school are not being given the same choice. And 80% of families who completed the survey over last weekend indicated that they wanted some level of in person instruction.</p> <p>The Federal government guarantees every child the right to a Free and appropriate education. CFR 34 §300.101 states            (a) General. A free appropriate public education must be available to all children residing in the State between the ages of 3 and 21, inclusive, including children with disabilities who have been suspended or expelled from school, as provided for in §300.530(d).</p> <p>Online learning is not ultimately Free nor is it Appropriate for every child. Parents who can afford it will be spending money on tutors, childcare, or learning centers being set up by the YMCA and other agencies. And for many kids, online learning is not appropriate. If online learning was ideal for the majority of students, we would have moved in that direction prior to this. While the District has worked hard over the summer to train teachers to provide a higher quality of instruction virtually, we all acknowledge that remote learning is not a replacement for in person instruction. Our children are going to continue to fall further behind both academically and socially.</p> <p>And in a time when social justice and equity are of paramount importance, our most vulnerable students are going to suffer the most. Mental health and substance issues are on the rise. Child abuse and domestic violence are on the rise. Our schools provide more than quality instruction, they also provide a safe respite for children whose home lives are difficult. Many parents do not have the luxury of working from home. Often social distancing and quarantine are luxuries of the middle and upper class. For these children, they may be left to care for younger siblings or attempt to complete school work on their own with little help or support. By not opening our schools, we are accepting that the achievement gap will widen between those who can afford resources and those who cannot.</p> <p>According to the PA Dept of Health website that I view every day, there are a total of 4,876 cases in Chester County with a total population 522,046. That calculates to less than 1% of Chester County residents testing positive for the virus.</p> <p>Of those positive cases, there have been a total of 344 deaths in Chester County and 284 of those occurred at long term care facilities. Over 82% of the deaths were in long term care facilities. 60 people outside of long term care facilities have passed away. And I know one of those people, and I am incredibly sad for their family as I am for every person who has passed away. But these statistics simply do not support the measure to NOT open schools. Our children are at very little risk of contracting this virus and practically no risk of dying from the virus. We take risks every day when we put our children on a school bus or let them ride their bike in your neighborhood. As parents, we should be able to evaluate our personal situation and make whatever decisions we deem appropriate of our children. For those of us who want in-person instruction, we should have that right.</p> <p>So today, we say to the West Chester Area School District Board – Please do the right thing and let parents decide what is in the best interest of their kids. Give those of us who want in-person instruction for our kids the same choice as those parents who want all online instruction. As of right now, 6 of the school districts in Chester County are proposing some level of in-person instruction, and 6 including WCASD are proposing all online instruction. Clearly there are many opinions on the matter, but at least half of the County districts recognize the importance of an in-person option. And the CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics also agree that the unintended consequences of NOT opening schools outweigh the risks of the virus for our children.</p> <p>And finally, the words of Nelson Mandela sum up our situation well: “A Nation should not be judged by how it treats its highest citizens, but it's lowest ones” Let us not be a community who abandons its most vulnerable members. Please Do the Right Thing for our Children and Open Up Our Schools!</p> <p>Thank you!</p>

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
kevin.heyms	<p>I wanted to support the decision to open remote. For the safety of the staff and children it is the right decision. Thank you for all the hard work and decisions the District has had to make. These times tough but safety of everyone is paramount.</p> <p>Social distancing of six feet can help to mitigate the spread of the virus and must be enforced. Yes the distancing reduces risk but does not eliminate transmission. We all need to enforce and think about this when we all get together (particularly in enclosed spaces). Three foot distancing should not be a consideration.</p> <p>In respect to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for staff. This is a topic that I am deeply involved in and happy to discuss more details. A Face covering (medical mask, cloth covering etc..) that covers the nose and mouth is important. In the school setting a face shield is NOT equivalent to a face mask to reduce disease transmission.</p> <p>Kevin W. Heym Industrial Hygienist   Penn Medicine Safety &amp; Emergency Management</p> <p>3600 Civic Center Blvd.   3rd Floor   Philadelphia, PA 19104 Email: kevin.heyms@pennteam.upenn.edu</p>
bridgetlamancusa	<p>Thank you all for the time, care, and consideration that you have put into this plan! I know that you truly have the best interests of the students and staff in mind. It was a huge task, especially knowing that no matter what was decided, many folks would not be happy. You were in between a rock and a hard place; I do not envy you for having to maneuver through the many layers of issues in order to make a decision. There really was no right solution in this. We will get through this and come out stronger in the end. Thanks again!</p>
ellebean76	<p>I support your decisions. I would love to have my kids back in school, but not until it's safe. It is not safe. There's a world-wide pandemic and everyone needs to step it up- step up safety for students and faculty. Parents need to step up and provide a little more for their kids. I'm sorry you're in this position and you're doing a great job with a situation that has no good options. Please continue to do what's best for all- your actions affect more than students, teachers, and parents.</p>
laura.siegle	<p>I would like to see K-3 go 5 days a week like other surrounding . With a rising K that struggles with online learning (and I can't imagine he's the only one) . It is very upsetting to see such a vulnerable age expected to learn that way . I am asking for the plan to be re-evaluated</p>
jpaigef	<p>I listened to Dr. Scanlon's proposed reopening plan last Wednesday and was relieved, quite frankly, in light of the most current data on COVID-19. It is important to recognize any decision related to reopening schools is not optimal; however, I believe starting the school year remotely prioritizes the health and safety of West Chester students, teachers, and school personnel.</p> <p>I want to thank those involved in working through these difficult issues. It is clear that you reached this decision in a methodical fashion, carefully considered various factions, and ultimately erred on the side of caution. As a working parent of an elementary school aged child who does not exactly "thrive" in a virtual academic setting, I am thankful you made this decision based on science.</p> <p>Best, J. Paige Frampton</p>
mandyk_19320	<p>My son is entering Kindergarten this year and my daughter is 3 years old. My husband and I are essential workers who work opposite days from one another and swing shift.</p> <p>I understand that there are safety precautions and guidelines that will be difficult to adhere to in order for children to even attend a hybrid schedule, but I believe that the sample schedule provided will be extremely difficult for a parent or 5 year old to follow from home. My son could barely handle zoom for 15 minute pre-k meetings and parents will be unable to get work done, take care of other children or leave the house for necessary errands. I'm sure you have heard all of this already, I just felt the need to express my concern. Thank you for your time and I do appreciate the time and effort the school district has been putting in to finding solutions especially when receiving variations of responses to guidelines weekly.</p>



August 3, 2020

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
sharimaun	I think Dr. Scanlon and his team have given very thoughtful consideration to all of the medical data, community input and alternatives for our children. I appreciate that they are putting everyone's safety first. I think starting school remotely is a hard decision, but the right one. I am grateful to have such strong leadership in WCASD and I urge you to approve this reopening proposal.
