



EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS

Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow

March 2, 2021

Cassie Buchman
Reporter - Northwest Herald

Ms. Buchman:

On February 23, 2021, you sent an email request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) seeking records from Crystal Lake Elementary District 47 ("District"). In your FOIA you requested:

- any questions, comments, complaints received by District 47 and its school board members about a Facebook post made by school board candidate Cascia Talbert on Thursday, Feb. 11 about ignoring COVID-19 quarantine guidelines sent to the school. I am also requesting any responses the district or school board gave to these comments and any communication including the school board about the post.

Pursuant to FOIA 5 ILCS 140/2(c-5), items have been redacted as information is private and exempt from FOIA.

To the extent you consider this response a denial to your request; you have the right to have the denial reviewed by the Public Access Counselor (PAC) at the Office of the Illinois Attorney General. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a). You can file your Request for Review with the PAC by writing to: Public Access Counselor, Office of the Attorney General, 500 South 2nd Street Springfield, Illinois 62706, Fax: 217-782-1396 or email publicaccess@atg.state.il.us. If you choose to file a Request for Review with the PAC, you must do so within 60 calendar days after the date of the denial letter. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a) and include your original request.

The information provided fulfills our obligation to your FOIA request. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me 815-788-5000.

Sincerely,

Clare F. Bourne
Freedom of Information Officer
Crystal Lake School District 47

300 Commerce Dr. Crystal Lake, IL 60014 815.788.5000

www.d47.org D47schools [crystallakesd47](https://twitter.com/crystallakesd47)

FOIA Request-Northwest Herald

Inbox

11:17 AM

(25

minutes

ago)

**Cassie Buchman -
Crystal Lake**
<cbuchman@shawmedia.com>

to me

Hello,

My name is Cassie Buchman and I am a reporter with the Northwest Herald. I hope this email finds you well.

I am requesting, through the Freedom of Information Act, any questions, comments, complaints received by District 47 and its school board members about a Facebook post made by school board candidate Cascia Talbert on Thursday, Feb. 11 about ignoring COVID-19 quarantine guidelines sent to the school. I am also requesting any responses the district or school board gave to these comments and any communication including the school board about the post.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Cassie Buchman

Reporter-Northwest Herald

C: (224) 622-7534

cbuchman@shawmedia.com

From: Vicky K <[REDACTED]>
Date: Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 9:10 PM
Subject: Re: Increase in In-person Learning & Concerning Social Media Post
To: Les, Betsy <bales@d47.org>
CC: Hinz, Kathy <khinz@d47.org>

Thank you very much for the details. I was concerned before but feel safe about allowing my daughter to continue in person.

Thank you also for the clarification about what happens with someone running for the board. I appreciate your time in sending this response.

Vicky
Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 18, 2021, at 7:35 PM, Les, Betsy <bales@d47.org> wrote:

Hi Vicky!

Thank you for reaching out to the Board of Education with your concerns regarding this Facebook post. We were made aware of it earlier today and our District administration immediately communicated with this parent. As a District, we will continue to follow all procedures and protocols regarding quarantining and contact tracing as outlined by the Illinois Department of Public Health.

We have been very clear that we will add as many students to our classrooms as space allows. We have, and will continue, to make the wearing of face masks, social distancing, rigid cleaning procedures, frequent hand washing and the use of hand sanitizer a priority in our schools. Unfortunately we currently have a waiting list of students who have requested a switch to in-person learning that we do not have space for. Our administration is looking at other possible solutions which may involve using larger spaces for some classes or adding additional staff but we will not compromise our mitigation practices.

Lastly, a school district is not able to control who runs for the elected positions of school board members. Any interested person may file the required nominating petitions and have their name placed on the ballot. It is ultimately a decision made by the voters who reside in D47 boundaries. This will take place on April 6.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

My best,
Betsy Les, D47 Board of Education Vice-president

Thank you very much for the details. I was concerned before but feel safe about allowing my daughter to continue in person.

Thank you also for the clarification about what happens with someone running for the board. I appreciate your time in sending this response.

Vicky

Hinz, Kathy
<khinz@d47.org>
Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 7:10 AM
To: Vicky K <[REDACTED]>

Good morning,

I see that Dr. Les was quicker to respond than I but I wanted you to know that I received and have read your email. I concur with Dr. Les' response and am happy to hear that you feel safe to continue sending your daughter to school. I hope that you have a great day and please don't hesitate to contact me again in the future if you have any questions.

Kathy J Hinz, Ed. D.
Superintendent

On Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 8:11 PM Vicky K <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Good evening,

I am a concerned parent of a child in district 47 and an educator. My first concern address the increase of in-person students. The wording in an email sent to families made it seem that now that staff members have received their first vaccination, as many students as possible were going to be allowed in person. Will safety measures still be in place? Will social distancing still be practiced? I am all for in-person learning, as long as it is done safely. It sounded as if the safety of staff is more important than our students and their families. There is no vaccine yet for our children and not all families have been vaccinated yet.

I understand that these times we are in are very stressful and uncertain but what I saw today is unacceptable. It was brought to my attention that someone who is running for a school board position made a post encouraging parents to NOT report if their child has tested positive for COVID. I was absolutely appalled and disgusted at the thought of someone with this irresponsible attitude should be allowed to be a member of the school board. This is not how our district should be represented. This person should not be allowed to continue to run for a position for the safety of our students and our families.

Vicky Kosydar

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kelli Wegener** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 10:21 AM
Subject: FB Group Demanding In-Person School

To: clalberth@d47.org <clalberth@d47.org>, Denise Barr <dcbarr@d47.org>, Robert Fetzner <[REDACTED]>, <rfetzner@d47.org>

I thought you should be aware of this Facebook group and what they are pushing to our residents.

I am not part of the group, but know someone who is, and she sent me this info.

Thank you!

Kelli Wegener

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: **Barr, Denise** <dcbarr@d47.org>

Date: Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 1:21 PM

Subject: Re: Email

To: Belrichard, Amy <abelrichard@d47.org>Cc: Compere, Angela <accompere@d47.org>, Kathy Hinz <khinz@d47.org>

Thank you, Amy. Great job outlining the situation and full of facts.

On Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 1:07 PM Belrichard, Amy <abelrichard@d47.org> wrote:

My response would include info- such as 'our policies and procedures are not D47 specific, but that we are following IDPH and ISBE guidelines for public schools'. I'm happy to provide that to you and point out the specific sections. As a public school we are required to follow these guidelines. I would include that anyone within a 6 foot radius of a known positive for 15 mins or more is considered a close contact- this generally does not occur at school, but occurs often on the bus. We do not quarantine whole buses; however, it may seem that way- as the 2 times her student's have been involved- the positive student was in the middle of the bus, causing the need for about 1/2 the bus needing to be quarantined. It really just depends on where the positive student is sitting compared to other students. The very front and back of her students' bus were not quarantined. This is the same with students at Bernotas, as we both use TJA and they are the ones to tell us who is identified within 6 ft of the positive student. However, if a positive student sits in the back of the bus, only about 1/3 of the bus is quarantined. I would go on to state that not all of our educators (or a #/%) are able to be vaccinated or chose NOT to be vaccinated and they have only had 1 dose of the 2 required. This means there is still a possibility of them acquiring COVID, if within close contact. Additionally, that only includes teachers and does not reflect student illness or their ability to catch it. Maybe even include that many calls were received by other parents NOT wanting their student at school, if her students were there. Student's symptoms tend to be very mild and although we are not aware of 'super-spreaders' this does not mean that spreading it does not occur and actually would occur more often in the student population because many are not even aware they have it/are asymptomatic. We keep the social distancing and mask wearing in place- again IDPH and ISBE guidelines, so we are not spreading COVID to those who are unable to be vaccinated, such as children. Our purpose is NOT to instill fear, but to ensure the safety of LMS so we can remain open. Because it can take up to 14 days to develop symptoms, we are required to quarantine her students' that long per IDPH/ISBE guidance. Let me know if/what you need in terms of supporting documents.

Thanks!

Amy Belrichard, MSN, RN, PEL-NCSN

Certified School Nurse

On Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 12:39 PM Compere, Angela <accompere@d47.org> wrote:

To: Kathy Hinz <khinz@d47.org>, Barr, Denise <dcbarr@d47.org>, Amy Belrichard <abelrichard@d47.org>

This is what I received from mom today at noon. Thoughts on the response?

Angie

Cascia Talbert to me, Christopher

I am extremely upset with how your school and D47 reacts when there is a positive covid case on a bus. There is no reason to quarantine a whole bus just because one child is sick. You are placing fear ahead of the best interests of the other children on that bus.

The Covid virus isn't that different from other viruses. We have learned alot about it over the past year. Kids are not super spreaders. Yes some people die from Covid. People also die from other viruses like the flu. My grandfather died of pneumonia which usually starts with the common cold virus. Do we have to quarantine when there is a cold outbreak or flu outbreak? If you are sick you stay home. That is common sense. My [REDACTED] are not sick. They are not going to spread covid. By making them stay home you are only protecting those that are fearful of the Covid virus.

The teachers are not in danger if my boys attend school. They were offered the vaccine already, so they should be fine. By making my [REDACTED] stay home you are saying that the vaccine does not work.

My [REDACTED] practice social distancing and wear masks on the bus. I thought masks and social distancing help to stop the spread of covid. By making my [REDACTED] stay home you are saying that masks and social distancing does not work. If that is the case then they shouldn't be forced to sit away from the other students on the bus and wear a mask.

Your school and D47 is not using any common sense. These ridiculous policies are only protecting the fearful.

Why is one school (Lundahl) enforcing the bus quarantine when another school is not? I spoke with a parent of a child that attends Bernodas and she told me that there was a covid case on her son's bus, but the school did not make the whole bus quarantine. If that school has the same policy as Lundahl, I am assuming they do because you are in the same district, then why are they not enforcing it? Why are you enforcing it? This does not make any sense.

Now back to my main point. My [REDACTED] need to be in school. They both have [REDACTED] and can not learn remotely. Their grades will prove my point. My [REDACTED] is supposed to be in the class room so that his behavior can be observed for his transition to High School. The High School needs more data in order to make sure that [REDACTED] is successful there. By keeping [REDACTED] home you are depriving the HS of important data that they need in order to do their job to help [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] needs to be in school.

[REDACTED] has [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] needs extra help with a teacher to improve his reading and writing skills. I know [REDACTED] has fallen behind in this area because he was learning remotely. The teacher has been doing a fantastic job with the tools that she has for remote learning. However, I am sure we can both agree that [REDACTED] would benefit more with in person learning.

It is my hope that your school will reconsider the quarantining of a whole bus. All the kids on that bus deserve to be at school for in person learning. If Bernodas can bend this rule, Lundahl can too. Please don't punish the healthy kids just because they were on the same bus as a child that got sick.

If you force my [REDACTED] to quarantine until March 1, I will be excusing them from school until they are let back into the building. Learning remotely for them is just the same as not going to school at all.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cascia Talbert

Avon Independent Sales Representative

Avoncrystallake.com

shop here

[REDACTED]

My Other Websites

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: **Jonyce Ruiz** <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 2:07 PM

Subject: Candidate for District 47 Board

To: RFetzner@d47.org esmith@d47.org bales@d47.org jpowell@d47.org jpellikan@d47.org cwadlington@d47.org rpfarrell@d47.org Denise Barr <dcbarr@d47.org>, Hinz, Kathy <khinz@d47.org>: accompere@d47.org, mlmerritt@d47.org, acarvell@d47.org

Good afternoon Mr. Fetzner,

I am bringing this to your attention, as I was appalled when I read the attached post from a candidate for the upcoming D47 election. While we are in what often seems like a no-win situation; policies are created to specifically keep our community safe. These policies are not new and have been with us for nearly a year.

What Mrs. Talbert posted on social media has far reaching consequences beyond just those in her circle. Many of us have been impacted by Covid in one way or another, however, having someone blatantly disregard policy, demonstrate and encourage reckless behavior is only going to exacerbate the problem we face with the pandemic. Her children are in classes with mine and often have issues with boundaries even when social distancing isn't required, which only amplifies my concern on this matter. Should her children have Covid due to that exposure on the bus, then go to school and potentially infect others in their classes; my family is now at risk. As are families of the children in the classes at Lundahl. The potential outbreak from her arrogance could impede all the progress we have made over the last several months.

I wanted to make sure you were aware of this situation. I am unsure what you can or can't do, but it is important to me that you all are aware of her behavior and her encouragement of others to do the same. I do not know how far her influence spreads, but the group she posted this in has nearly 900 members.

This woman will NOT have my vote in April and I will make sure everyone in my circle is aware of her behavior.

Thank you,

Jonyce

Barr, Denise <dcbarr@d47.org>

Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 4:09 PM

To: "Fetzner, Robert" <rfetzner@d47.org> Cc: "Hinz, Kathy" <khinz@d47.org>

Good to know. Thanks, Rob.

