

Re: School reopening

Fri 7/24/2020 7:23 AM

To:

- tiffany tryon <tiffany_tryon@yahoo.com>

Thank you Ms. Tryon for your public comment and expressing your concerns regarding the reopening of schools. Please know that your comment was submitted to all Board members yesterday.

From: tiffany tryon <tiffany_tryon@yahoo.com>

Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2020 12:18 PM

To: Public Comment <publiccomment@killinglyschools.org>

Subject: School reopening

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I do not believe the schools should be reopening at this time. I feel we should only go back when we can go back with less requirements. Our children should not have to wear masks for such long periods of time, nor should they have to be separated and confined. If we can not safely reopen bars and inland swimming, how can we open up schools? Masks and "distancing" will not stop the spread in such close quarters, but it will ruin the learning and growing experience and atmosphere for our children. As a parent of a Goodyear student and KMS student, I feel distant learning is our only viable option at this time and more energy should be put into this vs reopening the schools.

Sent from my iPhone

Fall reopening of KPS

melissa brown <mebrown76@gmail.com>

Wed 8/5/2020 5:37 PM

To: Public Comment <publiccomment@killinglyschools.org>

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Melissa Brown and Matthew Brown, Dayville parents with 2 students in the district, 5th grade and 10th grade.

We respectfully request the Board to allow teachers and staff to work remotely this fall; and if that is not possible, to adopt a hybrid model reducing hours and schedules for students and staff in the buildings for the following reasons:

1. Covid19 is highly contagious, especially in buildings with inadequate ventilation or filtration, where distancing and masks will be hard to enforce*;
2. Children ages 10 to 19 can be asymptomatic and carry virus loads equal to adults;
3. The inability to predict how the virus will effect individual adults and children, and what long term or chronic conditions may result;
4. The lack of adequate hand washing stations in some district buildings/classrooms;
5. The recent outbreak among teenagers in Woodstock shows how quickly the virus spreads, how school districts aren't receiving timely communication about cases; and how some people are choosing not to cooperate with contact tracing.

Adopting a schedule other than a full time model is not ideal, but it reduces the risk of spreading a virus the world is still learning about.

We understand there are families who need to send their children, and staff members willing to work in the buildings. We hope the Board allows administrators to find a solution that works best to keep as many people as possible safe and healthy. We are fortunate to have low numbers in Killingly; adopting a hybrid model will allow this to continue. If the fall goes well with reduced staff and students in the buildings, and outbreaks can be contained, then bring everyone back full time in the spring knowing our district took every precaution it could to keep its staff and students safe in the meantime.

*We don't doubt the ability of our children to adapt and rise to challenges, including wearing masks, but last week I went to KMS and a full time staff member, whom I know very well, told me that her "mask was on her desk and that my mask wasn't doing anything; that kids are better off getting sick from the virus because vaccines have unknown side effects, and she and her family have been shopping at Walmart for months now without masks." I found her lack of consideration, arrogance that she knew better than me what was right for me and my family, her opinions about Covid19, and her proximity to other staff and children alarming. It also makes her a substantial risk to the safety of our school community. Unfortunately, from social media posts, I know she isn't the only KPS staff member who doubts the numbers of cases, and science in general. That is fine for them, but unfortunately it makes us not trust these individuals to keep our children safe in a school setting.

Thank you.

Sent 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 5, 2020.

Keely,

Attached is my public comment for this meeting. I am requesting that my full comments be put in the record under public comment. Thank you!

Hoween

Good Evening Doug,

Based on the Governor's Executive Order, I believe we are not allowed to hold an in-person meetings of more than 10 people and if we are holding a public meeting the public needs to be able to attend, which would further violate the Governor's Executive Order. Any decisions made in this meeting would not be valid. As the limit of 10 persons will be exceeded Wednesday - I would request a teleconferencing option be available in accordance with board policy.

I do not believe the board authorized the interim superintendent to look for a search consultant. Please indicate what date, if there is one that the board authorized Dr. Summa to seek a search firm.

I believe the process used to determine this consulting firm removed the board completely from its responsibility. The full board was not engaged, nor was committee or designee authorized to act on the board's behalf. At no point was the board provided additional candidates to review.

I believe that the process used to obtain a search firm maybe improper, which would render any decision made by the board illegal. I request that the board attorney be consulted to determine if this process for this search was appropriate.

It is my understanding that there is a previous professional/business relationship between the Mr. Eradi and Dr. Summa, which could be a potential conflict and could be an issue for this board especially in a time of heighten need for transparency.

I do not want to challenge the reputations of any of the individuals involved, I am highly concerned that we are violating our own policies, and state bidding and public posting statutes.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

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