kuegler1	Please do NOT approve the plan to limit WCASD to Remote Learning in Fall. Offer us a choice to decide on in-person instruction vs. cyber school. The CDC and American Academy of Pediatrics agree that in-person education is critical and that the unintended consequences of NOT opening schools outweigh the risk of COVID to our children and to teachers/staff. The data show that schools can be opened safely and I am asking that you make the right choice and allow our kids to go back to school this Fall. VOTE NO ON REMOTE LEARNING. Thank you.
cclaffey	I want to thank you for your leadership through an unimaginably difficult time. I am proud to be a teacher in the WCASD. I respect Dr. Scanlon's decision to put the health and safety of students and staff first, knowing that we, the dedicated teachers and staff of WCASD, will make everything else fall into place. We will provide an excellent education for our students in a safe way through remote education. We've got this! Cindy Claffey, Seventh Grade English Teacher, Stetson Middle School
CHIP.FRENEY	School Reopening Concerns This should be a data-driven decision, based on scientific, health, economic, and social impact evidence: • Health of students The Importance of Reopening America's Schools this Fall : CDC <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/reopening-schools.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/reopening-schools.html</a> Lack of transparency in process: • Design and development of Learning 2.0 appears to be underway, while there is no evidence of an attempt to plan to return in-person. For example, a study was done to confirm social distancing is impossible. However, there is no information about cost of expanding and/or repurposing facilities to accommodate social distancing, which will be a necessity at the outset of any reopening. • Any proposal to shutter schools must include a plan for reopening with a mitigation/response plan to control outbreaks of COVID-19 as well as associated viral threats that students, faculty, and staff will be vulnerable to. • It appears the school district believes there will be a magical day in the future when viruses no longer exist. Quality of education experience • Both WC Cyber and Learning 2.0 should incorporate design, development and implementation of effective online learning experiences. However, it looks like these efforts are led and overseen by traditional brick-and-mortar educators. What assurances can the district give that experts in instructional design, curriculum design and alignment, and experiential learning have been consulted? Can you provide examples of improvements that will be implemented in the use of elearning and educational technology? Can you explain security protocols that will protect students from online predators like those who have plagued the district's meetings?
mtburchett30	As the parent of an incoming kindergartener, I've had so many questions and concerns about what this school year will look like. Although, ideally, I would prefer my son to be able to be in school in person, I understand and support the recommendations that are being made. It's very clear that the superintendent and other school district staff put a great deal of time and energy into making this impossible decision. I'm extremely impressed with the consistent and clear communication from both my son's new school, MCH, as well as the the district staff. I sincerely hope you vote to approve their recommendation for the upcoming school year.
nisha.fernandes205	Are we automatically enrolled into remote learning if we choose not to opt for Cyber school or is there something we need to submit that ensures us enrollment into remote learning? Thank you.
jlitwa	Thank you for supporting the plan Dr. Scanlon has proposed for reopening. As a teacher I feel this will keep everyone as safe as possible as we start a new year and has put MANY people's minds at ease in regards to avoiding the spread of COVID.
dookefan	I fully support remote start and zoom learning
mwilliams	[REDACTED] support your position to begin school remotely. I was a standout college athlete who participated in triathlons, marathons, and professional golf. [REDACTED] Covid is damaging people in ways that we have not yet fully discovered. As you may know, a major league baseball pitcher now has a heart condition due to Covid. For the safety of your staff and students, please go forward with your decision to open remotely. Thank you.

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
Katherine.A.Cowperthwait	<p>I believe that the Hybrid option needs to be strongly reconsidered. The evidence does not support the decision to be remote. It is unrealistic to think that students will be back in school after Thanksgiving. The hybrid option needs to be approved. The parents that are comfortable to send their kids should be able to. And according to the survey results, 80% total was in support of the hybrid option or full time. There are neighboring school districts that are making the hybrid option work. West Chester must reconsider and try this option. The governor made the announcement on Friday that he has no plans to shut down the school buildings right now.</p>
meckleyt	<p>To the Members of the WCASD, I am writing to express my extreme disappointment in the administration's planned virtual reopening of the school district. The students need some form of in person instruction; especially at the elementary level. While I completely sympathize with the administration's utter frustration with the bureaucracy and contradiction in Harrisburg, the proposed plan does not serve the students best. Having experienced firsthand with my son (pre-K) virtual instruction, it simply doesn't work at the elementary level. Humans are social animals, and virtual education does not provide adequate interaction and engagement. In this country mental health issues are up, drug abuse is up, and suicides are up 600% because we have been prevented from interacting with each other the way humans have interacted for millennia. The CDC's guidance is that schools being open is a critical part of the community. To quote the CDC: "Schools are an important part of the infrastructure of communities, as they provide safe, supportive learning environments for students, employ teachers and other staff, and enable parents, guardians, and caregivers to work. Schools also provide critical services that help to mitigate health disparities, such as school meal programs, and social, physical, behavioral, and mental health services. School closure disrupts the delivery of these critical services to children and families, and places additional economic and psychological stress on families, which can increase the risk for family conflict and violence. The unique and critical role that schools play makes them a priority for opening and remaining open, enabling students to receive both academic instruction and support as well as critical services." (<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/prepare-safe-return.