Compere, Angela <accompere@d47.org>

Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 8:27 PM

To: Jonyce Ruiz <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Melinda Merritt <mlmerritt@d47.org>, Angela Carvell <acarvell@d47.org>

Thank you for reaching out to me about this post. We were aware of the post first thing this morning and understand your concerns. We have and have had safety protocols in place and are following those protocols so that no students were in close contact regarding this situation. Our student and staff safety is our number one priority. Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Angie Compere

From: **S Dyson** <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 4:37 PM

Subject: Concerns

To: Denise Barr <dcbarr@d47.org>, Kathy Hinz <khinz@d47.org>, Robert Fetzner <rfetzner@d47.org>, lbauer@d47.org <lbauer@d47.org>, ldavidson@d47.org <ldavidson@d47.org>, raalt@d47.org <raalt@d47.org>

I know that the district, the board, and the leadership teams at individual schools have worked tirelessly to safely reopen our schools. I appreciate the continued efforts and the open stream of communication about the safety procedures put in place throughout the district.

As both an educator and a parent, I see both sides of this challenge, and I know what kind of time and energy goes into balancing the need to protect the health of the students and the community, as a whole, while also reopening the doors of our schools to tend to the academic, social, and emotional well-being of the children. Thank you for all that you have done and are doing! We see your efforts and have confidence in the district's desire to adhere to the standards for reopening established by the department of health.

However, not everyone in the community is as committed to lessening the spread of covid-19. In fact, some parents in the community are actively trying to undermine all of these efforts and are encouraging others to do the same. I felt the need to reach out and share with you all a rather concerning Facebook post that came to my attention this morning. I have attached it below. The woman who wrote the post has children who attend D47 schools. Her call for other parents to disregard the safety measures and policies put in place by the district is reckless and selfish.

My own family and many others in the community considered making the switch back to in-person learning for 3rd trimester because of our confidence in the district's efforts. Though my husband and I ultimately decided to keep our kids home for consistency, other families in our community made a different choice. Their decision was based on their belief that the schools and the parents connected to the schools would act responsibly and appropriately to

ensure a safe environment. If I knew that a parent in my child's school was behaving as Cascia Talbert is, I would not feel comfortable allowing my child to return to the building. Additionally, I would be greatly concerned for the safety of my child's teachers and friends. They should not be forced into that position of greater risk either.

If District 47 is serious about protecting our community, then something needs to be done to address the kind of self-serving disregard demonstrated by Cascia Talbert and other parents like her. I hope the district recognizes the threat they pose to others and takes steps to reinforce the need for compliance and consideration.

Sincerely,
Sarah Dyson
[REDACTED]

Good afternoon,

Thank you for sharing this. We were made aware of the post first thing this morning. We have had and will continue to implement and follow our health and safety protocol for the protection of all students and staff. This applies to the situation mentioned in this post. Specifically, we do not allow students who are quarantining to be included in the in-person classes. We will continue to follow our protocols so that we can maintain our in-person option and prioritize the health and safety of students and staff. Thank you for your support and understanding and for bringing this to our attention. Your partnership with us is greatly appreciated.

Kathy J Hinz, Ed. D.

Superintendent

From: **Misty Armenta** <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 7:41 PM

Subject: Re:

To: Barr, Denise <webmaster@d47.org>

Parents need to stop reporting covid cases is a very strong statement/opinion. This is definitely a statement/opinion not acceptable for someone running for the school board.

That's my opinion.

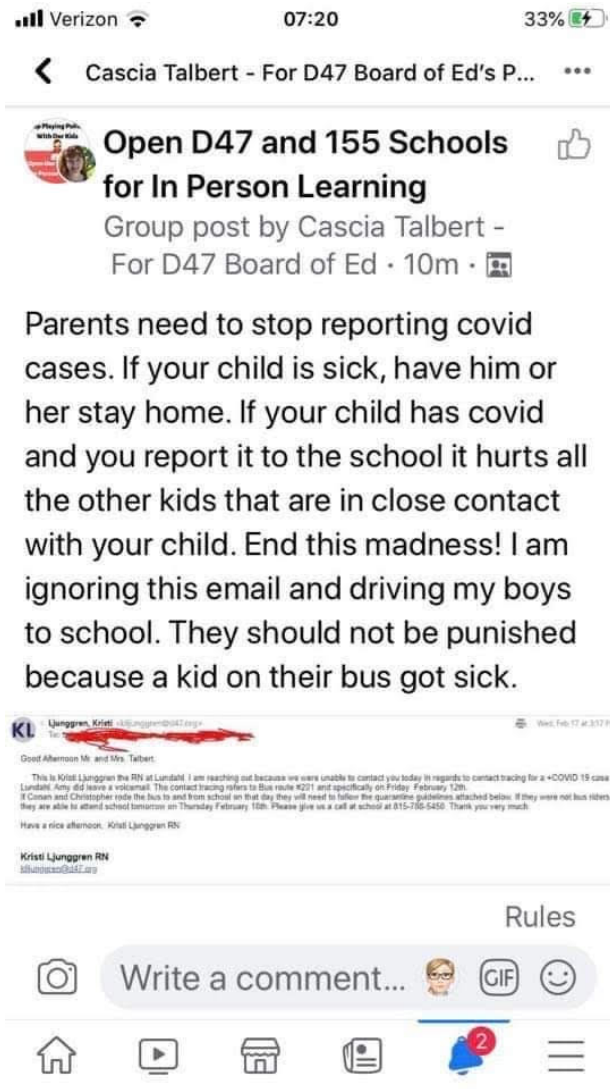
On Feb 18, 2021, at 2:19 PM, Barr, Denise <webmaster@d47.org> wrote:

Thank you. We are aware this was posted. We will continue to adhere to our health and safety protocols to protect our students and staff. That being said, everyone has a right to their opinion including community members running for the school board.

On Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 1:56 PM Misty Armenta <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Is this something someone running for a place in d47 should be saying? Cascia Talbert is the poster on this Facebook page.

Sent from my iPhone



From: Alberth, Cathy <clalberth@d47.org>

Date: Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 12:47 PM

Subject: Re: FB Group Demanding In-Person School

To: Kelli Wegener <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Denise Barr <debarr@d47.org>, Robert Fetzner <robert.fetzner@fetznerlaw.com>, Fetzner, Robert <rfetzner@d47.org>

Thank you, Kelli. I appreciate you letting us know.

Cathy Alberth
She/Her Principal

On Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 10:21 AM Kelli Wegener <[REDACTED]> wrote:

I thought you should be aware of this Facebook group and what they are pushing to our residents.

I am not part of the group, but know someone who is, and she sent me this info.

Thank you!

Kelli Wegener

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Hinz, Kathy** <khinz@d47.org>

Date: Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 7:18 AM

Subject: Re: FYI

To: Deborah Kirk <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Steve Olson <[REDACTED]>

Good morning,

I have blind copied the D47 BOE on my reply in order to keep them in the loop of communication yet not violate the Open Meetings Act (OMA). I have left Mr. Olson on the email but removed his BOE to allow him to communicate with his BOE as he sees fit and not violate the OMA. The email was brought to our attention first thing yesterday morning by our community. I appreciate you taking the time to send it to us as well. Thank you!

