

**Minutes of
Regular Meeting of the Governing Board
For Tracy Unified School District
Held on Tuesday, June 23, 2020**

As per Executive Order N-29-20 from Governor Newsom, the Tracy Unified School District Board of Education meetings moved to a virtual/teleconferencing environment using Microsoft Teams. The Governor's executive order on March 12, 2020, waived the requirement for a majority of board members to physically participate in a public board meeting at the same location. The intent is not to limit public participation, but rather to protect public health by following the Governor's Stay at Home executive order. (Public Comments were available by online submission).

- 6:30 PM:** 1-3. President Pekari called the meeting to order and adjourned to closed session.
- Roll Call:** 4. Board: S. Abercrombie, A. Alexander, J. Costa, S. Kaur, B. Pekari, J. Silcox, L. Souza
Staff: B. Stephens, S. Harrison, T. Jalique, C. Goodall, B. Etcheverry
- 7:15 PM** 5. President Pekari called the Tracy Unified School District Board of Education to order and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Trustee Silcox read a prepared statement that commented on
- Closed Session:** 6a Report Out of Action Taken on Adopt Resolution No. 19-39, Authorizing the Non-Reelection of a Probationary Certificated Employee: #UC-1215. Pursuant to Education Code Section 44929.21(b)
Action: Dismissed. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.
- Minutes:** 7. **Approve Regular Minutes of June 9, 2020.**
Action: Costa, Souza. **Vote:** Yes-5; No-0; Abstain-2(Silcox, Abercrombie)
- Visitors:** None. Meeting was live streamed via Microsoft Teams.
- Student Rep Reports:** 8. None.
- Recognition & Presentations:** 9. None.
- Information & Discussion Items:** 10.1 **Administrative & Business Services:** None.

10.1.1 Receive Report on Duncan-Russell Community Day School and Willow School Move

Associate Superintendent of Business Services, Dr. Casey Goodall, reported that it would take several million dollars to improve this site, so these programs will be moved to the Stein site. To facilitate programs, we have added 3 classrooms. Stein maintains its name and DR will become Duncan Russell Community Day School. Two schools on the same campus. The CDS code will be moved from the Grant Line location to the new location.

10.2 **Educational Services:**

10.2.1 Receive Report on Reopening of Schools

Julianna Stocking, Associate Superintendent of Educational Services, reviewed a report on the reopening of schools. She worked with a task force to develop a plan for reopening which includes making necessary adjustments and monitoring COVID guidelines change as we speak. The task force included TEA consult team, CSEA consult team and TSMA consult team. In addition to these meetings, she met with Title 1 parent advisory, DELAC parents and zoomed with West High Parent Café.

Our goal is to provide access to education with COVID-19 safety measures in place for students and staff. Our county goal is to bring kids back to school. We have prepared for 3 scenarios: a) return 5 days a week with COVID safety measures; b) semi-restricted with Hybrid model if county requires; and c) most restricted if we go into a shelter-in-place or guidance from Dr. Park, of the county health department, a distance learning model.

She reviewed the planning and people involved. Explained the parent survey with over 4,000 responses after the first day of the survey. There are many concerns from our employees such as requiring a mask for students and staff which is now required, except for those with medical conditions which will be handled on an individual basis.

The district will provide PPE for our employees. Many accommodations have been made including proper sanitization equipment, using sanitization recommendations from the CDC and County Public Health Departments. We have hand sanitizer available at all facilities and in every classroom and offices. We will have masks and face shields for all staff and students, as well as symptom check protocols. Social distancing goes hand in hand with masks. Guidance from CDE and CDC states that masks are required especially in cases where social distancing is not possible. We will social distance to the best we can and have modified lunch to grab and go meals, one directional seating in classrooms and the option to take lunch outside and eat. In the classroom our goal is to bring our kids back to school so we are removing all excess furniture inside of classrooms so that we can make the most space possible. We have visited classrooms with excess furniture, and we are able to have 2 feet between desks in a typical 37

seat room. From the back of a student's chair to the back of another, there will be about 3 feet to the sides and 4 feet front to back. Our educational program will be using a collective common platform. We will also provide alternative options to families including independent study, hybrid or online in the event of school closures.

Dr. Park, the San Joaquin County Public Health Office, has hosted weekly meetings with all of our county superintendents and provides guidance. In addition, the San Joaquin County Office of Education published their safety measures which align to the CDE as well as the CDC. We are negotiating at the bargaining table with our unions for each of the 3 scenarios. We have agreed upon a calendar and are developing safety guidelines. We will continue to monitor and adjust as needed and will changes closely.

We are preparing to open school on August 11th with these guidelines. Students will attend daily. We will continue to provide ongoing community messaging via our webpage, updated emails, phone calls, etc. We will promote healthy hygiene practices. Schools have started to prepare their site safety plans. We will require all staff and students to wear cloth face coverings unless they have health issues which will be reviewed case by case. All rooms with running water will have soap and paper towels. All hand sanitizers will be refilled as needed. We will also provide training to wash hands frequently and ensure adequate supplies. We will provide staff and students with face coverings. Have frequent cleaning, disinfectant, ventilation throughout our schools. Playground equipment will be suspended until further notice. This is challenging but we will do the best we can. We will revisit all of these measures as our status changes. Cleaning products used are approved and used by the CDC and will be in safe places and not accessible to students. To ensure proper ventilation and air conditional, are rooms all equipped with economizers to have air flow from the inside to the outside reducing carbon dioxide in our rooms. Air filters will be a Merv 9 rating and will be checked regularly to ensure they are clean and working as they should. We will be implementing social distancing inside and outside of the classrooms, including arrival and dismissal plans so that there are not groups congregating. We will identify one directional foot trafficking and will remove all excess furniture. There will be limited sharing as each student will need to use their own book, no sharing of classroom sets and no shared group supplies, each student will have their own. We will educate our families by providing reopening guidelines, hosting public sessions and sending guidance out to our families and staff. As advised by San Joaquin County Office of Education, students will conduct a self-check for COVID-19 symptoms; anyone exposed or sick should not come to school and those that become sick there is an identified sick room area, so they are not interacting with others. There is also a set of guidelines if someone becomes sick or tests positive and we will work with San Joaquin County Health Department and follow their protocols. We will be hosting a public presentation for updates in the month of July to staff

and community.

As of today, we plan to reopen in accordance with this guidance to bring our kids back 5 days a week with safety measures in place. All students and staff are required to wear a mask except those with medical health condition. Independent study is an option if children are susceptible or if you not ready to send kids back. TUSD also has an independent study model for K-12 or the 7-12 online charter school. If interested, please contact our district office. We will continue to provide updates on our webpage and will continue to prepare all sites for reopening with the safety and health measures stated previously. This information will be posted on our website tomorrow.

Ms. Stocking also commented that we have shared this information with our consult teams and management team. Tomorrow morning there will be a communication going out to all staff with this information and as well to our families via email, phone calls and posted on our websites. The survey will be extended to July 3. So far, 65% of our families prefer to go back to school 100%. The survey will help us with staffing. Planning is all aligned to guidelines provided by county and state.

Dr. Stephens commented that we will likely have a special board meeting in July and will let the board know the date.

Hearing of Delegations

11. The following comments were submitted online and read:

Sarviett Dhillon: I am a mother of a student in the TUSD school district. I don't feel comfortable sending my child back to school 100% due to the escalating progression of Covid 19 especially in the San Joaquin County. I feel a better plan should be implemented for the students' safety and the well being of their education. I would appreciate it if the board will take their time and look into this matter closely. Thank You!

Shital Hubli: Hi my name is Dr. Hubli and I a practicing physician in town. The number of infections in Tracy and San Joaquin County are going up currently along with hospital admissions. This is not the time to make decisions regarding opening schools.

Aiyan Alam: I am an incoming junior at Tracy High. To my understanding, on June 12th, 2020, Governor Newsom let schools open under phase 3 measures of reopening California. Since school has ended, our school district, of course, will not open. However, my concern is on how we will be reopening the Tracy Unified School District during the 2020-2021 school year. The Tracy Unified School District Task Force has come up with a plan to reopen schools for the upcoming year. However, there are now concerns that the board will not be voting on the plan, which means that whatever the plan is, the school district will have to move on with that plan. This can cause a spike in COVID-19 cases throughout the school district. Tracy Unified is supposed to keep students safe, that is what the school district promised. Not only are you supposed to make schools emotionally safe, but also physically. In the case of COVID-19, we need to create safer school.