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/prepare-safe-return.html</a>) I know the district will take the proper precautions for in person education; masks, temperature checks, enhanced sanitation, encouraging hand washing, chorting, contact tracing, etc. If it comes down to a question of 3 feet vs 6 feet of separation alone, that is a horrible argument to base closing schools on. Whether students are 3 feet or 6 feet apart, they are breathing the same air within a class room. Please use some common sense. Remember, these are all guidelines and not requirements. The other mitigations you will have in place are far more effective (especially the use of procedural masks vs regular cloth masks). You have given all students the option of virtual educational for those that are at risk, have family at risk, or simply don't feel comfortable with the situation, yet you are taking away the ability from the parents to make an educated decision for what best for their children. I agree that the district should not be making health decisions. They should be providing an environment for parents and students to make those health decisions for themselves. Citing the example of increasing case numbers in West Goshen, is another weak argument for closing the schools. Recently case numbers are going up due to increased testing in a given area, not because there are necessarily more case in that area vs. another. You need to look at the local hospitalization rates and mortality rates in these areas, they are more telling. When you consider the argument that increased virtual education could cost the district ~\$4 million that sounds significant until you consider that the districts yearly operating budget is nearly a quarter of a billion dollars. That represents only approximately a 1.5 % increase. Something I would happily pay for a year. 80% of the parents in the district wanted some form "Brick and Mortar" instruction. Yet the district's plan is virtual. You are beholden to the parents, taxpayers, and most importantly, the students. Do not succumb to the politicians, lawyers and teachers unions. Vote to open the schools safely. Respectfully, Tim Meckley</p>
jreg10	<p>How does an 80% majority of public opinion lose? Never mind we know the answer and it's a disgrace. Just stop insulting us further by saying "it's for the safety of the kids". This has ZERO to do with the kids safety as we all know being in school is best place for them! The virus has statistically basically zero impact on them. (Actually on most demographics) - make accommodations for the small number of vulnerable, don't sacrifice the betterment of the majority!! follow the science!!</p>

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akleckner	Thank you to everyone who has worked tirelessly to come up with the safest plan for our return to school. There is nothing I would like more than to rewind to the first week of March to teach my six classes with 30 students in each. However, as a 25 year-old educator [REDACTED] I fully support and stand by the recommendation to begin the fall with virtual learning. Aside from my own health, [REDACTED] and the kind of exposure that I would endure going back to school full-time in two separate buildings would put me at such a risk that I could not continue to safely see my family members. I am aware that I am not the only staff member to face these challenges and burdens with returning to school with even a hybrid model. I was impressed that the district thought of a plan to re-open safely for students to have little exposure, but the health and safety of our staff (and in turn our own family members) has to take precedence too.
davidjr74	Give us parents a choice for our kids!!! They deserve options. Use the CDC guidance. Use the guidance set forth by the American Pediatrics Assoc. 80% of parents in the WCASD want some sort of in person option. Do your job and follow the research and opinion of the parents.
creccofamily	Thank you for making the difficult decision to educate students remotely at the beginning of the school year. I believe it was the right choice. Although I was very excited to return to school and meet my new students, I was also feeling very anxious about the health of the school community and the challenges (as well as district costs) of a hybrid environment. Thank you again for your dedication and numerous hours of work during this pandemic.
ecwilson225	I support the decision WCASD has made about being virtual/cyber. We can not afford to lose any staff member or child during this time by forcing people to get back into the building. We are still living covid and should be taking many precautions. Thank you!
jen_franz79	Thank you for your support of the teachers in WCASD. We know any decision is not an easy one, but we trust that you will do what is best under these circumstances.
mbolner	I would like to thank and support those who proposed a remote model for the beginning of the 2020-21 school year. It is absolutely a hard decision and there are many questions that comes with it, but the safety of the students, teachers, and school staff must be prioritized and I am very proud to be a part of a district that recognizes and prioritizes the well-being of our school community. I am very much looking forward to going back in person when it is safe to do so!
register1	DO not close our schools!! Closing our schools will harm our children. Your job is to protect our kids and make decisions that will benefit them. The CDC has clearly stated that "the harms attributed to closed schools on the social, emotional, and behavioral health, economic well being and academic achievement of children, in both the long and short term, are well known and significant." The American academy of Pediatricians has also strongly recommended that students return to school school in the fall because the "importance of in-person learning is very well documented, and there is already evidence of the negative impacts on children because of school closures in the spring of 2020." The Covid cases in Chester County are less that 1% and according to the CDC experts our children are far less likely to suffer any symptoms. Do not use our children as political pawns and allow the current political environment to cloud your decisions. Vulnerable children and teachers can opt to go virtual and stay home but the remainder of children and teachers should return to in person instruction. 80% of parents in our district want schools to reopen. A school board's most important responsibility is to work with your community to improve student achievement. You are suppose to represent the public, and make sure our voices are heard - 80% of the public wants schools to reopen. You cannot vote any other way because the numbers are clear and the majority of parents in our district want kids to return to in person learning because it is the best thing for our children.
marcel	We as a society have a duty to protect and guide the next generation. To force a premature opening during a pandemic is a dereliction of that duty, and for which in return we acquire nothing more than a few short months of a subpar education where children will rightfully be too afraid to interact with each other, too uncomfortable to study, and too stressed to care about their education. This is to say nothing of the impact on the lives of the teachers who already sacrifice so much to educate our students, lives that in some cases will be sacrificed on the alter of a single marking period worth of in-person instruction that none involved will remember with anything but disdain.
davidjr74	Give us parents a choice for our kids!!! They deserve options. Use the CDC guidance. Use the guidance set forth by the American Pediatrics Assoc. 80% of parents in the WCASD want some sort of in person option. Do your job and follow the research and opinion of the parents.