Kathy J Hinz, Ed. D. *Superintendent*

On Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 7:06 AM Deborah Kirk <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dear D47/D155 Board Members and Superintendents

I facilitate a page called Parents for Safety, Education, and Transparency which has residents from multiple Lake County areas. This popped up on my page and while someone is entitled to feel however they want, I do not feel they are entitled to put other people at risk. This is blatant disregard for everyone's safety. Hopefully others in the D47/D155 community have alerted you to this already, but if they haven't I hope this is something that can be addressed by the superintendent(s)

Thank you,

Deborah

Hinz, Kathy<khinz@d47.org>

Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 7:18 AM

To: Deborah Kirk <[REDACTED]>Cc: Steve Olson <[REDACTED]>Bcc: Board Of Education <boe@d47.org>

Good morning,

I have blind copied the D47 BOE on my reply in order to keep them in the loop of communication yet not violate the OpenMeetings Act (OMA). I have left Mr. Olson on the email but removed his BOE to allow him to communicate with his BOEs as he sees fit and not violate the OMA. The email was brought to our attention first thing yesterday morning by our community. I appreciate you taking the time to send it to us as well. Thank you!

Kathy J Hinz, Ed
Superintendent

Hinz, Kathy<khinz@d47.org>

Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 4:01 PM

To: Theresa Artman <[REDACTED]>

Good afternoon,

Thank you for sharing this. We were made aware of the post this morning. We have had and continue to implement and follow our health and safety protocol for the protection of all students and staff. This applies to the situation mentioned in this post. We do not allow students who are quarantining to be in in-person classes. We will continue to follow our protocols so that we can maintain our in-person option. I thank you for your support and for bringing this to my attention - I appreciate it.

Kathy J Hinz, Ed. D.
Superintendent

On Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 3:48 PM Theresa Artman <[REDACTED]> wrote:

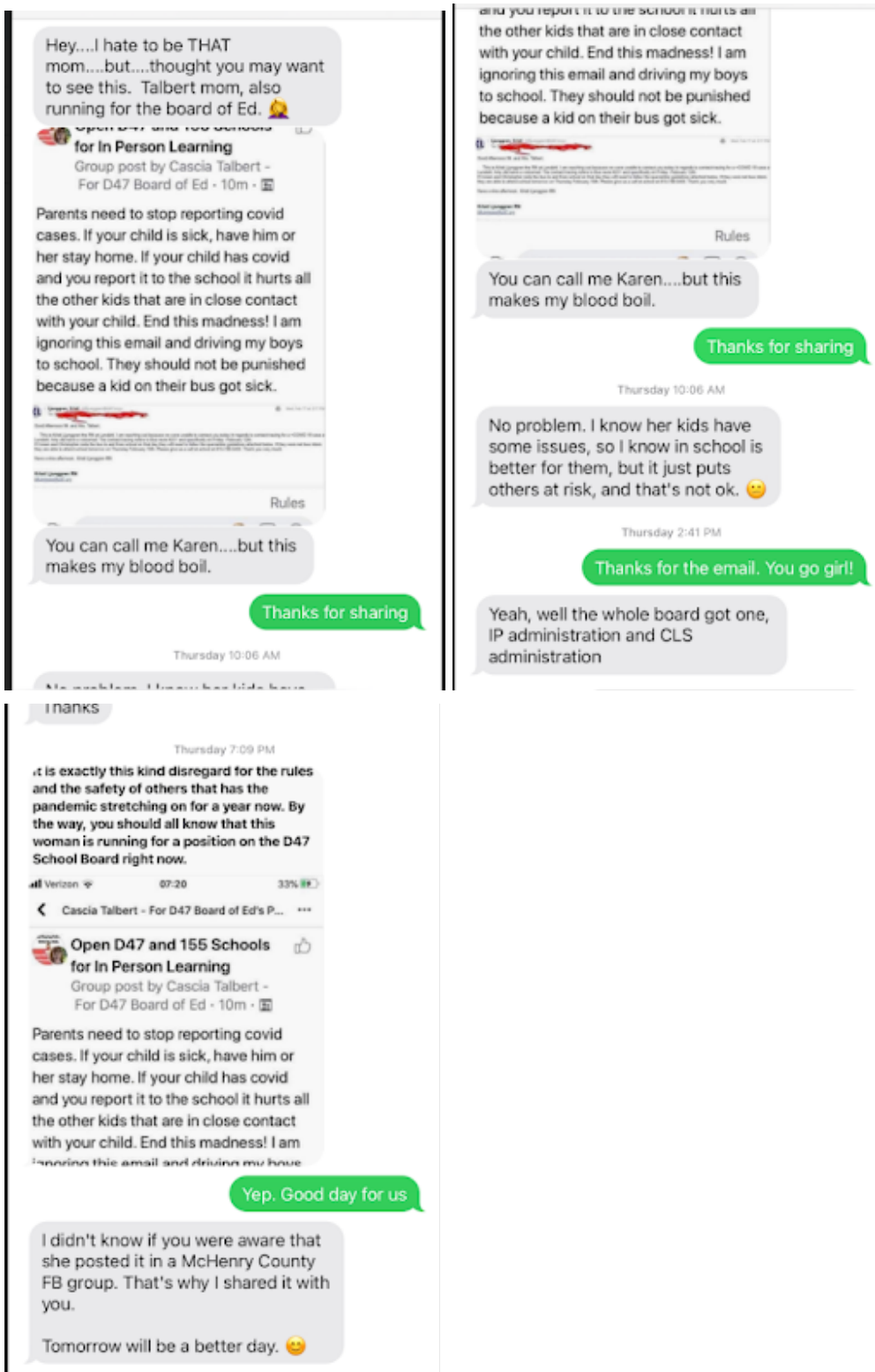
Dear Dr. Hinz,

I just want to bring to your attention, a parent in our district, who is posting and encouraging parents not to report COVID cases to the schools. The parent also made a point that she would still be taking her children to school, despite the close contact letter she received. I want schools open fully, I want my kids to be able to be in person, however, if parents continue to disregard the health department recommendations, that will not happen. If a parent receives a letter regarding close contact, how can that child still attend in person? The whole point of contact tracing and identifying close contacts is to keep the spread down, to keep cases down, so our district can continue with hybrid in-person learning. Is our district just allowing students, who received a letter, back in person

without quarantining or receiving a doctor's note? I would like to think that is not the case, but apparently parents are trying it. Below I have included the screen shot of the Facebook post.

