

Timestamp	First and Last Name	Please enter your comment
11/13/2020 16:39:21	Maggie Aster	Thank you to the Board and to the Superintendent for making the difficult decision to stay remote during this time of substantial transmission in Elmhurst. Many other districts are following suit and are going remote. Credit should be given to all of 205 for being open for hybrid during the time that we were. Many districts never went to hybrid at all. We can sacrifice in-person learning now, knowing that a safe vaccine is coming. Health and safety are paramount. Thank you to all the incredible teachers who have made remote learning as good as it can be. Stay strong, Board members, you're doing the right thing.
11/13/2020 19:49:30	Elizabeth Thompson	To the board, Dr Moyer and the ETC: The parents of D205 deserve answers. Why have the new metrics to reopen D205 that were mentioned at the last meeting not been shared? There is growing evidence that school reopenings can be done safely to prioritize our children. European countries have prioritized schools and they are not having outbreaks. Our local private schools are doing the same without outbreaks within the schools. Why is D205 not doing the same? What are the barriers? We opened successfully, without school spread. What else is needed by the teachers and ETC to feel safe in schools? Our children are struggling. They are disengaging. They are falling behind. We need to figure this out. Remote learning may work for some, but what about the rest of the children this district serves? I thank our teachers in this district for their work with our kids. But I challenge the board and the ETC to do better. Families deserve the option for in person learning which is necessary for many students to learn. Especially students with IEPs and our youngest learners.
11/14/2020 9:53:05	Melissa Stevens	My sister is a nurse. When I hear the unimaginable stories she shares with me about what's she's gone through in the past 7-8 months, it is more and more clear that we as a community have to do whatever we can to help. How can we help? By sending fewer people to hospitals. The only way to ensure that is to not gather. Unfortunately, that includes schools. We can sacrifice in-person instruction for a couple more months, so that they can return safely to their families at night. We've been framing this wrong the entire time. We need to pull together as a community to build-up remote learning through volunteer virtual tutoring opportunities, virtual mentoring, and more. My family is willing to learn improper fractions from a distance so that we're not contributing to the anguish our front-line workers experience every day. We're choosing positivity and ingenuity over school-district shaming. We've got this, Elmhurst!
11/14/2020 10:36:39	Kate Prasse	Board of Education Members, In proposing the salvia test, why would K-5 be left out of the testing? Siblings, neighbors, cousins, etc are in K-5 and should have the same option of a saliva test as 6-12. There have been multiple cases of teachers/staff with COVID in our K-5 buildings; all need to have access to this marker test. La Grange schools are K-6, so why follow their lead and then not test our elementary buildings? Why not give ALL of our students the same opportunity to get back in school with some extra precautions? Thank you.
11/15/2020 12:29:04	Interested Community Member	Thank you to the Superintendent and Board of Education for taking into account the safety of all members of the D205 family. The staff members as well of the students have been well served by this pause in in-person learning during this time of substantial transmission. While state and local governmental agencies advise us to stay home as much as possible, it only makes common sense to continue with remote learning until the rate of transmission drops. Our hospitals are being over taxed, and it serves no one in the community to risk putting students and staff at risk by bringing them back into the schools. The community appreciates you thinking of health and safety first; even though there is a vocal minority for whom the Covid virus is not taken seriously. Remote learning is not ideal, but either is an avoidable hospital stay due to Covid 19. Please continue to value our community's health over the voices of those who think this virus is an overblown political hoax. Thank you.
11/15/2020 13:49:50	Meredith Vogel	Dear Board of Education, I believe the board has taken something very important away from our community. As a tax payer in this town, I believe we should have the right to public comment during your meetings. There many ways to do public comment safely: Open a sign up sheet in advance, if you meet in person institute a 1 in, 1 out process to reduce the number of people coming into the meeting. If you're doing it virtual, set up links and sign ups so the public can be heard. Many school districts as well as our own city council council still allows public comment. Please reconsider this important right for our community. It's not fair our voice can't be heard in a live format. There are many ways you can do it safely. It feels like the board and administration are not willing to listen to community concerns when this right has been taken away. Please reconsider reinstating public comment.