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mikemus	<p>I do not understand why both the cyber option and remote 2.0 do not include more synchronous teaching. Would the district consider increasing the synchronous learning with the cyber option at a minimum so it more closely resembles classroom learning (just virtually)?</p> <p>Also, what is the district doing to increase both the usability and security of the technology utilized (specifically Zoom) especially given the recent zoom bombing featuring a masturbating senior citizen.</p>
Tbeck7	<p>Camps and Daycares have been running without incident since June. These are kids who are in no way social distancing and are wearing masks loosely - yet again, no incidents. Our school aged kids deserve the opportunity to be back in school to receive the best education possible. Virtual and Cyber are not in their best interest. With other school districts getting creative and figuring out ways to get the kids back in school, WCASD needs to do the same. Otherwise, the kids in our school district will fall behind when compared to their peers. Its unfortunate, but busing options should be limited to those families and children who truly cannot find alternative solutions (special needs); everyone else needs to find their own way or choose cyber. And those families who are not comfortable with the scenario of going back to to brick and mortar don't have to; isn't that why Cyber was created?</p>
amarcantonis	<p>Dear School Board members, I am the mother of an incoming 7th grader at Stetson, and 5th and 3rd graders at Westtown Thornbury, and am extremely disappointed in the options that our district has given us for the coming school semester. From my perspective, the school reopening proposal sounds like we have two options: virtual or better virtual with no in person option whatsoever. It was my understanding that superintendents would also be working together, but Garnet Valley and Unionville chose hybrid while Downingtown is going virtual. As part of the parent task force, specifically the pupil services committee, this past month we have discussed so many different options including distancing, masking, temperature taking, hybrid models, etc. After over 10 hours of discussions, why can't we put anything that was spoken about into place? How did all those options go overlooked? My third grader [REDACTED] was doing extraordinarily well educationally between the months of November and March, but now who knows how she's doing and if anything we have done over the past four months has made any significant impact. It feels like we are merely surviving instead of taking any strides forward. As I revisit the survey results, three things stuck out in my mind. Firstly, the overwhelming majority of parents and teachers are concerned about the level of academic learning loss some students experienced during the pandemic. Two, the majority of parents are concerned about their children's mental health after a period of isolation from their friends and school. And finally, and most importantly, the fact that around 80% of respondents do want to go back to some type of brick and mortar setting. So why survey us all if not to work with the majority opinion?? Keeping our children isolated is highly problematic and I worry about the long term affects this trauma will cause them. I completely understand that these decisions are made impossible by our government's response of only giving guidelines and not mandates, making the decisions even harder to come to! We are all in a very difficult situation as parents, educators, administrators, and Americans. To live our lives or not to live our lives. Please vote AGAINST the current school reopening proposal and rethink its impact on our children.</p>
emprilutski	<p>Hello, we are community members with no children in the schools. We totally support your decisions and appreciate the hard work and thought process that has gone into reopening the schools. Thanks for a great job. Eileen &amp; Dave Prilutski</p>
aimehtalerico	<p>I am so disappointed that WCASD could not figure out a way to bring students back via a hybrid plan. Unionville, Garnet Valley, Radnor, Rose Tree Media which are all surrounding districts have figured out a way to get kids back to school safely but we can't?! If WCASD can not figure it out and we do go all online, every class should be a LIVE zoom class. This pre- recorded videos and assignments on Schoology is no way for children to learn. I know my kids have already lost a lot since the closing of schools last spring, please, I beg you to not let them loose more! If nothing else they NEED live instruction! Please do not approve the plan being proposed to the Board tonight, ask for more, for the sake of the kids!</p>

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olmsteadjessica	<p>My husband and I are deeply saddened by the School Reopening Proposal. We don't feel this is the best choice for the community and specifically the children of the community. We heard that another school district nearby decided to keep only the high school students under virtual learning. This freed up space for the younger students to go to school full time and spread out into the high school facilities enabling better social distancing. The most formative time for a child's educational development is Kindergarten to Elementary school age. With this in mind, research reveals that the coronavirus for whatever reason is not impacting children under ten years old. Also important for our staff to know that children under ten years old are not huge transmitters of the virus. Why punish our younger children educationally and keep them away from their schools? Please change the current proposal we implore you.</p> <p>Sincerely, Carlton and Jessica Myers (proud parents of a soon to be 1st grader)</p>
frankskomorucha	<p>I disagree with this reopening plan. I appreciate your efforts, acknowledge no plan will be 'perfect' and I acknowledge I do not fully understand the amount of work that has gone into this so far. I was nervous about saying something out of step but feel it is necessary. This plan does not work for people who need to physically go to work each day. A single income household may be able to do this, but many households are not single income. We've recently seen signs go up noting Dr. and nurses are heroes. Like many of us, they need leave the house to see patients. As noted, this plan does not work for those of us who need to work out of the home. On another note, I have no idea how a single parent household will manage this. They will be in my prayers if this is approved. There was mentioned at one point that a day care option will be provided. If an environment can be created in which risks are managed/reduced to the extent reasonably possible in a day care setting than these same steps should be taken to manage risks while children return to the class room on some frequency. I wonder if some of the decisions being made here are being made due to fears, not necessarily because the facts support them (eg. fear of getting sued, fear of not following what others are doing). Other businesses have spoken of and had to implement worker furloughs due to changes. If this plan moves forward than the district should identify which positions are appropriate for furloughs during this remote learning period. The resources from these positions must then be reallocated to school areas and people who are burdened by this plan. If this plan goes forward I don't think the end date should be Thanksgiving break; it should be earlier. At that time, it is very likely the flu season will be at hand or be close at hand and it will be extremely hard not to use this as the reason to extend the remote learning into the February timeframe. Sincerely, Frank Skomorucha</p>
crooksters	<p>The survey showed that the majority of parents want the brick and mortar option. We did not see the results from the teachers. How many teachers said that they would not come back for the brick and mortar option? I only saw the stats for their concerns teaching virtually and being able to help their own children remotely (which was the majority and is very concerning).</p>
phs115	<p>I fully support the decision that was made by Dr. Scanlon and the administration in keeping the teachers, administration, and the entire student populations health as the #1 priority in this unprecedented time.</p>
laurenmbrennan	<p>I am so thoroughly saddened and disappointed by Dr. Scanlon's decision to not move forward with the hybrid model. Our kids are suffering with remote learning, the teachers are not equipped to teach in this way, what has changed from spring till now? Our kids need to be back in school at a safe distance with masks. Parents are leaving WCASD to look at private schools offering the brick and mortar option. I am a working parent who is working at a reduced salary during these times, and now I have to look to pay a babysitter who can help my kids learn, this is not fair to families and the income disparity in our district will really come into play and lower income families will suffer the most!!! Please please please look into the hybrid model, that is what the district appeared to be heading until the very last minute, why the change? We can be safe in schools with the hybrid model!!!!</p>
kate.yocum	<p>We feel that it is important for all children that schools be reopened this fall. Learning opportunities best take place in the classroom with our very talented and highly qualified teaching staff. Please consider opening the schools for the many students who are able to be in the classroom. Thank you.</p>
amymullen	<p>Thanks for everything you have done and are doing for our teachers and students. I'm proud to be a parent and staff member of WCASD. Our community will stay safe and our teachers and staff will work tirelessly to provide an excellent education. Together we will get through this!</p>