Thank you,

Theresa Artman



Hinz, Kathy
<khinz@d47.org>

To: JoAnn Larsen <[REDACTED]>

Cc: "klljunggren@d47.org" <klljunggren@d47.org>

Thank you for sharing this. We were made aware of the post this morning. We have had and continue to implement and follow our health and safety protocol for the protection of all students situation mentioned in this post. Again, thank you for sharing this. We will continue to follow our protocols so that we can maintain our in-person option.

Kathy J Hinz, Ed. D.
Superintendent

On Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 7:24 AM JoAnn Larsen <[REDACTED]>

> wrote:

I am currently on a Facebook group that wants D47 and d155 open. This is a post that appeared this morning I am hopeful that she did not have her children on the bus but it does not appear to be taken and that we can figure out a way to not allow the children who are supposed to be quarantined in school. Or maybe you already do this when you send the note I don't know.

To: "Sauck, Jennifer" <jsauck@d47.org>

Thanks for sharing - we are on it

Kathy J Hinz, Ed. D.
Superintendent

On Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 8:05 AM Sauck, Jennifer <jsauck@d47.org> wrote:
Thought you might find this interesting. She's running for the BOE, I believe.

Barr, Denise
<dcbarr@d47.org>

Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 8:11 AM

To: Kathy Hinz <khinz@d47.org>

FYI (see attached screenshot). Talbert's FB page has 70 followers.

----- Forwarded message -----

From:

Seisser, Alexis <acseisser@d47.org>

Date: Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 7:58 AM

Subject: Fwd:

To: Barr, Denise <dcbarr@d47.org>, John Jacobsen <jmjacobsen@d47.org>, Karla Reinhardt <kreinhardt@d47.org>

She's a helpful gal!

Alexis Seisser
Administrative Assistant

Hinz, Kathy <khinz@d47.org>

Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 10:13 AM

To: Alex Fulton <[REDACTED]>

Good morning,

Thank you for sharing this. We were made aware of the post this morning. We have had and continue to implement and follow our health and safety protocol for the protection of all students and staff. This applies to the situation mentioned in this post. Again, thank you for sharing this. We will continue to follow our protocols so that we can maintain our in-person option.

Kathy J Hinz, Ed. D.
Superintendent

On Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 8:36 AM Alex Fulton <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dr. Hinz,

I am appalled to see parents of children in our district deliberately disobeying public health recommendations. How can we ever feel comfortable sending our kids to school knowing this is happening?

I sincerely hope this is addressed. I will be following up with you to find out.

Alex Fulton

Hinz, Kathy <khinz@d47.org>

Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 12:26 PM

To: Jeffrey Gages <[REDACTED]>

Thank you

Kathy J Hinz, Ed. D.
Superintendent

On Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 11:46 AM Jeffrey Gages <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Thank you again I do appreciate it. I know you and your team have a hard job of mitigating all of this, but just know there are parents in your corner.

Jeff

From:

Hinz, Kathy <khinz@d47.org>

Sent:

Thursday, February 18, 2021 11:44 AM

To:

Jeffrey Gages <[REDACTED]>

Subject:

Re: Thought You Should Be Aware

No problem. Thank you for contacting Facebook to report the inappropriateness of the post and request the group be taken down. I really appreciate your support to address the behavior on multiple fronts. We do have steps in place as part of our protocols for non-compliance and appreciate that you understand I can't share those. Please reach out anytime. Thank you.

Kathy J Hinz, Ed. D.
Superintendent

On Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 11:33 AM Jeffrey Gages <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Thank you for the fast response I do appreciate it.

I know for privacy reasons you cannot divulge any steps taken to address ignorant people like this, but this person is an administrator for the facebook page where this was posted. I have already reported it to facebook as well to shut the group down.

I just hope that the schools have some means of disciplining people like this for putting others in harmsway - this is a threat to our students and faculty and should be addressed equally as harsh as any other threat made to endanger the safety of others.

Jeff

From:

Hinz, Kathy <khinz@d47.org> Sent:

Thursday, February 18, 2021 11:24 AM

To: Jeffrey Gages <[REDACTED]>

Cc: solson@d155.org <[REDACTED]>

Subject:

Re: Thought You Should Be Aware

Good morning,

Thank you for sharing this. We were made aware of the post this morning. We have had and continue to implement and follow our health and safety protocol for the protection of all students and staff. This applies to the situation mentioned in this post. We will continue to follow our protocols so that we can maintain our in-person option. I thank you for your support and understanding.

Kathy J Hinz, Ed. D.

Superintendent

On Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 11:17 AM Jeffrey Gages <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hi Steve and Kathy,

I know the schools are doing their best to keep our kids safe, but unfortunately we can't control ignorant parents who seem to have no problem putting others at risk.

I thought you should be aware of this parent who posted on social media. This is unacceptable. If I find out this kid is on the bus with my kid or anyone's close to me (and not reporting symptoms), I will take this to whatever board necessary to get this family banned from in-person learning. This is BS.

Thnx,

Jeff

Barr, Denise <dcbarr@d47.org>

Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 1:21 PM

To: "Belrichard, Amy" <abelrichard@d47.org>

Cc: "Compere, Angela" <accompere@d47.org>, Kathy Hinz <khinz@d47.org>

Thank you, Amy. Great job outlining the situation and full of facts.

On Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 1:07 PM Belrichard, Amy <abelrichard@d47.org> wrote:

My response would include info- such as 'our policies and procedures are not D47 specific, but that we are following IDPH and ISBE guidelines for public schools'. I'm happy to provide that to you and point out the specific sections.

As a public school we are required to follow these guidelines. I would include that anyone within a 6 foot radius of a known positive for 15 mins or more is considered a close contact- this generally does not occur at school, but occurs often on the bus. We do not quarantine whole buses; however, it may seem that way- as the 2 times her student's have been involved- the positive student was in the middle of the bus, causing the need for about 1/2 the bus needing to be quarantined. It really just depends on where the positive student is sitting compared to other students. The very front and back of her students' bus were not quarantined. This is the same with students at Bernotas, as we both use TJA and they are the ones to tell us who is identified within 6 ft of the positive student. However, if a positive student sits

in the back of the bus, only about 1/3 of the bus is quarantined. I would go on to state that not all of our educators (or a #/%) are able to be vaccinated or chose NOT to be vaccinated and they have only had 1 dose of the 2 required. This means there is still a possibility of them acquiring COVID, if within close contact. Additionally, that only includes teachers and does not reflect student illness or their ability to catch it. Maybe even include that many calls were received by other parents NOT wanting their student at school, if her students were there. Student's symptoms tend to be very mild and although we are not aware of 'super-spreaders' this does not mean that spreading it does not occur and actually would occur more often in the student population because many are not even aware they have it/are asymptomatic. We keep the social distancing and mask wearing in place- again IDPH and ISBE guidelines, so we are not spreading COVID to those who are unable to be vaccinated, such as children. Our purpose is NOT to instill fear, but to ensure the safety of LMS so we can remain open. Because it can take up to 14 days to develop symptoms, we are required to quarantine her students' that long per IDPH/ISBE guidance. Let me know if/what you need in terms of supporting documents.