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11/16/2020 20:41:32	Amanda Mitchell	<p>Good evening. I would first like to thank you all for all that you are doing this unprecedented time. I would like to specifically comment on the Superintendent's Covid-19 memo. I believe that this is a pivotal time to support both students and staff and to show both that you are taking into consideration their educational well-being as well as their health. In the Covid memo, Superintendent Moyer requests approval for special needs students to return to school as early as Thursday, November 19th. Superintendent Moyer then specifically states, "I have been in contact with the largest infectious disease consulting consortium in the country, and they have had some initial conversation about the new District 205 proposed metrics. I expect to know more on November 19 or 20". He also states "since shifting to Remote Learning on October 21, 2020, the level of positivity for the District has increased by approximately 110% and the number of new cases per day for the District has increased by approximately 152%. Indeed, there is still a significant risk and it continues to apply for our students with the most significant disabilities". These metrics do not align themselves with a safe return to school for the most vulnerable students or staff. I see there are several additional safety measure listed in the memo but I do not believe measures like buses riding with the windows down is a feasible safety measure when the average temperate in the morning is less than 35 degrees. Since Superintendent Moyer states he will not have more information from the infectious disease consortium until at least November 19th or 20th, I believe this is a premature request to send students and staff back to school this week. I urge you to listen to the metrics, wait for additional information from the experts, review the safety measures thoroughly, and take into consideration that the students will have more consistent teaching and support if teachers and staff are healthy and not put at risk during a substantial community transmission period.</p>
11/17/2020 10:48:52	Emily Bastedo	<p>To Dr Moyer, school board members, and all administrators meeting tonight, I want to use a minute of public comments to say this — Thank you. You worked all summer on a plan to get our kids back in school. You continue to work around the clock to do what's best for our kids. We know you believe that having kids in school is what is best and you continue to balance that with ever-changing, evolving information you receive from experts in the relevant fields. The community recognizes the enormous task that all of you have undertaken. This is all unprecedented and when you signed up to serve our community as administrators and board members you couldn't have foreseen the current situation. And we see you rising to the occasion, keeping your commitment to our community. As parents it isn't always easy to know what's best for our kids. You have the task of making decisions that are best for 8,000 kids. I am fortunate enough to know you all and I am so thankful you are the ones making these important decisions. So once again (from the sidelines) I want to say - We see you. And we thank you.</p>
11/17/2020 13:32:02	Christine Bishof, MD, MP	<p>I want to recognize and thank the Board and Superintendent for their hard work during this pandemic. You have been asked to answer questions, for which no one has the answers. As an emergency physician, I have been caring for COVID-19 patients since the beginning of the pandemic, and I will tell you, I am truly frightened by what I have seen, both in the hospital, and outside. As numbers are surging, beds are filling up, and I'm seeing those patients, both with and without the virus, suffer due to hospital staff not having the resources to take care of everyone like we normally would. I see people outside the hospital, flagrantly ignoring public health recommendations to use masks, to avoid dining indoors, to avoid planning social get togethers, and to stay home when not feeling well. Everyone thinks it won't happen to them....until it does. As for the question of having children in school, full disclosure, I have kept my children home. I felt it was important for our kids to have a routine, and not be pulled in and out of the classroom depending on community spread. I also felt the hybrid model offers little benefit, and far more risk, considering how many other people the children need to come in contact with if they need a nanny, babysitter, daycare, or some other arrangement for days when they are not physically in the classroom. That is not the way to keep a family "bubble" small. At the beginning of the school year, we agreed to follow certain guidelines as proposed by the Illinois and DuPage County Public Health Departments. Those metrics were chosen by public health experts for a reason and they should not be thrown out, just because they have become inconvenient or tiresome. Those numbers were chosen because that is the point at which school safety protocols would not be able to adequately prevent spread among staff and students. Those complaining that the Elmhurst numbers are so much better than those in the rest of DuPage, look again. Elmhurst is not immune to this virus. Our 7-day positivity as of 11/16 was 11.88% and we are at 535.9 cases per 100,000. That's about 30 cases a day for the last week. We need to work together as a community, to keep local spread low and to protect everyone. We have no idea what the long term consequences of COVID-19 are, but we are already seeing people suffering with debilitating symptoms months after being infected. Follow your doctors' and public health experts' recommendations. Wear your masks and don't gather with people outside your immediate household. If we make those things a priority, then we can get the kids back in school. Thank you for your time and for supporting your frontline healthcare professionals.</p>

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11/17/2020 13:41:59	Meredith Vogel	<p>Dear Board of Education,</p> <p>Public comment is an important mechanism for the community to express their issues and concerns. First, your website pages do not include the ability to provide public comment through the google docs in an easy way. Its embedded in the board agenda which is very hard to find. I ask that you change your communication main page to indicate the community has the ability the provide comment via your google form process. You make no mention this process is available - you only have included the board of education email as an option. I find that when I send emails to the board of education email box, I do not always receive a response. It would be helpful for someone to response to our issues and concerns.</p> <p>Second, I believe the board needs to consider bringing back live public comment. There are many ways to do this safely through sign-ups, first-in, first-out method for in-person or the ability to engage live through the virtual meetings. While I'm sure the board welcomes comments, it doesn't appear that the board is willing to listen to issues and concerns when public comment has been taken away. I strongly recommend you reinstate live public comment. Many school districts and our own city council continues to allow for public comment.</p> <p>Please let our voice be heard.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Meredith Vogel</p>