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dsimonian111	<p>If our children, your students have been attending summer camps (both indoor and outdoor), working (indoor/outdoor), and playing organized sports all summer long safely, then how is it reasonable to keep them out of school? We can return our children safely to school. Putting fear aside, we know this is true. Thank you.</p>
hshah8643	<p>Dear School Board Members, I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposal for full virtual learning for the fall semester. I understand the reasoning that Superintendent _____ gave during the call on July 3x. But I find it hard to accept this proposal when neighboring school districts like Garnet Valley and xxxx can move forward with hybrid models for the upcoming semester, and the plan for our school district is to provide completely virtual instruction. I feel that a fully virtual option will negatively impact students both educationally and socially. My husband and I take seriously the need to support our children (incoming 8th and 5th graders) in the learning process and are committed to helping them get the most out of the instruction they receive. We are also very aware that both of our children learn better with interaction with their teachers and classmates. While we appreciate the effort put in through the various Zoom calls, we did notice a drop off in retention and comprehension during the spring in comparison to in-person learning. We are not abdicating our responsibilities as parents in the learning process, instead pointing out issues that we encountered last spring. We understand that this is a difficult decision to make, especially given that there is no firm guidance from the state or federal governments concerning in-person vs. virtual learning. We hope that the school board will take our feedback, as well as many other parents, into consideration when arriving at a final decision. Best Regards, Hemali Shah</p>
crooksters	<p>Atlanta high schools started back today. North Carolina is going to start with a hybrid model with 3 groups alternating going to school 1 week and virtual 2 weeks (so the other groups could have in person learning). Perhaps this model could provide you with the 6 ft separation that you are struggling to meet.</p>
thenowakfamily11	<p>I understand this is a challenging topic but I'm not sure I understand why WCASD would decide to fully move to remote learning until Thanksgiving (4 months out from today without any flexibility) while 80% of the parents voiced their opinion that they want to have their kids in some kind of in-person/in-school learning. For the high risk kids/families, that can't/don't want to send their kids to school, you have the Cyper option available, so every parent has a choice, but the 20% of parents, that don't feel comfortable to open the schools, shouldn't be the decision makers for everybody.</p> <p>And at least half of the other school districts in Chester county will have some kind of in-person school and so will most of the private and catholic school, while still following the safety and health guidelines, so why is this not possible for WCASD? Cases in Chester County in the past week have decreased by 4% compared to the prior week, so if we don't try getting the kids back to school now in some way, how is this supposed to work any better by Thanksgiving, with Flu season and other Cold viruses being around in addition to COVID 19??? Also, not opening schools will not eliminate the community spread of the virus, since neighboring school districts will be open anyway and the kids/teenagers will meet and gather outside of school even more, especially with all the extra time on hand.</p> <p>There will always be some risk of infection and most likely there will be some cases, when kids go to school, but these risks will also reside outside of school, going to the grocery store etc. Recent experience in Europe and Asia, where schools opened in some way as early as April, has shown that opening schools while following some safety standards has NOT lead to any hotspots or superspreader-events in schools. And the WCASD parent survey clearly showed that parents are willing to take this risk and that the benefits of sending the kids back to school will by far outweigh the risks of "locking" them up for at least another 4 months, with endless hours of screen time, social isolation and higher risks of getting anxiety, mental health and substance abuse issues and falling behind academically. The long-term effects of this has not been fully researched yet either, but is expected to be enormous.</p> <p>Let parents make their own choice what is best for their children, have them sign a waiver, that they take the responsibility if a kid gets infected at school, so the schools are not blamed, but don't lock these kids up for other endless months, with long-term effects on their physical and mental health.</p> <p>Open up the school at least in a hybrid model, keep monitoring the situation and if there is a surge of cases at a school or in the county, adjust locally to online-learning until the situation has improved, but don't take the easy way out by just moving everybody to online-learning for an indefinite time. I think the WCASD lives to highr standards and its students deserve better and are worth at least a try !!! Thanks for reading !!!</p>

email name	Please briefly state your comment to share with the School Board.
hshah8643	<p>Dear School Board Members, I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposal for full virtual learning for the fall semester. I understand the reasoning that Superintendent Dr Scanlon gave during the call on July 29. But I find it hard to accept this proposal when neighboring school districts like Garnet Valley and Unionville-Chaddsford can move forward with hybrid models for the upcoming semester, and the plan for our school district is to provide completely virtual instruction. I feel that a fully virtual option will negatively impact students both educationally and socially. My husband and I take seriously the need to support our children (incoming 8th and 5th graders) in the learning process and are committed to helping them get the most out of the instruction they receive. We are also very aware that both of our children learn better with interaction with their teachers and classmates. While we appreciate the effort put in through the various Zoom calls, we did notice a drop off in retention and comprehension during the spring in comparison to in-person learning. We are not abdicating our responsibilities as parents in the learning process, instead pointing out issues that we encountered last spring. We understand that this is a difficult decision to make, especially given that there is no firm guidance from the state or federal governments concerning in-person vs. virtual learning. We hope that the school board will take our feedback, as well as many other parents, into consideration when arriving at a final decision. Best Regards, Hemali Shah</p>
t.m.rodgy2	<p>I understand the decision around opening school is not an easy one as it is impossible to make everyone happy. I am curious however, if 80% of the people wanted to go back or a hybrid model and only 20% wanted virtual, how the decision to be completely virtual makes any sense?</p> <p>I have talked to a lot of teachers as well, and overwhelming response from them was they want to go back as well. I understand the challenges, but we cannot hide from this virus. I do agree, those at high risk should take additional precautionary measures. This virus will be here for a long time and the numbers do not support keeping things shut down. We have never shutdown from other viruses and we cannot be completely safe from any of them. More importantly, even the CDC continues to reinforce that children are in the lowest risk category. Teachers who are at higher risk, should have options.</p>
mileeta1	<p>Thank you for the time dedicated in deciding how to re-open schools safely. As a teacher and a parent, I realize that is a very tough decision. I would like to express not only my support of the position you are in, but also my thanks for considering the safety of teachers, children, and families.</p>
maria.amanto	<p>Please open our schools for in person learning. Our kids need to be around other kids with in person instruction. Many other local districts are allowing for hybrid schedules and we should be doing the same.</p>
dsimonian111	<p>The head of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Dr. Robert Redfield warned Congress on Friday, 7/31 of "significant public health consequences" if schools don't reopen in the fall.</p> <p>"It's important to realize that it's in the public health's best interest for K-12 students to get back into face-to-face learning," he said.</p> <p>Redfield said he wants school reopenings to be done "smartly."</p> <p>We believe in you, and our intelligent, courageous teachers and staff to get this right. Thank you for opening our schools smartly!</p>
amy.falls	<p>Children should be going back not only for educational reasons but for social reasons also. Children need to learn how to socially be around other people to learn. They are already on their phones, ipads &amp; computers enough. They need to learn how to talk to people face to face so they are able to communicate better when they get out into the work force.</p> <p>My daughter is entering the ninth grade and will be our future. She needs to be in school with the wonderful WCASD teachers Giving her the foundation she needs for the rest of her high school education.</p> <p>The academy of pediatrics suggest that it is important and safe for students to go back to school and I agree!!!!!!</p>
mgamble	<p>Thank you so much for your time and support of students and staff in the WCASD. I want nothing more than to be back in school with my students and understand the impossible position we are all in. That</p>

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	being said, I support the decision and plan set forth by Dr. Scanlon and will remain positive as we work through this together.