Social distancing needs to be in place during school, which might mean less students per class, or even per school per day. Face coverings should be worn before, during, and after school hours, as long as the person is on campus. The California Department of Education states, "At a minimum, face coverings should be worn:

1. While waiting to enter the school campus.
2. While on school grounds (except when eating or drinking).
3. While leaving school.
4. While on a school bus."

Drivers should also have access to giving out masks, should a student not have access to one before boarding.

The department of education also states that school districts should, "Plan to limit the number of people in all campus spaces to the number that can be reasonably accommodated while maintaining a minimum of 6 feet of distance between individuals." These guidances need to be followed for the betterment of the teacher and students.

When the District reopening task force sent site principals the reopening plan for site specific modifications, they incorrectly claimed distancing between students would not be a state recommendation, and indicated that distancing between students and staff would be recommended by the state, but was described by the district as "not really possible." If we think of the situation as this, then students' lives are in danger.

I am writing and speaking on behalf of my fellow student peers and I would like all board members to seriously take a safe plan into consideration. The TUSD task force must create a plan that keeps students and their teachers safe. Our students do not want to miss school because of COVID-19. Our students do not want to die from COVID-19 and of course, our students do not want to catch COVID-19.

I would like to request for board members to review guidelines issued by the California Department of Education and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). If the guidelines do not meet or exceed the expectations of the two stated, the board must reject the plan. This will be for the better of students, teachers, and staff. Although I am a student of the district, my opinions, as well as other students' opinions, should be taken into consideration. In fact, we are students of Tracy Unified, and our performance is showcased as part of the district's success of educating students. Please take this into serious consideration and make a decision on the plan. You can save lives by doing so.

Anonymous: Students should get the say in this, not the parents, as the students will be the ones on campus. We should not choose between being affected by a virus or get an education..we should stay home. Cases are going up, what does that say if schools open up? It will be the boards fault for all of us being affected.

Renmani Kapadia: I am a parent to students at Tracy HS (11th), Monte Vista MS (7th), and Southwest Park (4th). I am commenting on item 10.2.1 regarding the Reopening of Schools. I am disappointed that our district was late to the game in offering distance learning when we moved to shelter in place while neighboring districts barely skipped a beat. I gave TUSD the benefit of the doubt and assumed there would be sufficient planning so our kids could return to their education in August with safety precautions in place and opportunities for the most enriching instruction.

I am concerned that parents have not been a part of the discussion for the coming school year. I appreciate the survey, but there should be a panel of parents involved. How do you know what we want or need? How do we know what to ask for if we haven't seen the plan? Perhaps you could include school site council. The students are the customers and need to have a representative at the table. The two options presented in the survey are all or nothing. They either keep the student safe at home or give them access to their full education. A hybrid that meets somewhere in the middle would be ideal such as what was mentioned by TUSD Facebook this morning. "TUSD also has a plan for a hybrid schedule(students attend 2 days a week and have 3 days of distance learning) and distance learning(5 days a week learning at home) to be implemented, if advised by San Joaquin County Public Health as the phases continue to change in our county."

Having a split schedule that includes an enriching online platform with teacher instruction and interaction would be ideal. The goal is to give the students the best education in the safest environment. Why can't this be planned out now and given as an option? Why wait until the county forces it overnight? Let's plan this in a smart way now.

The plan that's being presented tonight didn't include the parents and should be voted on after we have gotten a chance to review it and respond. I urge you to have a special meeting before the regularly scheduled meeting on August 11 and the start of school so we can address our concerns. Give families an opportunity to review the plan and respond so you, the board, can represent us.

Thank you for taking the time to read and respond to my email and for listening to my comments here.

Becky Andrus: Please open the schools. Please make masks optional. Please ramp up cleaning and disinfection. Kids need germs. Kids need kids. Covid is NOT going away. Let's live with it instead...

Mo Subbaraman: Honorable President and Board Members:

This is about the reopening of TUSD for the year 20-21. (Agenda Item 10.2.1) . Given the present condition we are in and with Governor Newsom saying that a big enough spike in cases could force another closure of the states economy we are looking at Independent Study for our 2 kids this year at TUSD.

We have 2 kids in TUSD one in West High (Space and Engineering) and one in Elementary (SW Park). The Independent Study option would work for the Elementary School Kids but for the high school kids a 1 hour per week meeting with TUSD Teacher we do not think will suffice. Is there an option for Teachers to enable web cameras while they teach so that students whether in class or attending remotely can listen to their lectures? High school kids definitely need more than an hour per week from TUSD Teachers.

For High School kids who enroll in science classes that need labs - could we have a provision to complete their labs once a week or so in school ? With the standard precautions - sanitizing/ masks/ distancing, etc... This way we do limit their exposure but at the same time we also do not stop their school progress .

Jeremy Ballard: Tracy Unified has decided to forego the process of voting on reopening the school. Taking the power of a voice and the ability to choose away

from its community, it's parents, and it's students? This unacceptable! The board meets 6/23 then they don't meet until after schools open? That is unacceptable! The board is afraid the actually meet face to face, but they expect our children to do just that when schools are scheduled to reopen? That to is unacceptable! I suppose the voice of the community will speak loud and clear come new elections? All your names will not be forgotten.

Manjula Gubbinagaraju: 1. Online virtual classes are appropriate for current situation. Students should be given options for the above. 2. Once a week attending practicals with 25% of class in attendance.

Thalya Culty: I ask that no vote be made today without a proper survey in place. The two choices given, to attend class in person or attend class online are not adequate. How will online classes be conducted? Will classes online be in real time or recorded? How will students interact with other students in online classes? What is in place if there is another shutdown and students must do online classes full time

There was no option for block scheduling. 36 students indoors w/no social distancing is not satisfactory in the times of COVID.

How will lunch be managed? How will sanitation be managed. What happens if a student must be quarantined? There are more questions than answers.

I ask that no vote be made today without the full participation of parents and students.

Linda Newman: I was incredibly disappointed by the survey provided to parents prior to tonight's meeting. Besides not being informed how the data would be used, it was lacking in detailed questions. I request that parents be given a more detailed survey which addresses how parents would like safety practices enforced at school.

Further, I implore that parents be given a blended option. Many parents are not capable of homeschooling to the same standards for many various reasons. However attending school as before may also not be an option. Please consider more options. We love our schools and we really want to return to our new normal, but it's really important we do so safely. Many students live with members of their extended family who may be at risk. Thank You

Amy Ceteras: Please make safety the district's number one priority when considering the reopening of our schools. When the decision was made to close our schools in March, there were less than 10 cases in San Joaquin County. Today there are 2,560. Our county has been put on the state's watchlist because it is failing in multiple of the state's metrics regarding Covid - including the number of cases in the last 2 weeks, number of hospitalizations. Please include the following to support the safety of staff and students: 1. No more students in a classroom than social distancing (6 ft apart) would allow. 2. Increase/Improve ventilation in classrooms. Many have no exterior door, nor a window that opens. 3. Clorox wipes available in each classroom to quickly sanitize when needed 4. Hand sanitizer stocked in each classroom, regardless of whether or not it has a sink. 5. Thorough cleaning of all high touch areas throughout the day (doorknobs, bathrooms, etc). 6. Thorough cleaning of ALL rooms each night. Just a few days ago there was an outbreak of Covid among medical professionals at a hospital in

Lodi. Keep in mind that they are getting the virus even though they are following safety precautions and wearing full PPE. We owe it to our students, staff, and the families of our community to have safety expectations that go beyond posting signs, creating one-way foot traffic, and having students sit on one side of the bench in the cafeteria. I hope that the items I've listed will be included within our standard safety guidelines

Adam Hill: As a parent of 2 TUSD students I am very disappointed and fearful of how TUSD is handling the reopening of school. It is appalling to hear the potential of reopening full time when COVID 19 cases are spiking in San Joaquin County. I know TUSD will not care about the health and safety of my children. You would rather open fully to get ADA money than do a hybrid schedule to protect kids. I am very concerned how a plan is being shared but the next board meeting isn't until the school year starts? That seems a little backward and doesn't make sense. I guess it goes with TUSD. It is even more embarrassing that with the potential of online learning TUSD is adamant about not going 1 to 1 with technology. I will be withdrawing my children shortly and I applaud those parent who have withdrawn their children or have chosen to homeschool. TUSD has no business in education whatsoever.

Leslie Garcia: Hello Members of the Board and TUSD Task Force, Regarding agenda item 10.2.1-School Reopening Plan, I'd like to make my concerns know.