11/17/2020 13:51:39	Meredith Vogel	<p>Dear Board of Education,</p> <p>I believe the district needs to consider the middle school schedule in a remote setting. The students go from 8:30 - 1:30 straight without any breaks for snacks or lunch. I also have an IEP student who requires additional time for tests, office hours and check-outs each day. Just today, he was asked to attend office hours that began right at 1:30 to finish a test. As soon as he is done with the math test, he will need to go straight to the resource teacher for extra ELA help and his check-out.</p> <p>The schedule is not sustainable and I do not think it is healthy to keep children in front a screen for what will be probably 6.5 hours today without a break. While I do not agree with a remote learning setting and urge you to bring our children back to school as soon as possible, I believe you need to consider modifying the schedule to allow for students with some lunch break to refocus, reset and take a screen break if remote learning is going to continue. This is doing more harm than good. Please modify the schedule to allow for some breaks. Children need a lunch break to succeed.</p>

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11/17/2020 13:59:53	Mike Ebner	<p>I would like to know when the Board is going to show any urgency and take action to open the schools, do what is best for the education and development of students, and represent the will of the community, rather than allow the Superintendent and union leadership to keep the schools closed and reduce curriculum based on scare tactics and false metrics. The Board should be meeting weekly to urgently find solutions to open the schools and provide transparency to the community about what decisions are being made, by whom, and for what reasons.</p> <p>Importantly, the Board needs to have public meetings to review any proposed changes to the Open D205 plan and APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE THEM ON RECORD BEFORE they are implemented by the Superintendent, not waiting to review until a week or two after the decisions have already been made unilaterally by the Superintendent. The Board's July 14 resolution requires the Board to approve or disapprove all changes to the plan, which means doing so ON RECORD VIA RESOLUTION AT A MEETING. Asking a handful of questions a week after the fact does not satisfy that requirement. The Board's failure to take this action is a direct violation of its own resolution, and fails to provide any accountability for the Board.</p> <p>Science has proven there is no transmission at schools with safety precautions in place, which we already have. The false narrative that the virus spreads in schools is simply a convenient excuse to keep schools closed. If some parents opt to be remote only, that is fine, but parents need to be given the choice to have their children receive in person instruction, which is critical for education, social and emotional development.</p> <p>Private schools in Elmhurst have been in person EVERY DAY since August without issue and 85% of D205 parents indicated they want in person instruction, so the only possible explanations for D205 continuing to be remote only is (i) the Board is choosing to ignore basic science and the will of the community, or (ii) union leadership is demanding it and the superintendent is going along with them without any accountability to the community and – more importantly - students. If the former, the Board needs to take accountability and directly explain this decision to the community. If the latter, what is the union's position, what are they demanding, and what do we need to do to get the schools open? No one knows because the superintendent is negotiating with them behind closed doors, the Board is doing nothing, and the public has no transparency into the process. The Board needs to explain to the community the process around this issue. Why is the board not actively stepping in to negotiate with union leadership to find ways to solve this crisis if the Superintendent is unwilling or unable to?</p> <p>This district has so many great teachers, and all of those we talk to want to be in school, but union leadership is telling them to stay home and be quiet. There are now reports that union leadership has indicated they will not agree to a return to full in person learning until there are "zero cases." Is that true? If so, the community needs to be aware of that demand so parents who want their children to receive an education can move elsewhere or make arrangements for private schools.</p> <p>Last week the Board President of Hinsdale 86 announced schools would continue in person through the end of the semester. That's correct - the Board took action and also communicated directly to community. Why is that Board capable of this but ours is not? And why is it safe and achievable for Hinsdale to have in person learning, but Elmhurst cannot? Clearly a difference in leadership. Theirs is strong. Ours is satisfied being the lowest common denominator.</p> <p>I'm sure the Board will now conveniently say the Governor is closing all schools anyway due to a rise in cases, so it doesn't matter. But that simply ignores the fact we have now wasted 3 plus months when our children should have been educated in person. This is educational and developmental time our children will never get back. That is truly sickening.</p> <p>Who is being held accountable for this failure? Who is going to urgently work to find solutions going forward rather than doing nothing? Does the District have a plan in place to fully reopen the schools and return to full curriculum once a vaccine is available, or will they do nothing and allow union leadership to continue to keep schools closed? Is that plan ready to go, or our children will waste another 3 months while the District figures out how to implement?</p> <p>The students, parents and taxpayers of Elmhurst deserve so much better than this.</p>

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11/17/2020 14:11:44	Lindsay Burrell	My special needs 4 year old is learning nothing from an iPad. She needs to have in person learning to experience things she can't at home. She is also not receiving her full iep minutes for therapies and is falling behind even more developmentally. She needs to be in school. I also have a first grader who is falling more and more behind. He only learns affectively in school with a live teacher. He is not learning how to read at the level he should, and he's way behind in writing. My other child is a 4th grader and not getting the social interaction she needs at this age. Please let them go back to school!!!!