kharrison	I cannot imagine the difficult position the Board is in making this decision. As a teacher in the district, I greatly appreciate the support you are giving staff and students while making health and safety for all a priority.
mloyle	West Chester District should reopen as it is crucial to our economic recovery at this time. If wearing masks is necessary than by all means do what is needed...this is a political war we face and our children should not be held accountable!! If we compare ourselves to other countries who are successful in combatting this virus we could see thru the abomination of our democracy as others are trying to push a socialist agenda! Schools must reopen!! Flip the switch from main stream media to One America News and get the facts!!
bvalitski	Just a note to say thank you for all of your hard work with the task force considering this complex reopening of the school year. I didn't realize how relieved I would feel to finally know that I wouldn't be mixing germs up with 1000+ students and staff at my school until it was announced last week-I felt a weight lifted. I have seen children this summer who just forget and hug someone or pull off their mask because it's uncomfortable. It would be very difficult to maintain the social distance of 6 feet and stay masked up in the school setting so this is undoubtedly the most prudent measure for now. Looking forward to the testing ahead of opening and one of those new vaccines!
jfalls	<div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 1em; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 1em;"></div> <p>Our kids need to be in school with teachers!!!!</p>
tj.danzi	<p>Recently Dr. Scanlon gave a presentation along with the recommendation to start the school year with children being at home with full remote learning.</p> <p>First, let me start off by saying that the last thing I want to do is make this a personal attack on Dr. Scanlon or the Task Force. I know it's easy to sit back after the fact and criticize decisions after they are made, but my concern isn't the decision that was made as much as HOW it was made. What was the ultimate driving force in going 100% remote? There are reasons listed in the online Power Point presentation - Safety of the Students and Staff being the top priority, which I agree with 100%. My question is, what is the threat to students and staff? Yes, I know the easy answer is COVID-19. But WHAT is the threat? Is it contracting the virus? Is it dying from it? Something else? The threat wasn't laid out in the presentation. To come up with a solution, shouldn't a clear threat be determined first? This ultimately led to me looking into the threat, myself. As many of you know, the CDC has statistics that are updated regularly. As of writing this, there have been 244 COVID-19 related deaths in the US for those who are 24 and under between February and July of this year. 19 of them were 5-14 years old. So I will ask again, what is the threat? For context, in 2018 (the latest year available) there were 1,090 drownings in the US for ages 24 and under. The first 8 months (April to November of 2009) of the H1N1 flu also led to 1,090 deaths, but in the 17 and under age range.</p> <p>The results show that there is little to no threat from COVID-19 directly for school aged children, but what about teachers? The National Center for Education Statistics says that the average age of teachers in the US is 42 years old. 85% of teachers in PA are 54 or under. For the same six month period as previously cited, 10,717 deaths related to COVID-19 were 54 and under. Yes, that is a more significant number than school age kids, but let's add some context. In all of 2018 there were 24,583 deaths from car accidents in US for the 54 and under age group. The "regular" flu has been floated around as a comparison to COVID-19. The statistics, however, are not as clear from the CDC. Due to multiple factors, the CDC lists between 6,059 and 24,558 deaths from the flu in the 2017/18 flu season.</p> <p>I don't mean to sound heartless here. Any death is sad. But leadership and emotion do not go hand in hand. Compassion is essential to being a leader, but emotion can negatively effect a leader's ability to make decisions. An important part of leadership is risk assessment. As parents we do this every day. My wife and I are lucky to have a pool at our house. The 1,090 drownings are a constant concern for us, but it's not enough for us to choose to not use it. We have weighed the benefits vs the risk and have chosen to let our kids use our pool as many other parents do as well every year. The same thing is true for the teachers here in PA who choose to complete errands and trips with the use of a vehicle. You do so knowing about the 24,583 deaths that occurred in 2018. None of us lock ourselves in our houses when flu season comes around and fixate on the "possible 24,558" deaths. It's a risk assessment.</p>



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	<p>So what are we assessing here? Is the threat still COVID-19? At what point does the threat become something else? Robert Redfield, the CDC Director, when asked about financial impact on schools opening during the pandemic, said on July 14th "But there has been another cost that we've seen, particularly in high schools. We're seeing, sadly, far greater suicides now than we are deaths from COVID. We're seeing far greater deaths from drug overdose that are above excess that we had as background than we are seeing the deaths from COVID." According to the CDC in 2018 there were 8,020 suicides committed by 15-24 year olds. At this point, he is saying we should expect that to go up this year.</p> <p>The point I am trying to make here is that, after reading the presentation provided by the West Chester Area School District, I don't feel that there is a clear indication of the threat. Is it strictly limiting the amount of positive cases of COVID-19? Is this even the responsibility of the school district? According to the presentation, 80.5% of 8,022 parents surveyed said they preferred some sort of "Brick and Mortar" option. When 700 staff members were asked how concerned they were with having adequate training to provide remote learning, more than half - 55% said they had at least some kind of concern. Why go with the full remote with those results? Better yet, why even survey the parents and staff in the first place? The presentation even notes that "This option presents significant educational challenges as well as challenges for parents" when referring to the full remote model.</p> <p>Keeping the schools closed will prevent COVID-19 from spreading in the schools, yes. Just as staying home prevents the virus from spreading in general. But this virus isn't going anywhere for quite a while. Dr. Scanlon recommended reevaluating in November, but what do we expect to change by November? Realistically there won't be a vaccine available until mid-2021. A full lockdown has been disastrous for our economy, and the virus was there waiting for us as soon as we reopened. What has worked? Common sense. We need to look at what has taken place over the last six months and apply that. Did you know that, during the lockdowns, the YMCA has cared for up to 40,000 children of front line workers between the ages of 1 and 14 at 1,100 separate sites? The state of Pennsylvania, according to the presentation, has said "...this must be a local decision" and that schools "must be the ones to make these choices and accept responsibility for the plan" which I applaud. This is the very definition of subsidiarity. We have the ability to look at our own community and decide what works best for us.