Thanks!

Amy Belrichard, MSN, RN, PEL-NCSN
Certified School Nurse

On Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 12:39 PM Compere, Angela <accompere@d47.org> wrote:

This is what I received from mom today at noon. Thoughts on the response?
Angie

Cascia Talbert 12:02 PM (35 minutes ago) to me, Christopher

I am extremely upset with how your school and D47 reacts when there is a positive covid case on a bus. There is no reason to quarantine a whole bus just because one child is sick. You are placing fear ahead of the best interests of the other children on that bus.

The Covid virus isn't that different from other viruses. We have learned a lot about it over the past year. Kids are not superspreaders. Yes some people die from Covid. People also die from other viruses like the flu. My grandfather died of pneumonia which usually starts with the common cold virus. Do we have to quarantine when there is a cold outbreak or flu outbreak? If you are sick you stay home. That is common sense. My boys are not sick. They are not going to spread covid. By making them stay home you are only protecting those that are fearful of the Covid virus.

2/23/2021 Crystal Lake School District 47 Mail - Re: Email

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ik=4e1a2eda64&view=pt&search=all&permthid=thread-f%3A1692059405493689411%7Cmsg-f%3A1692062067120...> 2/3

The teachers are not in danger if my boys attend school. They were offered the vaccine already, so they should be fine. By making my boys stay home you are saying that the vaccine does not work.

My boys practice social distancing and wear masks on the bus. I thought masks and social distancing help to stop the spread of covid. By making my boys stay home you are saying that masks and social distancing does not work. If that is the case then they shouldn't be forced to sit away from the other students on the bus and wear a mask.

Your school and D47 is not using any common sense. These ridiculous policies are only protecting the fearful.

Why is one school (Lundahl) enforcing the bus quarantine when another school is not? I spoke with a parent of a child that attends Bernodas and she told me that there was a covid case on her son's bus, but the school did not make the whole bus quarantine. If that school has the same policy as Lundahl, I am assuming they do because you are in the same district, then why are they not enforcing it? Why are you enforcing it? This does not make any sense.

Now back to my main point. My boys need to be in school. They both have IEPs and can not learn remotely. Their grades will prove my point. My son, Conan is supposed to be in the class room so that his behavior can be observed for his transition to High School. The High School needs more data in order to make sure that he is successful there. By keeping him home you are depriving the HS of important data that they need in order to do their job to help Conan. He needs to be in school.

CJ has dyslexia and he needs extra help with a teacher to improve his reading and writing skills. I know he has fallen behind in this area because he was learning remotely. The teacher has been doing a fantastic job with the tools that

she has for remotelearning. However, I am sure we can both agree that he would benefit more with in person learning.

It is my hope that your school will reconsider the quarantining of a whole bus. All the kids on that bus deserve to be at school for in person learning. If Bernodas can bend this rule, Lundahl can too. Please don't punish the healthy kids just because they were on the same bus as a child that got sick.

If you force my boys to quarantine until March 1, I will be excusing them from school until they are let back into the building. Learning remotely for them is just the same as not going to school at all.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cascia Talbert

Avon Independent Sales Representative

avoncrystallake.com

shop here

[REDACTED]

My Other Websites

[REDACTED]

cjsfunandgames.com

Angie Compere

Principal

Erin Taylor <[REDACTED]>

Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 11:23 AM

To: "Compere, Angela" <accompere@d47.org>

Cc: Melinda Merritt <lmerritt@d47.org>, Angela Carvell <acarvell@d47.org>, "Dr. Kathy Hinz" <khinz@d47.org>

Thank you so much for the explanation, that makes me feel much better! I appreciate the response.

I will pass along the kind words to Elisabeth. She is doing well and looking at colleges. Hard to believe she's leaving the nest in a little over a year!

Erin

On Friday, February 19, 2021, 10:33 AM, Compere, Angela <accompere@d47.org> wrote:

Thank you for reaching out to me about this post. We were aware of the post first thing yesterday morning and understand your concerns with it. We have and have had safety protocols in place and are following those protocols so that no students were in close contact regarding this situation. If a quarantined student shows up to school, we quarantine them here at school until a parent can come pick them up from school. I hope this relieves some of your worry about this situation. Our student and staff safety is our priority and we do everything possible to keep everyone safe!

I also want to thank you for the kind words about our staff and our school. We LOVE having the kids back in the building and to hear that your kids are coming home smiling, makes my day! Thank you for reaching out and making us smile as we start our day! Please tell Elisabeth that I hope she is well and enjoying high school! We miss her here at LMS!

Sincerely,

Angie Compere

Principal

2/23/2021 Crystal Lake School District 47 Mail - Re: Concerns about social media post

On Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 8:32 AM Erin Taylor <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hello,

I am sharing a screenshot (not mine) from Facebook, of a fellow Lundahl and Indian Prairie parent, in which she claims she will ignore an email about the need to quarantine her bussed children and instead drive her kids to school.

You may have seen this post already. Since yesterday, I have seen multiple people on Facebook share it. She is my old neighbor and is generally an extremist who may or may not follow through with actions. I would hope she doesn't mean what she posted but I am concerned that if she does follow through, her rash actions could lead to additional children or staff contracting COVID-19.

Can you explain to me the attendance procedure and what would happen if a requested to be quarantined child were in the classroom? I - and likely many other concerned parents just need a little reassurance that our children are not sitting next to kids that shouldn't be there.

On Friday, February 19, 2021, 10:33 AM, Compere, Angela <accompere@d47.org> wrote:

Thank you for reaching out to me about this post. We were aware of the post first thing yesterday morning and understand your concerns with it. We have and have had safety protocols in place and are following those protocols so that no students were in close contact regarding this situation. If a quarantined student shows up to school, we quarantine them here at school until a parent can come pick them up from school. I hope this relieves some of your worry about this situation. Our student and staff safety is our priority and we do everything possible to keep everyone safe!

I also want to thank you for the kind words about our staff and our school. We LOVE having the kids back in the building and to hear that your kids are coming home smiling, makes my day! Thank you for reaching out and making us smile as we start our day! Please tell Elizabeth that I hope she is well and enjoying high school! We miss her here at LMS!

Sincerely,

Angie Compere

Erin Taylor <[REDACTED]>

Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 11:23 AM

To: "Compere, Angela" <accompere@d47.org>

Cc: Melinda Merritt <mlmerritt@d47.org>, Angela Carvell <acarvell@d47.org>, "Dr. Kathy Hinz" <khinz@d47.org>

Thank you so much for the explanation, that makes me feel much better! I appreciate the response.

