

Timestamp	First and Last Name	Please enter your comment
4/26/2021 11:28:01	Meredith Vogel	Thank you to the board for your leadership over the past year. The community understands it has not been easy. Your BOE President election is scheduled for tomorrow. I've heard many of the existing board members tell the community we are in a time of rebuilding and regaining the trust back. As part of this rebuilding, I strongly recommend that the new board considers new leadership. We need change and we need new leadership. The community would like this board to demonstrate that your words are carried out through actions. Do not leave your board leadership as status quo. This rebuilding process you speak of is only going to be successful with a new leader. Each and every board member can and will continue to add value. I highly encourage the board to consider, vote and approve a new BOE President. We need change.
4/26/2021 22:53:33	Elizabeth Thompson	We as a community and school district need to continue to question whether what we are doing makes sense and what messages we are sending our kids. We seem to have lost site of a lot of things during Covid-19. Since when is it ok to have kids eat on the cafeteria floor or shivering outside on the sidewalk? Since when is it ok to have children exclude others from a game because there are already 2 people playing? Since when is it ok to make middle school kids carry 20 lb backpacks in laps around the school due to 1 way hallways and no lockers? Since when is it ok to not allow kids to sit with friends and socialize? These are only a few examples of the rules we have imposed on the students of this district. What is the basis of these rules and are they putting students first? I ask the BOE and administration to re-examine all of these procedures and truly understand what a day in this district looks like from a student perspective. We need to be focused on letting kids get back to normal. It is past time. We need to acknowledge the trauma and disappointments this past 14 months has caused and stop these procedures and rules that continue to negatively impact the day to day lives of the students. These are not based on science. Please take a hard look at these directives and take action immediately to change them.
4/27/2021 8:37:50	Marianne Boyke	Please vote in Jim Collins for board President. We need a change. And that change needs to be with someone that actually represents the parents and community and acts in the best interests of our children. It should not be someone that simply sits back and says nothing but calls time for comments. It must be someone that advocates hard on our childrens' behalf. If there ever was need for change, it is now. We need a backbone at the helm. Someone that will actually speak up and act. Not just sit idle while the ship sinks. That's not a leader. VOTE JIM COLLINS FOR PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD.

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4/27/2021 13:46:41	Jean Hogan	<p>Imposing restrictions on children for the benefit of adults was always unethical. Continuing the restrictions when vaccinations are available to all adults is absolutely wrong. We are making children carry a burden they shouldn't have to carry in order to make adults feel safe and to seemingly protect already vaccinated adults. Stop treating children like vectors of a disease. Stop asking them to take one for the team. The guidance from the health department is just GUIDANCE. Be leaders, be a district that is child focused and puts the student's well being first. You know these NPI's aren't necessary. There is no evidence that they work to prevent the spread of Covid. At this point there needs to be a transparent debate in leadership over costs and benefits of extended mask use and other NPI's now that vaccines are widely available. Close contact quarantines, no lockers so kids have to carry a 20lb backpack, making kids sit alone at lunch, kids masked outside during recess, yelled at for playing tag, reprimanded for having their masks slip under their noses or not facing forward while eating. Our children are constantly getting in trouble for being children. Why are we unnecessarily punishing our kids when current studies have put outside transmission at 1/1000 and asymptomatic spread .7% of all cases. This has to stop.</p> <p>Furthermore, I hope the BOE and District are aware of Illinois HB2789 which would give all decision making power to IDPH in terms of closing schools and implementing "guidance" when the state deems there is a "public health emergency". This is a massive overreach of our Government. The decision making power needs to stay in our community where we have elected representation.</p>
4/27/2021 17:47:59	Rebecca Harpster	<p>I am writing in advance of the board meeting tonight, where officers will be designated. I believe that the people who elected you have resoundingly spoken. The top vote getter from the 2021 election got nearly 1,300 more votes than the top vote getter from the 2019 election. The community is highly engaged and that is why so many more votes were cast. The president of the board received the third highest votes in the recent election because people are disappointed with the leadership of this board. The fact that, after telling the community that a plan for the 2021-22 school year would be announced in April, you have nothing on the agenda for this evening speaks volumes about the leadership abilities of this board. The community, and most importantly, the students of D205 deserve to know what the plan is for next year. If no plan is announced, should we all just assume the status quo for next year? More excessive quarantines, more masks on the playground, more saliva screening, more carrying 25 pound backpacks around middle school, more sitting the same direction for lunch and not getting to choose whom you sit with, more walking to the right only, even if your next class is only one classroom to the left, more wearing super-filtered choir masks that make kids feel like they can't breathe, more bringing elementary Chromebooks home for charging rather than leaving them at school in the expensive charging stations that taxpayers bought?</p> <p>I am thrilled our children are back in school full time, but there is much more work to be done. The leaders of the board have shown that they aren't capable of leading through this process, as they can't even get the administration to present a plan for next year by the date they requested. And now we require someone who will advocate for our children. Someone who will meet with leaders in other districts, someone who will instruct the administration to start collecting data on quarantines, someone who will work with the DuPage County Board of Health, the IDPH and the ISBE to try to implement change for our students. We need a leader who is prepared to do this. And we can't wait any longer.</p> <p>Thanks for your time, Becca Harpster</p>