</p> <p>So what works best? Allowing our children to return to schools, in person. Use risk assessment and common sense together and acknowledge the numbers. Who is at highest risk? Who is at lowest risk? Do we decide to let our kids swim in the pool? Do teachers risk driving their cars? How many of us have gone to the super market? How about going to restaurants? We are living our lives. We aren't being reckless. Nobody WANTS to develop this virus but all of us have accepted that it is here and we cannot hide from it. We are assessing the risks. Allow our kids to go back to school, or if not - give us a better explanation as to why they aren't aside from "increasing pressure from many audiences". People are emotional, they are afraid, but again - leadership isn't about emotion. Have compassion, but lead by making logical, informed decisions. A full Cyber program was already going to be an option for this upcoming school year, so let the parents decide between sending the kids back or keeping them at home. Let families decide on how best to protect the most at risk. 108,214 out of the 135,579 deaths that have occurred from COVID-19 at the time of writing this were over the age of 65. That's 80%. That is who we should be focused on protecting.</p> <p>A community is made up of individual components. All are equally important. All are equally ESSENTIAL. Grocery stores are essential. Banks are essential. Salons and barber shops are essential. Restaurants are essential. Churches are essential. Schools are essential. Without all of these, we are not a community.</p> <p>It's time to show our children that they are essential, too.</p> <p>Thomas J Danzi</p>
mandyb2406	<p>Please consider re assessing the opening every 4 weeks instead of waiting until Thanksgiving. Also, please consider hybrid. My sons [REDACTED] [REDACTED] It's not fair to him or a lot of students.</p>

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olsencorey	The Cure: hydroxychloroquine + ZPac + Zinc - Kids death rate is 0% - Stop this insanity!!
denadaia	As a parent, and also an educator, I believe it is extremely important that teachers provide a daily live lesson to their students. This enables this one-on-one instruction and also allows the teacher to check on the mental health of their students. The district I teach in provided 4 classes per day with each class being a 1 hour time slot (8:00 to 9:00 was 1st period, 9:00 to 10:00 was second period, etc. until 12:00). In the afternoon teachers were able to meet individually with students and/or in small groups using either Schoology Conference or Zoom. This requirement of daily lessons allowed teacher the ability to check on students and how they were doing emotionally through this difficult time. Please consider requiring teachers have daily live lessons.
baswartz23	Thank you for the time and thoughtful consideration you have put into making this decision. Your dedication to the health and safety of the students, teachers, administration, and staff in every school is much appreciated. I know this decision was extremely difficult and not taken lightly and I support your decision to start fully remote.
bjones	Thank you for your support during this difficult circumstance and for considering the health and safety of all people, including the staff.
TLFRANTZ	I believe the kids should be in school. They are being mentally challenged right now. They need to be around their friends and in front of their teacher. My two children did horrible last semester. My one daughter [REDACTED] is worse online. How does her [REDACTED] help her at home? It does not.
rachelderby	<p>Is there any consideration of bringing kids with IEPs; that have clearly documented learning disabilities back to brick and mortar sooner? [REDACTED] Especially as we've all agreed that kids have too much screen time as is.</p> <p>I understand that health and safety are the #1 concerns and if we had a huge spike in cases, or God forbid a fatality it would be a PR nightmare. I'm just really concerned by how much my child's education will inevitably suffer this upcoming school year. [REDACTED] What are our options???</p>
kiscrocca	It's very concerning that so much money is being wasted on iPads for every student, something so toxic to children and even more alarming that even if school ever does reopen, the children are expected to continue learning off iPads at school? That's horrible. I am a single parent who really needs to be working but I can't allow my daughter to learn this way so I feel forced to switch to independent homeschooling and not work which is an unbelievable stress and financial burden I wouldn't have to take on if the schools would do the right thing.
cmketterer	Thank you for putting the health and safety of the students, staff, and educators first.
AMYTBAND	Huge fan of WCASD, especially Dr. Scanlon. I had high hopes that our district would lead the way and come out with a novel, workable plan. I know the "case counts" are dynamic, but the national count is at a 4 week low. It's surprising that 94% of parents, but only half of our teachers, completed this critical survey. Although my family will manage any of these scenarios, the challenges of dual income, multiple child families which have been raised as a concern throughout this process, seem to be left unsolved. We realize that navigating these uncharted waters is extremely challenging, and we thank the administration and the board of directors for their productive, data driven meetings and hope the discussion will continue for a more optimal outcome at the final meeting tonight.
shar7270	Thank you for considering the lives of our students and their families and our teachers!! Bravo for making a difficult and unpopular decision. Staying online is really the best option right now.
dferraguti	This whole thing is complete and utter sham! How nice that I get these emails on a virtual procedure that was not even been voted on yet. You people you should be ashamed of yourselves. Not only are you hurting or kids you are directly responsible for me whole family losing everything!! We are a team income family. Both me and my wife have to go to work. But now you are making me chose between my kids and my lively hood!! You hide behind your computers where no one is allowed to voice their opinion in person. You are cowards. That is all you are. There are ways to get our kids back in school that you will not even look at nor acknowledge. I hope karma remembers this and you! I will, next vote. I will do everything in my power to go against you. I will absolutely not pay the school tax this year. What you are doing is wrong on so many levels. This nothing short of a damn shame!