I will pass along the kind words to Elisabeth. She is doing well and looking at colleges. Hard to believe she's leaving the nest in a little over a year!

Erin

To: "Compere, Angela" <accompere@d47.org>

Cc: "Barr, Denise" <dcbarr@d47.org>

That's good news.

Kathy J Hinz, Ed. D.

Superintendent

On Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 11:17 AM Compere, Angela <accompere@d47.org> wrote:

I will keep this for future reference but mom just arrived to pick up the boys. Thank you both for your help.

Angie Compere
Principal

On Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 11:06 AM Barr, Denise <dcbarr@d47.org> wrote:

I made a few edits also:

This is Angie Compere, the Principal at LMS. Please call me immediately. Your sons are currently in our quarantine room waiting for you to pick them up since they were told to quarantine and not to return to school until March 1st. We did receive your message that your boys did not ride the bus to school on Friday; however, the video from our bus cameras shows otherwise and that they were, in fact, on the bus Friday both to and from school. Therefore, immediately after being dropped off today, your boys were asked to relocate to our quarantine room for the health and safety of all students and staff. If you choose not to follow the protocols for being in-person, the district will change your children's status to remote learning. We look forward to seeing your sons again on March 1st assuming they don't develop symptoms.

Sincerely,
Angie Compere

Susan Karras <[REDACTED]>
Sun, Feb 21, 2021
To: "Hinz, Kathy" <khinz@d47.org>
Cc: Amanda Kurka <[REDACTED]>, Danielle Burck <[REDACTED]>, Michelle Bultmann <[REDACTED]>

Hi Kathy,
Just wanted to make you aware.
My staff have stated that your staff are following guidelines and cooperating fully with MCDH.
Please let us know if we can be of any further assistance.
Respectfully,
Susan
Susan L. Karras, MBA, BSN, RN
Director, Public Health Nursing
McHenry County Department of Health

From: Hinz, Kathy <khinz@d47.org>
Sent: Friday, February 19, 2021 2:55 PM
To: Susan Karras <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Re: FW: [EXTERNAL] concern

I sympathize. We've been dealing with parent calls and emails since yesterday when she posted that. I will confirm to you that we did follow protocols and maintaining quarantine and isolation of students.
Have a great weekend.
Kathy J Hinz, Ed. D.
Superintendent

On Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 2:07 PM Susan Karras <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hi Kathy,
We have received multiple complaints on the following.
Just wanted to make you aware.
Susan

Susan L. Karras, MBA, BSN, RN
Director, Public Health Nursing

From: Melissa Tatman [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 4:09 PM
To: Health-MB <[REDACTED]>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] concern

Hello! I am attaching a Facebook post by a person who is running for D47 school board. She also has a Facebook page that she is a co owner of: Open D47 and 155 Schools for in person learning.

The attached post is telling parents to not call their children into school if they've been exposed of Covid.

I'm not sure if the health department can do anything, but she has a large following and is running for the school board.

Thank you!

To: "Compere, Angela" <accompere@d47.org>, "Merritt, Melinda" <mlmerritt@d47.org>

Good afternoon,

I am sorry to be "this person" as I usually try to mind my own business and not make waves. This post was just sent to me from a relative and I am forwarding it to you both.

My son is on the same bus as this person's child and I am extremely concerned with what this means for him, the rest of the students on their bus and Lundahl school. I take covid seriously and have been very appreciative of how the district and Lundahl have worked so hard to keep our children safe. This post and behavior are unacceptable to me and I no longer feel like Alex is safe on this bus. His father and I will try to figure out alternative transportation for him for when he is considered safe to return to school but I wanted to make you aware that there may be students who are at school when they are being asked to stay home. We all want this to be over but we still need to follow the necessary guidelines so everyone is safe.

Have a good evening and thank you for all that you are doing during these crazy times.

Warm Regards,

Erica Kronke

Compere, Angela <accompere@d47.org>

Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 7:12 PM

To: Erica Kronke <[REDACTED]>

Cc: "Merritt, Melinda" <mlmerritt@d47.org>

Thank you for reaching out to me about this post. We were aware of the post first thing this morning and understand your concerns. We have and have had safety protocols in place and are following those protocols so that no students were in close contact regarding this situation. I understand your worry about the bus and understand trying to find an alternate option. Close contact occurs more often on the bus than in school due to the bus limitations. Please let me know if you have any further questions. I am happy to relieve concerns you have related to this topic.

Sincerely,

Angie Compere

Principal

Erica Kronke <[REDACTED]>

Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 7:54 PM

To: "Compere, Angela" <accompere@d47.org>

Thank you so much for your quick response. I know you have your hands full with so many extra responsibilities on top of your regular duties. I feel Alex is safe at school and he has validated this. I just wanted to make sure that no students were put in unnecessary danger because a parent doesn't like the guidelines. Thank you for working so hard to make Lundahl the best environment that this pandemic allows.

Warm Regards,
Erica Kronke

Compere, Angela <accompere@d47.org>

Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 10:14 AM

To: Erica Kronke <[REDACTED]>

Thank you for the kind words and the support. We are glad to have Alex back at school!

Angie
Angie Compere
Principal

Elizabeth Rank <[REDACTED]>

Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 2:51 AM

To: Mrs Ljunggren <kljunggren@d47.org>, Angela Compere <accompere@d47.org>

I thought you both would be interested in Mrs. Talbert's public comments. I'm sure other parents have come forward to let you know as well, but I felt it was important to share. I know how important it is to protect the school and community.

As an aside, I miss you both! Xx

Compere, Angela <accompere@d47.org> Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 10:15 AM

To: Elizabeth Rank <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Mrs Ljunggren <kljunggren@d47.org>

Thanks for reaching out! We did hear about this from other families as well so it was a fun day! I hope you and [REDACTED] are doing well! We miss you too!!!

Have a great weekend!

Angie
Angie Compere
Principal

To: "Compere, Angela" <accompere@d47.org>

Cc: Elizabeth Rank <[REDACTED]>

Good Morning Mrs. Rank,

Thanks for the support and bringing this to our attention. We were aware of this post yesterday. We miss you and [REDACTED] here at Lundahl and hope everything is going well in high school.

Have a nice Weekend,

Kristi RN
Kristi Ljunggren RN
kljunggren@d47.org

[REDACTED] >
Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 7:52 AM

To: accompere@d47.org

Attached is a post from Facebook concerning the kids from the school. I am concerned about my child which attends Lundahl.