My name is Leslie Garcia and I'm an educator at McKinley. I wanted to share my thoughts and pose a few questions to be considered as the group plans to determine next steps with reopening schools in our district.

As long as I have been a teacher in this district, 20 years, safety has been a priority for students and staff. I would ask you to consider what is truly "safe" during an unknown situation such as a Covid 19 Pandemic? Does anyone really know if we can assure social distancing? In theory there are plenty of criteria, but can it be done? Will we only realize whether the plan is "safe" enough if only a few children become infected or some staff members? Or one grandparent is on a ventilator? (One infected is too many!) Or will it be an afterthought, "Well, we tried."

When we teach students, we address the needs of our students and the learning objectives of the state & district. When something isn't effective, we use data to make a new plan. Is the data you will look at related to the health of members of staff and children? Have you noticed the rise in Covid 19 cases in our county this week? How can the potential for serious illness and possible death be something even considered in an era where we have other methods to deliver instruction such as TEAMS, paper and Zoom? If a play structure is dangerous, the district won't let children use it. If a child needs to cross a street or get into a car, there are adults leading the way to safety. With Covid 19, NO ONE is safe, not children, staff or families when we all gather together. I would suggest the Board and the TUSD Task Force consider making an error on the side of caution this time, rather than taking a chance with people's health, safety, and those of family members in our community. The cases of Covid 19 are mounting and if you truly ask why, you'll see the interaction among groups is a huge consideration. As teachers, we are not nurses or parents of the children we teach. We are their teacher and are trying to do our job safely. We are all humans first! Distant Learning may not be ideal for

anyone, but it is SAFE for EVERYONE.

Thank you for considering my remarks and considering my safety as a grandmother who misses hugging her grandkids during this pandemic.

Joan Piazza: Please reconsider making cuts to any positions whether they are filled or unfilled at this time. It seems with the current funds in reserves of over \$40 million, surely common sense shows that no jobs need to be cut for this coming school year.

Thank you for your consideration

Sheetal Reddy: Hello, I have elementary aged children who will be attending grade 1 and 5. I am concerned about the quality of education they will be receiving under the distance learning program.

It was stated that one hour of instruction will be given, and then the child will be on their own. I would request more valuable time be given to students. This is what I expect:

- instruction and explanation of a given topic
- breakout discussion rooms so kids can work in groups on an assignment related to the subject being covered
- independent work assigned for each subject with time to review the work given.
- long term and relevant projects and research assignments

I feel there is plenty of time to create a curriculum that doesn't depend so heavily on the child to receive instruction at home. The quality of education that was given at the end of the year was subpar. That was excusable since there was no time to prepare but the same cannot be said for the academic year ahead.

If board meetings of 7 people is being cancelled and held virtually because of COVID, we cannot realistically expect kids to feel safe and return to the classroom environment.

Let's do better by our children and our community. They should not have to choose between a quality education and their health. Let's find a better option.

Thank you.

B. Gomez: Addressing agenda item 10.2.1

I believe that the families of TUSD would best be served by a schedule with half the school week attended at school campus, with remaining days of the week completed at home with distance learning. I have two children that have very different needs. Neither will benefit from entirely distance learning. But as a parent I am not comfortable with them attending 5 days a week, full days.

Sainath Kala: We want our kids to be safe & take online classes.

Lorena Sanchez: Good evening- I am writing to the Board in regards to the opening of schools for the 2020/21 school year.

Like other parents, I am not reassured by the fact that the schools plan to open with all students attending, giving no appropriate spacing for social distancing.

Expecting students to walk one way? To sit in rows and not turn around or face other students? To keep their hands to themselves? Risible

Also, when schools open, besides the obvious need for social/emotional and trauma support our students will need, will we be addressing the systemic racism

which the unrest in our nation has exposed? As a Mexican immigrant who has lived here since 1975, I have experienced racism in this town, as I know some of our students have. I strongly feel we should investigate and implement changes to address the inequities in our school district so that our students don't ever feel inferior because of their skin color, language, or culture.

The district has not deemed it necessary to put out a statement in support of our Black community, or to denounce the violence against Black people nationwide. I find this disturbing, as I do the opening of our schools with minimal to no changes to diminish the spread of Covid-19. Like Covid, we are sweeping the ugliness of racism under the rug and expecting teachers and students to continue dealing with the fallout of not addressing it and not making changes. As a teacher and a parent of a student at TUSD, I find this objectionable and hope TUSD continues to work on both of these issues.

Ylicia Gardner: will we be notified if there is a positive case within the school or families of?

-is there a hybrid option or just 100% online or not?

-are there more details for our options, schedule, cleaning safety precautions..

-will the current 10 absences be increased?

Jennifer Soto: School reopening plan- Why is TUSD so late in unveiling a plan to reopening schools Compared to other districts around us? Why Didn't you think of surveying parents and teachers earlier? As a very involved parent in my children's education I'm extremely disappointed in the situation TUSD is putting our children, teachers and staff. It is extremely dangerous to consider reopening at 100%. The other option looks like the same failure DL model. How is my child going to learn with 1hr a week zoom? Why hasn't the district considered a 2 day school 3 DL? This Hybrid model will lower risk to students and staff. Student can be able to have the experience of going into a classroom to experience a sense of normalcy essential for their mental health.

Option of 100% is just plain Dangerous

Option of 100% is dangerous for mental health and poor learning. I say no to both!!!!!!

I support Hybrid model adopted by many, many districts around us.

Crystal Wong: As a parent, instructor and community member I would like to acknowledge the complex task that has been set upon your shoulders of how to best return to educating our students. Without a doubt the complexities of the circumstances cannot be overstated. Choices and decisions made prior to your entrance to district leadership have been inherited and are handicapping our options. The unknown conversations and actions that have been taken to try to problem solve our way out of the chaos certainly must have been numerous and difficult. For the efforts, experience, and viewpoints you bring to the struggle I thank you.

Having acknowledged the giant task you are diligently working on, I am writing to communicate my concern, confusion, and frustration at the process that Tracy Unified School District has been undertaking. It is flabbergasting to imagine that with a disease which spreads like wildfire in environments with high population density the plan (as reported by only a few school sites) does not seek to reduce the number of people in an enclosed space.

Every time I start to think about next year my anxiety and frustration grow. I've written essays, attended webinars, read and read and read, participated in countless conversations, and yes...buried my head in the sand when I needed to. Each and every time I venture to think about returning to school I come to the same conclusion:

Safety is not optional (masks, DISTANCE, sanitation)

Equity is not optional (ALL students, high quality, high expectations)

Learning is not optional (required, grade-level, college and career ready w/ 21st Century Skills)

If TUSD is running into roadblocks I wish they would share them out so our community can help. Don't take the BEST options off of the table without exhausting all avenues of solutions. Our students deserve this from us.

Melissa Kalis: As a teacher and parent of children attending TUSD schools, I was really disappointed in the lack of options given for schools reopening in the online parent survey that was circulated prior to this meeting. I felt incredibly uncomfortable being forced into two very broad categories of 100% in person attendance or independent study. There are so many other hybrid models that many other school districts are proposing and offering to their students and families that would provide teacher instruction and classroom education in a much safer manner and would comply with social distancing to help keep families safe. Why were there no other options presented on the TUSD survey for us to consider? This survey felt pointless, as if these two choices are taking an "all-or-nothing" approach to reopening schools and it does not need to be that way. I am interested in getting back into the classroom setting as a teacher and also for my children to return as students. However, I do think it needs to be done safely and in compliance with the CDC recommendations and public health guidelines and sending families back at 100% in person attendance does not seem feasible when it comes to social distancing rules. At the same time, many working families cannot manage independent study and keeping their children home every single day. There needs to be a better blended option of the two. Where is the middle ground? I was very disheartened after taking that survey and I remain concerned.

Molly Medeiros: Will the schools alert families when a child or a family member at their school has been diagnosed with Covid-19? I understand privacy. I don't need a name and a picture, just a general alert that someone associated with the school has been confirmed with Covid-19. Being blind sighted when my kid comes home with lice and strep is infuriating but to hide confirmed cases based on privacy should be criminal.

How many kids will be in a classroom? Will the kids keep to the same kids all year or will they be interacting with kids in other classes?

How will absences be handled? Currently, only 10 absences are allowed without a doctors note. Both my kids have perfect attendance and love going to school but they will not be going for two weeks if someone is diagnosed. Obviously, I'm not going to contact our doctor to write a note for absences of that nature.