11/17/2020 14:14:49	Jennifer Nelson	Board of Education, I understand the reasons for a "pause" in in-person learning at this current time. I still do not understand why school was called off several weeks ago, but I know you are re-evaluating your criteria for that - thank you. This is a learning curve for all of us. I have 3 urgencies that come to mind during this remote learning period. 1: Please continue to work diligently with parents and primary teachers to develop a better hybrid plan for when we are ready to resume in-person learning. Our young students need to see their teachers every day for their core curriculum. We are failing our students and teachers with the current plan. Nobody is reaching their true learning and teaching potential. 2: Please survey our teachers. They are experts and I trust that most of them still have the best interest of the students in mind. Perhaps they can even build in some flexible one-on-one delivery models after 1:15 every day (zoom or in-person when allowable). 3: Please be as transparent as possible with our community. I know there is so much at work behind the scenes of this complicated learning environment. Please keep us informed, especially as we start to consider our options for next school year. We cannot continue to live our lives 2 weeks at a time, waiting for ideal data. Thank you.
11/17/2020 14:20:10	Kathleen Curley	Good evening, and thank you for your continued support of high quality education in district 205. I believe that closing schools was the right move for this time and I commend you for making this difficult decision. My hope is to opt for in person for my child in the spring, but I wouldn't feel comfortable doing that unless there was a way to know case numbers at her individual school. I know there are other parents feeling the same way. While it's helpful to see district numbers as a whole, I hope you are looking into breaking down numbers of cases and quarantined by school. This is the only way I would opt for my child to return in person, once numbers look safer for our area. Thank you for your consideration.
11/17/2020 14:52:25	Cristine O'Connell	My son is special needs and attends York High school functional skills programming. Not being able to be In person learning has had an extreme impact on his mental health , as well as regression in physical health I am calling on the board to please take into consideration that E learning is simply NOT the education our kids are entitled to, please reopen safely and allow our kids to get the in person learning they are entitled to! Thank you
11/17/2020 15:09:39	Teacher	The district administrators and the Board agreed that during substantial community transmission, remote learning would be the only safe option. Now, here we are, with data markedly worse than when we went into remote learning on October 21st, discussing bringing in students. During substantial transmission, N95 masks, NOT KN95 masks need to be available to teachers. These are not reusable. Is the district prepared to provide these asap and in large numbers? Will these students, since it is a smaller group of students, be tested regularly? Will their families pledge to not attend dance lessons, sports tournaments, or out-of-state vacation homes? Will they pledge not to gather for holidays? I think we know there is no reasonable way to ensure this. Nearby districts have suggested January 19th as a safe return to hybrid date. Why are we not protecting our most vulnerable students and our staff from exposure and choosing to bring them in to public buildings during a global health crisis? I feel for all parents and students who are struggling. I pray for them every day. But, we are within months of a vaccine and life is too precious to gamble on a hasty return.
11/17/2020 15:50:26	Anonymous	I find it unbelievable that the superintendent, assistant superintendent, and the board would even consider bringing students or staff back with COVID cases that are currently skyrocketing. The recent numbers are unlike any we have seen throughout this entire pandemic and getting worse everyday. I understand that virtual learning is not ideal for students of any age but it is NOT SAFE to send students or staff back to school right now. Tier 3 mitigation is currently in effect statewide and you want to send back special education students and teachers? Please, I beg you not to make this mistake. I would hate for any student or staff member of d205 to become ill or worse because of the decision to send them back into buildings this week
11/17/2020 15:52:19	Jake Schweih	The parents wanting their kids back in school should be ashamed of themselves. It is a very self centered stance. It was shameful 2 months ago and it is only worse now with the cases rising rapidly. Hospitals are filling up and we are barely into the winter where the virus is expected to spread all season. I hope the board votes with a greater concern for safety than inconvenience.