Russell Cisco

Compere, Angela <accompere@d47.org>

Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 9:18 AM

To: Russ Cisco <[REDACTED]>

We are aware of the post and understand your concern. We have and have had safety protocols in place and are following those protocols. Your child has not been in close contact regarding this situation. Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Angie Compere

Principal

Lucas Behning <[REDACTED]>

Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 6:26 PM

To: Angela Compere <accompere@d47.org>

Message submitted from the <Crystal Lake, IL> website. Site Visitor Name:

Phil Kronke Site Visitor Email: [REDACTED]

Sergeant Behning,

I wasn't sure who to send this to so I was hoping that you could help. We have an 8th grade boy who takes the bus to Lundahl Middle School. Cascia Talbert (1716 Hartford Ln) also has children that take the same bus. Her children were in close contact with someone with Covid and ordered to quarantine her children for 14 days. She just publicly stated on the Open 47 and 155 Schools for in Person Learning Facebook group. Since I cannot attach the document on this email please see her response below:

"Parents need to stop reporting Covid cases. If your child is sick, have him or her stay home. If your child has Covid and you report it to the school it hurts all the other kids who are in close contact with your child. End this madness! I am ignoring this email and driving my boys to school. They should not be punished because a kid on their bus got sick."

This issue has already been reported to the school. Since she publicly stated that she is doing this I was hoping that proper action is taken by the police department to stop the potential spread should the school fail to do so.

My friend's healthy 72 year old father was infected in a similar manner in mid-December. He died 4 weeks later.

The school nurse (Christine) did a great job calling all of the parents yesterday to determine who needs to be quarantined and Talbert kids are on the list. Our son was exposed and Christine called me two hours before I was going to visit my 75 year old parents so for that I'm very thankful!!

I hope Cascia's willful and wanton disregard for the safety of others doesn't lead to an outbreak in Crystal Lake.

Thanks!

Phil Kronke

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Compere, Angela <accompere@d47.org>

Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 10:10 AM

To: Lucas Behning <[REDACTED]>

I responded to this gentleman last night and he already responded. I believe his concerns have been resolved. Thanks for the offer of help related to this situation.

Sincerely,
Angie Compere
Principal

To: [REDACTED]

Mr. Kronke,

I wanted to reach out to you after hearing from Officer Behning at CLPD. I also reached out to Erika about her concerns. I responded similarly to her but wanted to let you know that we were aware of the post first thing this morning and totally understand and appreciate your concerns. We have and have had safety protocols in place and are following those protocols so that no students were in close contact regarding this situation. Please let me know if you have any further questions. Our student and staff safety is our priority and we are doing everything we can to help keep everyone safe.

Sincerely,
Angie Compere
Principal

Phil Gordon <[REDACTED]>

Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 8:26 PM

To: "Compere, Angela" <accompere@d47.org>

Thanks Angie! We're so close to the end of Covid with the vaccine here. We appreciate all your doing to keep everyone safe.

Phil

Phil Kronke

Compere, Angela <accompere@d47.org>

Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 10:14 AM

To: Phil Gordon <[REDACTED]>

Thank you so much!

Angie Compere
Principal

Compere, Angela <accompere@d47.org>

Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 10:14 AM

To: Phil Gordon <[REDACTED]>

Thank you so much!

Angie Compere
Principal

Christine MacMillan <[REDACTED]>

Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 8:33 AM

To: Angela Compere <accompere@d47.org>

Good Morning Mrs Compere

First off [REDACTED] says hi!

Second I am attaching a screenshot that a parent at Lundahl posted this morning on Facebook. I am only sending you this because this Mom has sent her children to school after they have been exposed. I am sure you are aware but I would hate myself for not saying anything if anyone else got sick. I know if this was Xander or Mason I would never want to expose anyone else. Also in the post this Mother stated she would never tell anyone at the school if her

child had COVID. That scares me. Sorry to bother you I know you are always doing everything you can for our kiddos!

Have a great day!

Christine MacMillan

Compere, Angela <accompere@d47.org>

Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 9:51 AM

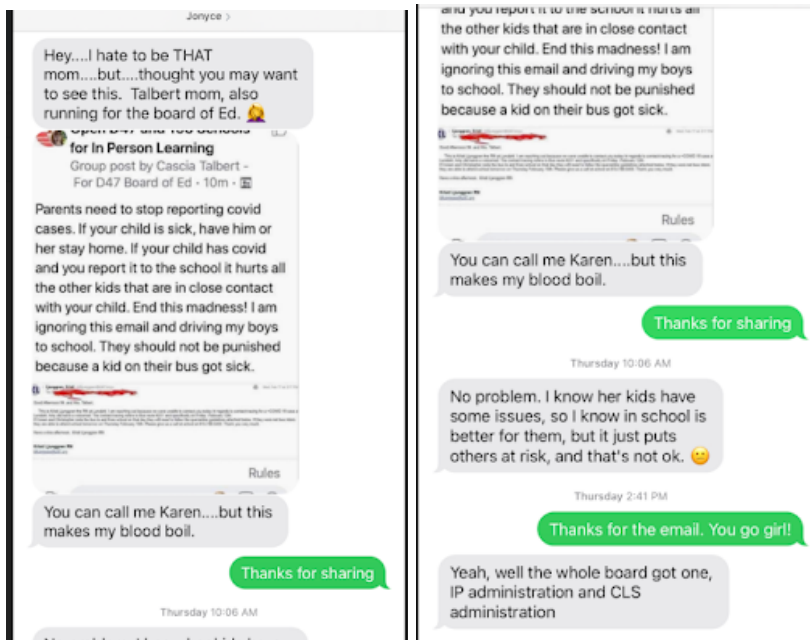
To: Christine MacMillan <[REDACTED]>

Thank you for reaching out about this post. We are aware of the post and understand why you would be concerned. We have and have had safety protocols in place and are following those protocols. The boys have not been in close contact regarding this situation but let me know if you have any further questions. I hope [REDACTED] is doing well and please tell her hi from me too!

Sincerely,

Angie Compere

Principal





I nanks


Thursday 7:09 PM

it is exactly this kind disregard for the rules and the safety of others that has the pandemic stretching on for a year now. By the way, you should all know that this woman is running for a position on the D47 School Board right now.

Verizon 07:20 33%

Cascia Talbert - For D47 Board of Ed's P... 

 **Open D47 and 155 Schools for In Person Learning** 

Group post by Cascia Talbert - For D47 Board of Ed · 10m · 

Parents need to stop reporting covid cases. If your child is sick, have him or her stay home. If your child has covid and you report it to the school it hurts all the other kids that are in close contact with your child. End this madness! I am ignoring this email and driving my home

Yep. Good day for us

I didn't know if you were aware that she posted it in a McHenry County FB group. That's why I shared it with you.

Tomorrow will be a better day. 😊