Erika Cortes: My children are enroll in FREILER school, and please I Appreciate that the district consider that continue the education in home, until there is a safe coronavirus vaccine.

I Suggest that the teachers connect once week via zoom with the students and explain that activities to be carry out for the week.

Paty Pantoja: In the email sent from TUSD it states that we have the option of either 100% back or distance learning. What exactly does 100% going back look like? What does it entail? Six feet apart? Masks?
As far as distance learning, what is the plan for setting this up? What does this look like for our kids and parents? Is a teacher going to be on zoom? Etc...

Laura Frings: Reopening of Schools Item #10.2.1

I would acknowledge that we are living in challenging times with uncertain outcomes. The wisest solution is to use known science to inform our decisions. We know the experts tell us classrooms are particularly vulnerable to spreading COVID-19 for the following reasons:

- Indoors
- Poor ventilation (not all classrooms have windows that can be opened for air circulation)
- Large group of people in close proximity *Science shows the more people the greater the risk.
- Duration of time you spend in confined space with people

I fear TUSD is electing to ignore the science because the solutions seem too overwhelming to navigate. However, I know we are up to the challenge if administration, parents, teachers, and classified work together to collaborate on solutions.

We need to use facts and data to inform our decisions. If circumstances change, we make adjustments accordingly. Every decision should be made with health and safety as the guiding principle. Making a plan to have 100% return to school with San Joaquin County's COVID-19 spread is not prudent or safe. Are we just supposed to hope that things have improved by our August start date?

I ask that Dr. Stephens and the Board of Trustees give time for a more thoughtful, science-based plan to be developed. I would like to ask, under the current safety plan, would you feel safe sitting in a TUSD classroom full of students every day? Would you feel confident that every effort was being put forth to keep your child or grandchild safe in a TUSD classroom? Right now, I hear many parents who do not feel confident that their child's safety is a priority to TUSD. Right now, many teachers do not feel confident that TUSD's #1 priority is keeping students, teachers, and other school personnel safe. Everyone understands there will be risk; however, there are guidelines in place to minimize that risk and those guidelines should be followed.

We all must make every effort to ensure the safety of all students and TUSD personnel. We can do better. Thank you for listening. I am counting on your concern and compassion.

Vanessa Alfaro: I have 2 children in the TUSD district. I am in favor for the re-opening of school. Parents should be able to chose what they think is best for their families. If parents are concerned they can opt for Online home school. Let us each voice our own opinions & concerns. I don't want others making decisions for my family but me.

Most importantly to me, I have a special needs child that needs structure, socialization & special services that only school can provide!

If parents are against schools re-opening HOME SCHOOL them, problem solved for you.

Charity Fugueras: I strongly believe that it is not yet safe to send my kids to school in August due to COVID cases flare up, there's not even a cure yet. I'd rather have them do distance learning at home than attend school and be worried every second of our day that they gonna catch the virus, and we also have very high risk people living at home so it's a very complicated situation for us. The district have to consider the safety and health of the students first before anything else. 6 FEET APART OR 6 FEET UNDER. I hope the district will hear the parents out and decide in the favor of the students.

Sara Gomes: I am writing this with a very concerned heart. I am first and foremost concerned about the safety of my kids, all kids while at school. I feel that having small class sizes at any one time, spaced out desks/work spaces, cleaning of classrooms daily, and temperature checks at the gate will go a long way in helping students and staff stay healthy. My other major concern is for the students', especially my own kids' psychological health and wellbeing. Isolation and ALL DAY mask wearing will do more harm than benefit for kids mentally and emotionally. Wearing a mask could also pose harm physically (lack of oxygen, decreased oxygen in the blood, asthma attacks, panic/anxiety attacks, CO2 poisoning, etc). Kids will inevitably play with and/or touch their masks which will lead to an INCREASED risk of getting an infection. It will be a constant distraction and interruption in class for the teacher to have to frequently "police" proper mask wearing. For ALL these reasons enforcing mask wearing at school for students will be a DEAL BREAKER for my kids' planned return to school this Fall. Let me say that again, my kids will NOT attend school IN PERSON if mask wearing is MANDATORY. Reason number one is my daughter has a history of a neurological disorder and cannot properly breathe through her nose. So a mask for her 6 hours a day will do more harm than good. The proposed isolation practices of no lunch in cafeterias, no outdoor recesses, potentially no school sports will wear on the students and staff. Emotional and mental stability will be compromised. Kids need to be with their peers. Kids need fresh air and natural Vitamin D to promote healthy bodies. Kids need physical activity to release pent up energy and build on a healthy mind and body. Teachers and staff need to have their well deserved breaks. Teachers need time away from their students to prep the next lesson, decompress, refuel themselves. We can't expect students and teachers to be at their best if they aren't able to have those important breaks throughout the school day.

Sonali Thatte: I am a parent of Sophomore at West High (Space and Engineering academy) & 5th Grader(GATE Program)

I would like to begin by thanking you for the parents input survey.

However, the survey has only 3 options and does not cater to all the student needs.

Option 2: 100 % distance learning option is an Independent study option with just 1 hour per week interaction with the teacher which I feel is not enough. The students should be able to join the in person classroom session virtually if they chose to opt for 100% distance learning option.

Option 3: Tracy Charter School with independent study does not cater to the High

School students that are in specialized programs such as Space and Engineering at West High, IB at Tracy High, etc and also the 2-8 GATE program.

For High school students I have following concerns:

A. How TUSD plans to conduct the labs for Physics, Chemistry and Biology with 100 % distance learning.

B. How TUSD is planning to assess quizzes, assignments and grading?

The reopening report has not been made available to the public/parents before submitting it to the board.

Can we request you to have a special meeting for parents to share the comments on the report.

We are in a unique situation right now and students who want to choose distance learning as an option

should not be deprived of the same right to education as their peers.

Marc Mariano: As a student of the graduated class of 2020, I am here to address the reopening of the TUSD. As a student affected by the virus, I ask you to take initiative towards my class being the last fully affected. The bare minimum that I ask you to do are the following:

1. Require social distancing measures and face masks in the school settings

2. Reject any reopening proposal that does not follow the basic classroom safety precautions outlined by the CDE.

3. Require schedule modifications to allow for the safest learning environment.

I.E. A/B scheduling

I have sent each board member an email with a link to the CDE's "how to" guide to reopening the schooling system. Please do not be irresponsible and ignore the pandemic. To reopen the school without following AT LEAST the three listed requirements should be deemed irresponsible and unsafe. According to the Tracy Press, just last week the city of Tracy alone has reached 144 confirmed cases. By reopening the schools, it will not only put the students lives at risk, but also the families of the students, the teachers, the counselors, the families of the teachers and counselors, and so on and so forth until it eventually reaches your family and friends. As the board of education, you have a responsibility to ensure that the students in the TUSD have a safe learning environment, ESPECIALLY in times like this. This is not a political issue, it is a public health crisis. Please consider my concerns and take the necessary steps, as it will affect the lives of those in your community. Thank you

Rhonda Campbell: According to the San Joaquin County Covid-19 dashboard today, the number of people hospitalized daily for Covid-19 in our county has steadily increased from it lowest point of 7 people on May 19th to 91 people admitted to a hospital yesterday.

In fact, although San Joaquin County's population is half of the neighboring Sacramento's population our county has had more Covid-19 cases and is on a watch list according to the CDC.

With that being said with the lessening of restrictions and increase in movement of the population, why would TUSD consider anything other than distance learning to protect students, staff, and the community at large when the Covid situation is worse than when distance learning was implemented in March?

Jodi Seifert: I believe that next school year and how the district is going deal with

mask, procedures, protocols and safety needs addressed. There was a survey available for parents to fill out asking if we would send our kids to school. But there was nothing about masks. I understand the need for masks but I will not be sending my children to school if they are required to wear masks while I'm school grounds. I will find another way of providing education for my children. My oldest loves school and would be sad if she missed out on the amazing teachers in 6th grade. My youngest is starting kindergarten and can't wait.

I don't believe staying in a mask breathing your own air for an entire school day is healthy. We all need fresh air not your own recycled air especially during physical activity. There are other ways to make sure that every kid is safe.

I really hope that the board will inform the parents in advance as to what changes may take place before the 1st of August that way parents have the ability to make the changes that is best for their families.

Maria Pinto: Are there going to be new protocols for students to follow? How safe is it? Is requiring masks part of the protocol? Is social distancing part of the protocol? Kids are cruel as it is, how are you going to handle new bullying? I am afraid kids will get bullied over sneezing, mask use, and social distancing.