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11/17/2020 15:52:50	Laura McElligott	<p>Good evening. My name is Laura McElligott and I am a D205 teacher. I am writing to address the board regarding the plan being presented tonight to return students with disabilities to campus beginning Thursday. Last week, I was tested for COVID. I got very sick with chills, body aches, and a high fever. I was fortunate to test negative. The entire experience was extremely upsetting to me and very scary as you can imagine particularly because I have an underlying medical condition identified by the CDC as placing me at an increased risk for severe illness from the virus that causes COVID-19.</p> <p>I have worked in person the entire course of this school year when we were hybrid and transmission was considered moderate. The positivity rate has doubled and even tripled in the last few weeks. The DuPage Health Department has identified the risks of transmission to be substantial. Elmhurst should be adhering to the DuPage metric system and not be attempting to determine another set of metrics to use. Elmhurst is not a self-contained separate town within DuPage county.</p> <p>I am very concerned about the risks to our students, staff, and their families should we return students to school on Thursday. In the past weeks, I have seen the students of our schools out in the community in large groups not adhering to social distancing or wearing masks. A week and a half ago, I saw sixteen middle school boys on York's front lawn all huddled together with their footballs in hand and no masks. This is not an isolated occurrence. When I see the students I work with not adhering to safety guidelines such as 6-foot social distancing and wearing of masks, it causes me to be very concerned. I am concerned that those students may be putting themselves at risk of becoming ill or that they may become infected with the virus and not show symptoms. I am concerned about the community spread of the virus on our students, employees, and their families.</p> <p>The district will present its position to you this evening to open schools for our special ed students. I imagine that the board will vote to open the schools to those students based on the recommendation of the district administration. If they do, I will be at work on Thursday, but I wanted you to know that I am personally scared, so scared that I will become ill from this disease. I am afraid of the consequence it would have on my long-term health given my underlying condition. Many of my colleagues are scared as well. I am a person. My health and safety matter to me and my family. Please make sure to consider everyone's safety in your decision tonight. Thank you for your time.</p>
11/17/2020 16:18:08	Greg Lind	<p>1. When will full time in person teaching begin. If not before the end of year when and what amount is the tax levy going to be reduced. Not going to continue paying for a streaming service. No where does it allow for remote learning, teachers can File FMLA, FFRCA allows for in home but at a reduced pay, and ADA says reasonable accommodation if it does not produce hardship. The vision is in your hand full time in person or reduced tax revenue. Make a decision</p>
11/17/2020 17:04:32	Becca Harpster	<p>Dear Board of Ed,</p> <p>I am an active parent in the school community, having served on the Jefferson pta board for four years, including one year as president. I've created toilet paper toss videos for my graduating fifth grader, virtual Halloween parade videos at Jefferson, and am co-chair of a committee to do a virtual Thanksgiving Feast for the Jefferson community tomorrow. My point being, even in a Covid world where very little has been allowed, I'm a do-er. I will do whatever is in my power to enhance the school experience for my kids. I know many of you on the Board are like me; I've sat in meetings with many of you over the years, and I voted for many of you. What frustrates me, as a doer, is that it seems like any activity to try to open schools is futile. I truly would like to know how our district plans to not just survive but thrive in a world WITH Covid. What do we as a community need to do to get our kids and teachers back to school safely? Do we need air purifiers for every classroom? Temperature stations? Hand washing or sanitizing stations? N95 masks for teachers and staff? Do we need a sub fair where eligible candidates can come submit their transcript, answer interview questions, and get fingerprinted? Please, the community is ready and willing to help. What do we need to do to Reopen D205? Please be transparent and share what exactly needs to happen and what the plan is to make it work in a world WITH Covid. And let me know what I can do to help.</p>