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drobbins0808	Will the district help parents that need to work financially that now have to pay for additional services to teach and supervise our children? Regardless of economic status? All working parents are affected and did not budget for this very expensive new cost. We live in west Chester because of the schools and pay the premium price for housing because of the area...it is unfair if there are some parents that receive assistance and other do not qualify. We are all in the same spot. Will there be subsidiaries or can we apply for educational vouchers to send our children to other open learning centers.
cmcfadden	Thank you for putting the health and safety of the students and staff first. My family and my students families are safer because of the decision to go virtual. Thank you!
kashadeck	Good Afternoon, Thank you for your time reading and considering comments from the community. I'm writing to request that you strongly reconsider the current proposed plan. There is no argument that school will look very different given the current environment. 6ft apart, a very sterile environment etc. However, I believe it is imperative for children to be in school learning with a teacher and peers. I understand that five days a week full time may not be an option but hybrid could work! Please any amount of time of in school instruction would benefit our children. Can we try!!! What about 1/2 day (no lunch, no recess) for two days a week. At least kids would be able to see their teachers and be able to cover Math, English, Reading. I do believe that all ages should go back including high school. Learning Calculus and Chemistry should be done in person. However....the elementary kids must see their teachers. Who are we kidding....we are never going to go back in November. Why not try a 1/2 day hybrid plan and then shut things down if necessary in November during regular cold/flu season. Why can my kids attend "school" at the YMCA or USTC and not at their normal school. I understand that we are not a small Catholic school that can go back five days but we absolutely could do a 1/2 day program for two days. Something is better than nothing!! Teachers are essential. There is no guarantee when we will have a vaccine. Are we going to never go back to school? Not to mention how many parents are going to be first in line to get their kids a new vaccine? Two and a half months in the spring did not go well but at least that was at the end of the school year. Please consider a hybrid model. 1/2 day, one day, two days.....anything!! Many thanks for your time. Concerned parent of elementary and middle school children.
sweetsmiley15	We fully support remote learning. We need everyone to be safe. You cannot gamble on lives. Teachers can make remote work! They need a new chance with this new schedule. Parents will make it work before with the shutdown. They can make it work again! Thank you for all you do!
sgallagher	Thank you for making a decision that puts student safety first. I fully support this difficult choice. You were put in an impossible position, but the degree of thought you put behind this decision is exemplary. Thank you!
drobbins0808	I strongly believe that the teachers should be teaching from the classroom during the virtual learning. The younger elementary students would benefit from seeing their classrooms on a daily basis and can see the charts and materials that the teacher will use throughout the year. They can get used to a routine that will be similar when they return to the classroom. If childcare is a concern for the teachers please acknowledge that working parents all over the district are in the same spot with nobody considering how to help them watch their kids while working. The teacher could be safe as they would be the only person within their classrooms at this time.
kvmv19073	can students switch from cyber to remote/hybrid?
jломalley33	I saw the agenda for tonight. On there it says you don't plan on opening schools till there is zero cases for two weeks or a vaccine? Where is this unrealistic goal coming from? I haven't heard this from any medical or government source. This is a very unreasonable goal and it will never be achieved.
drobbins0808	When will it acceptable for kids to go back to brick and mortar setting in WCASD? What parameters need to be met? Since other local districts opened hybrid style what do we need to have in our community to be able to start hybrid model and what are the parameters to be able to open 5 days? Is there a chart or model being followed that can be shared with the community so we know how these decisions are being made
arathman88	Thank you for supporting the decision to open remotely this fall. The WCASD staff appreciates your attention to the health and safety of both students and staff during this difficult time. We know this isn't an easy decision and you all are facing an enormous amount of feedback and pressure to make the right choice. Thank you for everything you do to support us and our health. - A WCASD teacher
kvmv19073	what happens to the unified arts classes?

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ambauer717	I wholeheartedly support The administration's recommendations for remote learning to start the year. I am grateful to have children who are a part of this district, and appreciate all of the work that has gone into creating a plan that will help to keep our community safer.
gwen1013	If rising 3rd graders will be using schoology can there please be instruction or lessons how to use it effectively? The same could be said for rising K students to be using Seesaw. Thanks for all your hard work on making these decision, much appreciated!
Jalanhutto	Delaying in-person instruction until Thanksgiving is the RIGHT CALL. I know it's difficult, I know it won't be perfect, but it is the safe and prudent choice to make for our teachers, parents, and students. This will give us an opportunity to watch other school districts who are opening, to see if it can be done safely. Were I in your position, I would rather have to apologize for being too conservative, than have to apologize for creating a district-wide environment for children to spread this dangerous virus to adults, seniors, and the immunocompromised. Please remain steadfast in your decision. It was the right one.
jenineoneill	I'm struggling to understand that schools will be closed but private schools are open and providing remote support for children, how is that safer? I feel like West Chester is taking the easy way out. And yes, I do understand that school is not free daycare, but families (including myself) did not budget this extremely high private costs for our 2 children so my husband and I can work. Remote learning does not work for my children [REDACTED] They learn by see and feeling, at home children we will not have access to the many resources the school provides. We need to think about the children's mental health which is by far a bigger risk here with 100% remote learning.
katehardyziegler	I hope that the board will strongly consider an in-person learning option for the school year beginning August 31, 2020. I appreciate the option for cyber school and the time/planning that went into it, but we cannot pretend that online learning is a viable option for all of our students. We cannot ignore our most vulnerable students, the mental health of our children and community or the academic regression from the lack of in-person learning. Please consider some form of hybrid model that will allow for some in-school learning for those of us that are comfortable with it.
wingerde	My kids will be in middle school and high school and they have the right to an education! 80% of your survey wanted and felt comfortable with their children going back in at least some capacity. How can you take the experience of school away from the kids? There are many outdoor areas to utilize. Let the kids get to know their teachers and if things get bad and need to be shut down some, understandable. My children learn best with an in-person learning environment. You should be embarrassed that you let the teachers opt out of teaching in the spring because of their own childcare or personal needs. The rest of society didn't have the option to opt-out and again, we are talking about our kids education here. The future.
dsimonian111	<p>A commentary published in the journal Pediatrics, the official peer-reviewed journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics, concludes that children infrequently transmit Covid-19 to each other or to adults and that many schools, provided they follow appropriate social distancing guidelines and take into account rates of transmission in their community, can and should reopen in the fall.</p> <p>Chester County has 1 documented case of Covid-19 in children 10 and under, and 419 in children 11-19. These numbers pale in comparison to seasonal influenza numbers, and yet we keep school in session all the while. Thank you for helping this all begin to make sense, and reopen our schools. Thank you!</p>