Carlos Ocampo: As a certificated substitute teacher for Tracy Unified, I am concerned about the premature re-opening of Tracy Unified Schools. Although I am eager to continue my work as an educator for Tracy Unified, a premature re-opening of Tracy schools (Agenda Item 10.2) will place our students, their families, and Tracy Unified staff and faculty at risk. With the recent COVID-19 surge in the San Joaquin Valley raising the positive case total to more than 2,500, a "safe" re-opening should be called into question and discussed further with the community. I believe the Board should vote on a re-opening plan that takes into serious consideration the lives and health of its community. A re-opening plan that is preventative and not reactionary.

Megan Franco: I am very unhappy with the two options being provided for our kids to start school.

Brett Scheckla: This comment is in reference to agenda item 10.2.1. As a former student of TUSD, and member of the community, it is extremely concerning to hear that Tracy Unified is contemplating opening up schools as early as August 11th without the requirement of a mask or social distancing. COVID-19 is still very much a concern (especially with the numbers spiking in CA and all across the country). In order to ensure the safety of the students, staff, and the rest of the Tracy community I urge you to reconsider this plan. Please follow and listen to the guidelines set forth by the County, as everyone's safety should always be the top priority.

Pallavi Kargal; I believe that TUSD families should be given the following options for their students' return to school in August:

- 1) Online virtual classes are appropriate for current situation. Students should be given options for the above.
- 2) Once a week attending practicals with 25% of class in attendance. Like hybrid model approach should be looked into.
- 3) Choices like above are a must for families with medical history and for safety of

the community.

4) Many UC / CSU have gone virtual for there students and given options as well. TUSD needs to provide options for students especially after doing last quarter of last school year, by now should have gain knowledge about doing virtual classes. Which was done well by West High School staff and big applaud to the them all.

5) Giving options of independent study/ charter online is not an option for students who have taken special programs. Elaborate on how do you plan on including these students?

Families should be able to make choices based on what works best for their individual situation. Regardless of which approach is chosen, students who are virtually learning or in-person learning or hybrid should all be given an equal opportunity to the same resources, value of education, workload, schedule, and access to programs such as (SEA, IB, AP, etc).

As parents, we want our students to be able to focus on their education and growth and not have to be worried or put at risk physically, mentally, or emotionally to the harms of COVID-19 and constant monitoring of following or not following of CDC guidelines that will be difficult to enforce in a sensitive time like now. TUSD should focus on and enforce their goal of providing their students with the best education and support to ensure their future success. Thank you,

Joy Cornish Bowden: I am a parent of a junior at Tracy High School and a seventh grader at GKE. I am addressing Item 10.2.1: Report on Reopening of Schools. First, I believe the Board of Trustees should vote to hold a special meeting about the options and protocols for reopening of schools in August. The report that will be presented today was not made available to parents, so we are offering our comments to you now without a full understanding of what the District plans. Since your next regular meeting isn't until the first day of school, I ask that you schedule a special meeting to take place soon where parents can properly address the report.

Second, I ask that the Board vote to direct the District staff to come back to the Board with a revised reopening plan that is 1) more protective of the safety of students and teachers who return to school and 2) offers a more robust distance learning option for those parents who choose to keep their students home.

I want to be assured that my daughters will be safe when they return to school in August and be presented with a plan that follows CDC guidelines. Anyone inside a school build should wear a mask. Safety must be a universal guarantee to all students and staff.

Liana Serrano: According to Agenda item 13, "Trustees receive board agenda background information in advance of scheduled meetings and are prepared to vote with knowledge on the consent items." And yet, Agenda Item 13.2.1 states that the Board will "Receive and Approve the COVID-19 Operations Written Report for the Tracy Unified School District."

I request that this written report be made available to the other stakeholders (TUSD parents, teachers, and other staff) for comment PRIOR to any approval/adoption of the plan. I further request that another survey be rolled out to provide for feedback from those who read the plan. Note that the survey that was previously sent out to "address" the re-opening of the school was NOT sufficient to provide meaningful information, as there was not enough background information to make an informed decision.

I acknowledge this is a difficult situation. However, that does not alleviate the responsibility of the TUSD board to do better.

Lorri Peterson: Tracy Unified School District Board Members, Lorri Peterson: As a teacher in your district for 20 years, I believe an A/B hybrid schedule is the best idea for the following reasons:

- Students are able to social distance AND see their peers
- Emotional well-being is maintained when students, parents and staff feel safer
- With fewer students, teachers would be able to better address learning gaps
- A Mon/Tue-Thur/Fri schedule with Wednesday for planning and cleaning minimizes risk of contamination between groups of students.
- 15-16 student computers per class would be sufficient.

Offering only the two options may cause problems for disadvantaged populations.

- My ELs by and large struggled to do independent work.
- Independent study students may or may not do the work, even with weekly check-ins. They may lose another year of education, which would cause devastating learning loss.

A distance learning option should be offered.

- Distance learning benefitted some of my more distractible students greatly. This option should be available to students who were able to learn far better this way.
- I believe distance learning should be part of the AB hybrid schedule, but it can also be a stand-alone option for those who choose it.

The public is currently being told via media that their students will be socially distanced with desks that are 6 feet apart, and yet a 100% return does not guarantee that. I would ask that TUSD implement a plan that meets or exceeds CDE and CDPH's recommendations for public safety and health.

Jessica Dunn: I am submitting a comment regarding the reopening after school in the fall. whatever decision we as a district make, we must make sure that we are also thinking about how either in person educational services or distance learning services are going to be provided to our most vulnerable students. Those are our students that are on in-home home hospital instruction. During school closure those of us who were service providers for this program were unable to go into their homes and these are students who are not good candidates for distance learning through web conferencing. We cannot leave our most vulnerable students with limited services or no services. And in order for us to be able to provide service to them, staff members will need to be provided with appropriate PPE and manageable caseloads so that time-wise we have enough time to be able to go into their homes and change and get ready to see other students in their homes. These students cannot be an afterthought.

Jacqui Nott: Dr. Goodall and Dr. Harrison, Thank you for all your years of service to Tracy Unified School District! You should be proud of the work you have done, the people you are, and the difference you have made in our school district. You are absolute treasures who can never be fully replaced. We wish you great health and fantastic adventures in your retirement. Sincerely, Tracy Educators Association

Antonio Briseno: I want my children to go back to school.

Steve Miller: Recent communications to families and community has indicated that schools plan to open to all students with safety precautions. Will the district assure appropriate physical distancing between students and staff in the classroom setting as advised by state recommendations. If not, what are the safety precautions that are referenced, does this include mandatory masking of appropriately aged students as per recent government recommendations? Can current classroom size accommodate all of the students with appropriate physical distancing? If not will there be staggered schedules to appropriately protect students, staff, vulnerable family members of students/staff and the community as a whole?

Catherine Foisy: I have heard many rumors concerning our district's method of reopening this August. I am concerned that "reopening" decisions in our district will be based on the fiscal health of our district rather than on limiting the spread of COVID-19 in our community. Even though San Joaquin County is now experiencing a surge of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations, I understand that one of the proposals for reopening schools in our district involves 100% of our students returning to class. This greatly concerns me and many other teachers. We hope that the district bases its reopening decisions with COVID-19 facts and CDC information in mind. If we are to return to the classroom, I would like the following guidelines to be followed, and in turn, become TUSD health and safety requirements:

- Students and school employees wear facial coverings and practice routine and regular handwashing/sanitizing.
- Deep cleaning and continuous cleaning of campuses and buses by trained school employees.
- Accommodations to allow for physical distancing in classrooms, cafeterias, gyms, and other shared spaces.
- Students and school employees have daily health assessments (temperature checks) before entering campus.

Article XVIII Safety (C) of our contract states; The District shall make every effort to provide unit members with a safe place in which to work. If the district allows its students, staff and families to enter school without specific health requirements being met, the district will not be doing all it can to insure the safety of all its members (students, staff, families and the Tracy community). Let's keep our learning community safe by implementing required safety procedures.

Jacqui Nott: One of the hardest things in life is not to know what's coming down the pike, especially when it could be something bad to befall you and/or those you love most. Most people would rather know for certain that something bad is coming than not being able to predict it. Uncertainty is psychological terror and we are all grappling with the effects of that.