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11/17/2020 17:20:19	Lou Wittmer	<p>It has become concerning throughout the finger pointing between the ETC and the administration, the needs of the children have fallen by the wayside. Although the ongoing superficial theme to this dispute is painted on as serving the needs of the kids, I cannot help but wonder - If the needs of the kids are of the utmost concern, why are parents interests being sidelined? Regardless of the opinions of some, parents have the MOST interest in the wellbeing of their children. If parents are willing to send their children to school, based upon their individual determination of the risk factors that apply to their specific situation, the district is obliged to respect that decision. Clearly, the district, the administration, and the teachers have taken a position of telling parents what is in the best interest of their families. Sadly, these entities purporting to have the best interest of the children in mind have lost valuable education time during this dispute by keeping children out of school when the metrics were amenable to sustainable mitigation efforts.</p> <p>As a Chicago Public School alumn, I have suffered through more teacher strikes than I care to admit or remember. Although, e-learning was not an option (strike packets were the e-learning of that time), I can personally attest to the detrimental effects of not being in school; to include regression in academic benchmarks, spending days unsupervised, and having no academic guidance as teachers were constantly embroiled in a contentious relationship with the administration. These strikes were always framed as being in the best interest of the kids through giving teachers higher wages, better benefits, and improved working environments, when, ironically, the best thing for me was to be in school.</p> <p>This current climate of the ETC constantly demanding remote learning and refusing to go into work reminds me of those CPS days of sitting home during strikes, in my own best interest. I hold the ETC, the district, and the administration fully at fault for not having reached a workable plan, an agreement upon which the ETC is granted the specific health accommodations for specific members, and a long-term solution to get the kids back in the classroom where they can thrive. E-learning is not sustainable and is not a long-term solution.</p>
11/17/2020 17:48:19	Raymond Thomas	<p>I agree that it is important that children return to school. It is important for their education and mental health. However, Now is NOT the time. With Covid numbers increasing and hospitalizations soaring, we still need to be responsible in protecting our community. Yes, kids do get this, don't be naive.</p> <p>Also, with the holidays approaching, people will still be meeting with families and traveling, even if advised not to. Returning to school before Jan 6 can prove to be deadly.</p> <p>Please consider health and safety when making your decision tonight.</p>
11/17/2020 18:16:30	Melissa Wittmer	<p>To the Board and Administration - whose medical opinion are we listening to as it pertains to getting back to in person school safely? Are you listening to the small vocal group of covid expert teachers who "FEEL" it is unsafe and threatening with job actions and saying they refuse to return? The burden of proof lies on these small vocal teachers who continue to say they feel "unsafe". Or are you listening to medical doctors? The students of public school district 205 have unequal access to in-person learning. Parents and students should be given a choice. The choice should not be forced upon us out of fear. We need solutions and options. Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>
11/17/2020 18:49:09	The Quiet Majority	<p>Thank you to the school board and the administration for their tireless effort on navigating these unprecedented times for our community youth. Your continued trailblazing efforts to return our students to school is commendable, and this community should take a breath and thank each of you for your all of your efforts. District 205 was the first district to return to hybrid which was a resounding success but was unfortunately one of the first districts to return to remote learning upon reaching the metrics set forth in the initial Open 205 plan. It is understandable that there is now additional review of these metrics now that D205 has had experience of the hybrid model and understanding the risks involved. The Board and Administration should continue to evolve and adjust, and do their best with the information at hand.</p> <p>However, the continued armchair quarterbacking by the entitled parents in this community is becoming exhausting and beyond reproach. For those paying attention since this summer, it is obvious that the Board and Administration is committed to returning the students to the classroom, but don't have the luxury of flipping a switch when dealing with staffing issues, a combative leader of the Teachers Union, and numerous liability issues, which seems to be lost on those who take social media noise for facts and have not yet put their names in the running for the next school board election. To the board and the administration, we say stay the course...make adjustments as needed, keep communicating to the community, and keep students well-being as your priority. To the visceral, loud, obnoxious voices on both sides, we say take a breath and show some grace. Get off social media and reach out and ask what you can do to help. Your whining temper-tantrums set a sorry example for your kids and may cause permanent damage to the fabric of this community.</p>
11/17/2020 19:21:04	Carrie Martin	<p>I have three children in d205 in first, third and seventh grade. I'm seeing each of them struggle in different ways being 100 percent remote. I'm seeing signs of burn out and fatigue, tears of frustration, scribbling on assignments, and loss of excitement to learn and go to school. I ask that you please work together to create a plan to get the students who want and need to be in person back in the classroom. Given the approaches, willingness, and success in other districts, states, and countries and their ability to keep schools open safely I am confident there is a way and I am disappointed that we have seemed to make no progress toward returning to in person school. We need to prioritize our children's education.</p>