I make this public comment tonight because I want you to know the levels of participation, consultation, and bargaining in which TEA and TUSD have engaged that brought us to the report you'll hear tonight. TEA and TUSD worked together in the following ways:

1. TEA had a consult team made up of executive board members (elected), negotiators (appointed), and other teachers (volunteers, neither elected nor

appointed). This consult team met with members of the TUSD task force to confer on school reopening. TEA consult and the TUSD task force have met 5 times for a free exchange of information, opinions, informal proposals, and recommendations in a conscientious effort to incorporate such recommendations into models for reopening. The TEA consult team held a total of approximately 13-15 Zoom meetings with teachers to gather input and then use that input during consultation. The TEA consult team reached over 250 teachers during the gathering of input and used all information in consulting with the district task force. Consult team members also received individual emails, texts, phone calls, etc. apart from the meetings and incorporated that input.

2. Individual teachers reached out to Julianna Stocking, as Ms. Stocking invited teachers to contact her directly. Ms. Stocking engaged with all teachers that reached out to her directly. She also met virtually with teachers who requested as much.

3. TEA bargaining team met with the TUSD bargaining team for the purpose of having dialogue about reopening. TEA negotiators conducted a survey of teachers and used that information to offer input at the bargaining table. TEA and TUSD have also begun bargaining an MOU addressing changes to working conditions for teachers. Working conditions are a mandatory subject of bargaining.

4. I met with the TUSD task force for reopening and I was invited to several subcommittees born of the task force. At those meetings, I offered input I was receiving from TEA consult, TEA bargaining, and individual teachers. I was also consulting with my CTA primary contact staff support to ensure I was appropriately advocating for students and teachers in the most inclusive and effective manner. CTA has shared with me, some Tracy teachers, and other chapter presidents that we are the only chapter in his current experience to have so many seats at the table of planning. I'd also like to note, as I'm sure you're well aware – the input and opinions of teachers are varied and run a wide range. TEA did our best to take and insert our collective voice and I am confident we achieved just that.

It is the intention of TEA to continue our engagement in the process of reopening. We understand we will have to monitor and adjust as we follow the guidance of San Joaquin County Office of Education, California Department of Education, San Joaquin County Public Health Department, and Center for Disease Control and Prevention. We appreciate your support and the good work of our teachers, and district office task force.

Tiffanie Heben: I am a parent of a junior at Tracy High School. I am addressing Item 10.2.1: Report on Reopening of Schools. I want to start by saying that I believe we are all coming from a place of wanting to do what is best for our kids. I know this time has been difficult for everyone, especially those who have to make tough decisions affecting large numbers of people.

First, I believe the Board of Trustees should vote to hold a special meeting about the options and protocols for reopening of schools in August. The report that will be presented today was not made available to parents, so we are offering our comments to you now without a full understanding of what the District plans. Since your next regular meeting isn't until the first day of school, I ask that you schedule a special meeting to take place soon where parents can properly address the report.

Second, I ask that the Board vote to direct the District staff to come back to the Board with a revised reopening plan that is 1) more protective of the safety of students and teachers who return to school and 2) offers a more robust distance learning option for those parents who choose to keep their students home.

My second request is based on the information I have seen about a draft plan for reopening as well as the survey sent out by the District yesterday asking parents their preferences for returning to school. If my comments don't accurately reflect the report that is given today, it's because parents haven't been given information to know what TUSD plans for schools as far as increased safety. So, please forgive me if I ask for something that has already been provided in the plan.

From what I have seen, parents are being forced to make a choice between two inadequate options.

One: Return your child to school where they will not be offered the same protections against potential exposure to the corona virus as those being offered almost everywhere we adults go.

Or, Two: Enroll your child in independent study with one hour of instruction a week.

The District is choosing to have regular instruction five days a week as normal, but this makes it impossible to provide social distancing space in the classroom. Other options are available that would make social distancing possible – an A/B schedule, for example. So, it's not accurate to say that it is not possible to have students sit six feet apart in their classrooms. It's not impossible. The District is making that choice. Personally, I wouldn't be as concerned about that if the District planned to require students and teachers to wear masks. In the plan I heard about, masks were not required. I'm hopeful that has changed since the "Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings" document issued by the Department of Public Health regarding masks has been amended to remove the exemption for schools. With regard to independent study, the survey that went out yesterday makes it sound like students will be working in isolation and see one teacher once a week for an hour. How can an IB student can teach themselves IB English, Calculus, IB Biology, Spanish, etc. If the District did a survey and found that there were 30 fourth graders who wanted distance learning, why wouldn't they create an online fourth grade class taught by one teacher who could meet with students every day? I know parents have lots of ideas about how distance learning can function better than the independent study being offered.

The District should offer more robust options for our parents. Parents who want to send their kids back to school should feel like they are getting the same protections we are providing for our community when they are in public. Parents who feel they need to keep their kids at home should feel that the education their kids receive it at least somewhat comparable to what is offered in the classroom. I ask the District and the school board to give parents a chance to give feedback on what is being planned before implementation.

People who wish to learn more about what other parents think about this issue can go to the Facebook page: Safe Learning at Tracy Unified School District.

Eden Matelski: Hello. My name is Eden Matelski and I'm reaching out today as a staff member and a parent. I've been teaching in TUSD for 20 years and my children attend George Kelly. As we are all trying to navigate through these uncertain times, I wanted to express some thoughts for our return to school procedures. While parents were provided a limited survey yesterday, I worry that

our voices might not be heard as the survey window is open until Friday. As a staff member, I completed another limited survey regarding the platforms used during our distance learning in the Spring, but there was nothing regarding our future options. It is concerning that there has not been much discussion or avenues for parents/teachers to provide input towards these enormous decisions you are tasked with.

While I'm extremely thankful for your dedication to our students, staff, and community, I ask that you put student/staff safety and student learning at the forefront. I realize that budgets always play a role in these decisions, but there is NO WAY to safely social distance our students when we are back full time, unless our class sizes are significantly smaller. I worry about the families that choose the independent study option because 1 hour of instruction a week just isn't enough. To be truthful, that's less than students received during our Spring distance learning. I fear for the learning deficit we are setting those students up for. I am concerned that families are faced with ONLY two options that are both detrimental to students, either their safety or their learning.

I implore you to consider a hybrid option or a way to stagger classes so that students might be able to receive the instruction they need while being in a safe and socially distant environment. There are so many unknowns with this COVID 19 pandemic and it is risky to say the least to put our children in a potentially unsafe school environment or possibly assisting in a learning deficit. These children (and staff) deserve more. Please consider MORE, for them, for us, for our community. Thank you.

Bridgett Huff: I am writing you to let you know that I am scared. We are in the middle of a pandemic that we don't have answers for, a cure for, or an end in sight. Teachers were told that we would be distance learning and within days, we had a plan, not a great one but one that would work with the limited time we were given. We now have the gift of time and hindsight to make our 20/21 school year something that will help all the students, keep them safe from Covid 19, and help to bridge the gap that three months out of the classroom caused: time. We need to use this time to make sure that the decisions that the district makes will benefit all students. The options presented to parents in the survey do not solve any of the problems listed above. Going back to school at 100% capacity is not going to keep children, staff, or families safe from this disease. We are already seeing a rise in cases in our county and will soon see one in our town/district unless we take precautions. 32 students in one classroom is not the answer when social distancing is the key to staying healthy. Putting that many children in the Petri dish that the classroom is during normal times (how quickly the flu gets passed around in a classroom), is not going to stop the spread of this disease and that means it will go home to students' families and teachers families. We need to be proactive, to help protect those who are choosing going back to school, not because it is the best answer, but rather because it is the only option that works for them. Most parents struggled with distance learning, trying to teach their children concepts in ways that were foreign to them: these are the parents that will pick option one. Other parents no longer have the option of working from home so they need to send their children back to school.

We need to have a better option, something that will allow us to bridge that gap, practice social distancing, and help prevent the spread of this disease. On a personal note, I know that a lot of teachers are scared, some are even retiring in

fear of what going back to work might mean for their health. But what about those who have to work, who don't have any health issues themselves but who are in close proximity to people who do. My dad was diagnosed three years ago with mesothelioma, he's undergone treatment and is relatively healthy, but he's definitely in the group that is at risk of getting this disease. I interact with him daily, but I don't know if that will continue if we go about business as usual. I don't want to be the person who gets my dad sick. I don't want to be the person who gets anyone's dad sick. But that's the position I feel I'm being put in with only these two options as choices.

Neither of these options will help our students and at the end of the day, teachers will sacrifice a lot to ensure that their students are going to be successful. These options are not the answers. Please use this gift of time to truly look at all the options to find one that will actually benefit the students. Otherwise, what was the point of holding them harmless for the last quarter of the school year, if we are moving them out of the frying pan and into the fire with these options.

Thank you for your time,

Lisa Rodriguez: Dear School Board Members,

I am writing tonight in order to express my deep concerns regarding how we are returning to school this year while making the safety of our school community a top priority? CDC guidelines are recommending social distancing practices which are impossible to enforce in the classroom under the current back-to-school model. Regardless of the age group, students must be able to maintain six feet distance from each other, especially indoors, even with a mask. We are not equipped to do that with full classrooms.

There are so many unanswered questions. Even if decisions are left to individual school sites, procedures and routines must be set up, marked off, reviewed, and practiced. When will this be done? When will teachers be able to go into their classrooms to set up individual sets of materials for students to use since they can no longer share books, computers, whiteboards, pencils, tables, and other necessary equipment?

What will the procedures be when someone in the classroom is diagnosed positive for COVID? Will we all be sent home to quarantine for 14 days as is recommended under CDC guidelines. Will teachers and other students even be informed?

In my opinion the only model that even comes close to creating a semblance of safety in the elementary classroom is the AM/PM split attendance model. At the very least, students will be assured a safe social distance, lunch rooms and play yards can be adequately supervised, and classrooms can be thoroughly sanitized. While I want to believe your intention is to create a safe environment for students to learn and teachers to teach, I am not hopeful. This is a scenario no one could have imagined! There is a consensus in the science community that a vaccine will be found sometime in the next year, conservatively perhaps not until the 2021-2022 school year. The investment now in safety for families and staff should be singular. Do what you know is right and make sure we can keep our families, students, and staff safe and solvent until we have a vaccine. In the grand scheme of thing, this is only a small period of time; but certainly one that is worth your unprecedented effort and our communal sacrifice.

Within the social contract of a democratic society it is understood that each member does what it takes to keep every other member safe. When people are

confident their leaders “have their backs” they are willing to make temporary sacrifices for the greater good: sacrifices that are equitable and proportional based on income, time, and resources. Your decisions now are your legacy. Please make them carefully.

In Judaism there is a commandment and a blessing for the actions we take to preserve life:

“Blessed are you, Eternal God,
sovereign of the world,
who has sanctified us with commandments,
and commanded us to protect life.”

Thank you for taking the time to consider my thoughts.

Jeffrey Alexandre; Agenda item 10.2.1: I would like to urge all board members to make a motion to opt to review and discuss item 10.2.1: COVID-19 reopening plan, at a special board session. There are too many health and safety concerns not being addressed with the current plan. A plan worthy of discussion must meet and/or exceed the recommendations of both the CDC and CDE for reopening. Both agencies place high importance on social distancing and wearing of masks or face shields. Thank you.

Aurora Ramirez: What measures will you take on social distancing and safety when West High students and staff return to school if they chose to return in person?

Darin Haydock: This comment applies to agenda item 10.2.1 “Receive report on Reopening Schools”

Good evening,

I am currently a teacher at Tracy High School where I have taught for the past 20 years. I am concerned that the current plan to reopen schools in the Tracy Unified School District does not meet the recommendations for classroom safety laid out in the California Department of Education’s guidelines for reopening the schools in the 2020-2021 school year. The CDE makes it clear that “The health and safety of students and staff is the top priority when making the decision to physically reopen school campuses.” The directions for schools in this document are clear with regard to classroom safety: “all staff and students should wear cloth face coverings or face shields while at school . . . and maintain 6 feet of physical distance during school activities.” The district’s daily physical attendance plan does not guarantee (or even make possible) social distancing in classrooms, because it does nothing to reduce class sizes so that distancing would be possible. Without social distancing, our classrooms will be perfect environments for viral spread. Distancing could be achieved through the implementation of A/B or AM/PM school schedules, which was recommended in the CDE guide.

The district has proposed an independent study charter school for parents that don’t feel comfortable sending their students to a physical classroom. This is a good idea, but it will do nothing to ensure the safety of those in live classrooms. The district must provide a safe environment for all students and staff, it should not be “an option” afforded only to some.

It is unfortunate that the district has timed the release of this report so that serious board and community consideration of its shortcomings cannot easily be addressed given that the next regular board meeting is on August 11, the first day of the

2020-2021 school year. For this reason I ask the board to schedule a special meeting to consider and approve a plan that meets or exceeds the classroom safety recommendations provided by the CDE. This issue has significance beyond perhaps that of any other issue that has come before the board as it involves the health and safety of students, staff, their families and loved ones, and our community. The stakes are simply too high to rush through a plan that fails meet the most basic recommendations provided by the state. Thank you,

Alina Chavez: Response to Comments by TUSD Board Member Jill Costa

Honorable Jill Costa: First we would like to thank you for your participation on the Board of Education and for representing the interests of Tracy's community in decisions pertaining to our children and their education. We do understand that there are many difficult decisions that come with accepting or rejecting motions that would affect our communities, especially our children.

However, we as members of the community wanted to respond to your statement towards the end of the Special Board Live Event that took place on Wednesday, June 17th regarding the proposed budget cuts that would result in the layoffs of many Classified workers in our schools.

During that meeting you stated that we "have never been to a board meeting, served on a committee, helped in a classroom, but are making a lot of noise without doing [our] research..." and that "[you] suggest we should get involved i.e. help in [our] children's classrooms, provide a scholarship, keep score in athletic events..." and finally calling for us to "be a part of the solution, not the problem. Making noise in [your] parking lot is not a good answer to our problem."

With all due respect, these statements are gravely misinformed. We have attended a variety of meetings in order to stay informed about what happens at our schools, whether it regards our kids or not. Beyond TUSD board meetings, we are active members of the West High School Site Council Committee, ELAC, DELAC, Title I and LCAP Committees, attending as many meetings as we are asked to attend and disseminating information to members of the community who could not attend. Outside of meeting rooms, we have proctored for State Testing and AP Exams, and we have volunteered at the AP Test Breakfast. Aside from work, raising multiple children, language barriers and other difficulties, we do our best to participate, stay informed, and act accordingly for the benefit of our children. Furthermore, we are aware that other groups, such as the West High Science Boosters, the West High Music Boosters, and the West High Home-Field Advantage groups organize and provide scholarships for students. While we have not specifically provided a scholarship for our children, there have been many cases where we have donated money and items to events such as Latino Graduation for the Spanish Department, West High's Día de los Muertos celebration for the Art Department, the Space & Engineering Academy's Senior Night for the Science Department, donation and volunteering for the Robotics Concession Stand, and even donating water bottles for Graduation Day and for the Suicide Prevention Walk. With already limited resources, we do our best within our means to ensure that our children have access to resources just like any of the other parent organizations do.

To claim that we are misinformed and not providing "a good answer to our problem" is a misinformed statement and action in itself. We pay close attention to the needs of our students and our teachers, communicate amongst ourselves and the educators closest to our children, and we participate where we would "be a part

of the solution, not the problem."

Thank you for your time and understanding.

Eileen Kerr: Hello, my name is Eileen Kerr and I am the spouse of a teacher who has taught in this district 21 years. I would like to address the board regarding the reopening of schools in this district, item 10.2.1 on the Board Agenda tonight. Tonight the Board of Trustees will be given an oral report on reopening the district schools for fall 2020. The district plan is a full, 100% return to school for all students, with no plan to require social distancing or mask wearing in the classroom. Except for those few students whose families are able to choose the distance learning option through the new charter school, everyone else will be back in classrooms. We know this, in part, because a parent survey was sent out yesterday to all families in the district. In this survey, the options the district offered parents to choose from included full return to school as normal, or two independent study options from the charter school. Distance learning in the charter school will certainly keep these particular children and their families safe, but it will do nothing to ensure safety for those children and adults physically attending school. If you allow the district to do nothing to keep those who are in crowded classes on campus safe, you are putting whole families, and the community at large, at risk of catastrophic spread of this disease this fall.

What does that mean? I'd like to quickly share my family's story, which reflects many families in our district. My husband and I are in our late 50s, we both have hereditary heart issues that make us vulnerable to Covid-19, but don't meet the criteria for being out of a classroom altogether. My mother-in-law, who is 80 and has diabetes and heart issues, lives with us. I am the primary caregiver to my parents, both of whom are 88. This means, if my husband is teaching in a 35 student classroom with no social distancing or mask requirements, he is likely to get sick, which could kill him, and give it to his family members, which could kill us. This is the reality for hundreds (if not thousands) of families in your school district. If there were no other option than full return, I would not be pleading for consideration of a change, but the CDE and many other county offices of education (Stanislaus, Sacramento) are urging school districts to adopt either a full distance learning model or an AB schedule to reduce class size and mandatory masking of everyone. You have an option that is possible, affordable and will keep our community members from getting sick or dying. Please don't allow the district to create a situation that will cause this harm. Thank you for your time.

Public Hearing:

12.1 Administrative & Business Services: None.

Consent Items:

13. Board approval of any agenda item requiring insurance is conditioned upon acceptance of appropriate insurance accepted by Tracy Unified.

Action: Abercrombie, Costa. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.

13.1 Administrative & Business Services:

13.1.1 Approve Accounts Payable Warrants (May 2020))
(Separate Cover Item)

13.1.2 Ratify Routine Agreements, Expenditures and Notice of Completions Which Meet the Criteria for Placement on the Consent Agenda

13.1.3 Accept the Generous Donations From the Various Individuals, Businesses, and School Site Parent Teacher Associations Listed Herein

With Thanks and Appreciation From the Staff and Students of the Tracy Unified School District

- 13.1.4 Accept and Review the Status of School Connected Organization/Booster Club Applications Submitted for the 2020/21 School Year
- 13.1.5 Approve Payroll Report (May 2020)
- 13.1.6 Approve Revolving Cash Fund Reports (May 2020)
- 13.1.7 Approve 2020-2021 Designation of CIF Representatives to League

13.2 Educational Services:

- 13.2.1 Receive and Approve the COVID-19 Operations Written Report for the Tracy Unified School District
- 13.2.2 Approve Contract with the San Joaquin County Children and Families Commission (First 5 San Joaquin) for the Building Literacy Together Grant
- 13.2.3 Approve Agreement for Special Contract Services with Illuminate Education
- 13.2.4 Approve Agreement for Special Contract Services with Allyson Moore, Behavior Consultant, to provide Mental Health Evaluations to Special Education Students for the 2020-2021 School Year
- 13.2.5 Approve Agreement for Special Contract Services with Foundation Therapy Service for an Individual Educational Evaluation in the area of Occupational Therapy Assessment
- 13.2.6 Approve Agreement for Special Contract Services with Psyched Services for Psychologist Services for the 2020-2021 School Year
- 13.2.7 Approve Agreement for Special Contract Services between ProCare Therapy and the District to provide Sign Language Interpreter Services for the 2020-2021 School Year
- 13.2.8 Approve Agreement for Special Contract Services with Dr. James Bylund for an Independent Education Evaluation/Psycho-Educational Assessment
- 13.2.9 Approve Agreement for Special Contract Services with Mattie Spires, LMFT, to Provide Mental Health Services to Williams Middle School for an Additional Day of Services
- 13.2.10 Approve Specialized Grant Funding for the 2020-21 Agriculture Incentive Grant for West High School
- 13.2.11 Approve Agreement for Special Contract Services with Valley Community Counseling for Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist for the 2020-2021 School Year
- 13.2.12 Approve Agreement for Special Contract Services with Building Connections Behavioral Health, Inc. for a Registered Behavioral Technician (RBT) and a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)

13.3 Human Resources:

- 13.3.1 Accept the Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absence for Certificated, Classified and/or Management Employees
- 13.3.2 Approve Classified, Certificated and/or Management Employment

Action Items:

14.1 Administrative & Business Services:

- 14.1.1 Adopt Resolution No. 19-37 to Identify the Amount of Budget

Reductions Needed in 2020-21, 2021-2022, or 2022-2023

Action: Abercrombie, Souza. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.

Casey Goodall: talking about resolution and budget item – strange budget year. These 2 items are tied together. In the budget – corrected in funding section – referred to wrong 3 years – said we were able to meet our obligations for 3 years – we are 1 mil short in the 3rd year out. Now the gov saying he is going to approve budget – but we are required to adopted budget based on the gov may revise. In many budget documents there is a certification page certify that we can make it for 3 years. In this budget we do not make all 3 years. Normally we would make reductions tonight. If gov did not say what he is doing.

Amended agenda item to correct years and given assumption we cannot meet the obligations in the 3rd year. Friday gov will revise and we may have to revise budget within 45 days. And need the resolution in order to adopt budget.

14.1.2 Adopt the 2020-21 Annual School District Budget
(Separate Cover Item)

Action: As amended. Abercrombie, Costa. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.

14.1.3 Adopt Changes to AR 4312.42 Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus Drivers/Commercial Vehicle Drivers, BP 3541.1 and AR 3541.1 School-Related Trips (Second Reading)

Action: Abercrombie, Souza. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.

14.1.4 Acknowledge Receipt of Administrative Regulation 1330.1 Community Rental of School District Facilities (Second Reading)
(Separate Cover Item)

Action: Abercrombie, Silcox. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.

14.1.5 Adopt Resolution # 19-35, Authorizing and Defining Names to Sign Orders on School District Funds

Action: Abercrombie, Costa. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.

14.2 **Educational Services:** None.

14.2.1 Acknowledge Changes to Administrative Regulation (AR) 1312.3 Uniform Complaint Policy & Parent Notification (First Reading)

Action: Abercrombie, Silcox. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0. ____

14.2.2 Adopt Resolution No. 19-34 Approving the Application Authorizing the District to Enter into a Yearly Contract with the State for a Child Development Program for the 2020-2021 School Year and to Authorize Designated Personnel to Sign Contract Documents

Action: Souza, Abercrombie. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.

14.2.3 Approve Tracy Independent Study Charter School (TISCS) Student Handbook for the 2020-2021 School Year (Separate Cover Item)

Action: Abercrombie, Souza. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.

14.2.4 Adopt Revisions to the District High School Student Handbook for the 2020-2021 School Year (Separate Cover Item)

Action: Abercrombie, Silcox. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.

14.2.5 Approve Revisions to the District K-8th Grade Student Handbook for the 2020-2021 School Year (Separate Cover Item)

Action: Abercrombie, Silcox. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.

14.2.6 Approve Appointment of Parent Representative to San Joaquin Special Education Local Plan Area Community Advisory Committee

Action: Souza, Abercrombie. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.

14.3 Human Resources:

14.3.1 Adopt Resolution 19-38, Authorizing the Elimination of Certain Classified Positions Due to Lack of Work or Lack of Funds

Action: Abercrombie, Costa. **Vote:** Yes-6; No-1(Alexander)
Tammy J.

Sk: are these vacant? These are vacant.

TJ: went through positions – a lot were when we had presence learning – as hired slp – no need. Paras used to g == explained why these positions were vacanta.

14.3.2 Approve Revised Job Description and Salary Placement for Coordinator of Health Services

Action Abercrombie, Silcox **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.

14.3.3 Approve Declaration for a Provisional Internship Permit

Action **As Amended.** Abercrombie, costa. **Vote:** Yes-7; No-0.

Board Reports:

Trustee Silcox pass

Trustee Souza thanked dr. goodall and Harrison for their years of service – was her ap appreciates everything they put into the district. Looks forward to new admin. Excited and hopes that we can work with COVID open our schools safely – hope we have put that message out to our community. Education requires us to have students in their chair. Thank everyone for comments and being with us.

Trustee Alexander pass

Trustee Costa – rep on city parks – joe Wilson pool is open on June 29.. goodall and Harrison – only 2 people left that were here when started on the board. Good luck with retirement wishes them well. Received a letter from TSMA that concerns her – has permission to read it. hopes that it will stop (read letter)

Trustee Kaur congrats to Harrison goodall – appreciates all of their work and hours put into tUSD.

Trustee Abercrombie thank dr. goodall and Harrison for their years of service in tUSD and wish them well in their retirement.

Trustee Pekari attend pirate party – to see the smile on her face - Casey's has been postponed to August. Thank you for all those years. Has been a tough time for all. Lots going on budget, covid, uncertainties. We are all here for the kids. We appreciate everyone. These plans may change between now and the next 7 weeks, we have plan and back up plans and will adjust from there.

Superintendent Report:

Dr. Stephens thank Julie – gave amazing report today. Illustrated all of the hard work that went into that. Hope everyone listened and saw the effort and detail – hard to predict what will happen adopted budget and resolution – doing this for 37 years odd – means nothing – hard to wrap your head around that. When we

meet on august 11 we will have a revised budget.

Thank you to sheil and case given great service – what is know is their character arrivie early stay later and treat people well. Added to our district – their character they discusap

Adjourn: 10:05 pm

Clerk

Date