



EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS

Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow

August 30, 2021

Kalyn Macchia
664 Brockway Ave
Crystal Lake, IL. 60014

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Dear Ms. Macchia:

On Tuesday, August 17, 2021, Crystal Lake School District No. 47 received a Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") Request from you via email, in which you requested the following:

- Emails received by the District and Board Members that include the word "homeschool" and/or "Private Education" in the range of May 26, 2021 to the date this FOIA is completed.

On August 19, 2021 I requested clarification on your request as your request was too broad. You responded with requesting emails to the Superintendent, principals, vice principals, board members and C.O.R.E. Center.

On August 24, 2021 an extension letter was presented.

Enclosed are documents responsive to your request, except for records exempt from disclosure pursuant to FOIA section 7(1)(b) (private information) 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(b), section 7(5)(r) (school student records act) 5 ILCS 140/7(5)(r), and section 7(1)(c) (personal privacy) 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c). In the event you believe your request has been denied, you may appeal this decision to the Illinois Attorney General-Public Access Bureau, 500 S. 2nd Street, Springfield, Illinois 62706, 217-558-0486 [publicaccess@atg.state.il.us]. You may also appeal this decision by filing suit for injunctive relief in the circuit court for McHenry County, Illinois.

The information provided below fulfills our obligation to your FOIA request.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 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

REQUEST FOR ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS
PURSUANT TO THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (5ILCS 140)

Date of Request: 8/17/21

FOIA Record # _____

Name: Kalyn Macchia

Organization: _____

Address: 664 Broadway Ave
Crystal Lake, IL
60014

Phone Number: 815-451-6111

I HEREBY REQUEST ACCESS TO THE FOLLOWING RECORDS:

Please forward any emails received by the District and Board Members that

include the word "Homeschool" and/or "Private Education"

in the range of May 26 2021 to the date this

FOIA is completed.

Within 5 business days of the District receiving your request, you are entitled to a response, or notice that the district is in need of addition processing time (not to exceed an additional 5 business days). When our response is complete, we will contact you.

The District's response, including all supporting documents, and FOIA request with all submitted information, will be posted online under "Freedom of Information" on the District 47 website. District 47 provides this service as a public courtesy for no fee. Documents will be posted within 10 business days from our response to your request.

Fees will apply after the initial limited amount of black and white copies are provided. Actual cost of color or abnormal size copies will apply.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

The District's response and records were accessed by : ☐ In House Inspection ☐ Pick-up ☐ Mail ☐ Fax ☐ Email

Date: _____ Time: _____

AMT REC'D: _____ Check# _____ Cash _____

FOIA Officer: _____

Witness: _____



Crystal Lake Community Consolidated School District 47
300 Commerce Drive, Crystal Lake, IL. 60014
Phone: 815-459-6070 Fax: 815-479-8566





EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS

Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow

August 24, 2021

Ms. Kalyn Macchia
664 Broadway Ave.
Crystal Lake, IL. 60014

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Dear Mr. Kountz:

On Wednesday, August 18, 2021, Crystal Lake School District No. 47 received a Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") Request from you via email, in which you requested the following:

- Emails received by the District and Board Members that include the word "homeschool" and/or "private Education" in the range of May 26, 2021 to the date this is completed.

On August 19, 2021 I requested clarification as your request was broad and I needed to tighten the search. You stated emails going to the Superintendent, principals, vice principals, board members and core center.

Please be advised that we are extending the time within which to respond by five business days, as allowed by sections 3(e)(ii) and (e)(vi) of FOIA (ILCS 140/3(e)(ii), (e)(vi) because:

(ii) the request requires the collection of a substantial number of specified records;[and]

(vi) the request for records cannot be compiled with by the public body within the time limits prescribed by paragraph © of this section without unduly burdening or interfering with the operation of the public body

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 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)

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Wed, Aug 4, 2021 at 2:43 PM

Subject: mask policy

To: Kathy Hinz <khinz@d47.org>, Robert Fetzner <rfetzner@d47.org>, bales@d47.org <bales@d47.org>, cwadlington@d47.org <cwadlington@d47.org>, dbarton@d47.org <dbarton@d47.org>, jpowell@d47.org <jpowell@d47.org>, rpfarrell@d47.org <rpfarrell@d47.org>, tmahaffy@d47.org <tmahaffy@d47.org>

Dear school board members and Kathy Hinz,

I am a tax paying parent in this district, although my children are not currently enrolled in the district. Last year, we made the decision to pull our kids from the district and homeschool them so they could get an education that was supportive, effective and met their social, emotional and academic needs. As a voting resident, I have voted for you to be my voice. I voted for you to hear my wants and needs for my children and hopefully understand my perspective on what is important to me as a parent. I voted for you in hopes that what is important to me, will also be important to you and you make policies that reflect that.

I want to thank you for the policy to make masks optional for students this school year. As I understand it, the governor will mandate masks this afternoon for all children in school. I am adamantly opposed to my children wearing a mask in school. Masks are not effective and even paper mask boxes even state that the masks are not effective at reducing covid 19 virus. Masking children is also not necessary when you consider that children have a 99% survival rate of recovering from covid. What masks are effective at, is creating an environment where children do not talk to one another and do not connect. I can vouch for that as a Girl Scout leader. When we met indoors, 6 feet apart with masks on, the girls just sat at their separate tables, not talking, not bonding, not working together. It was heartbreaking. Here were girls who had not been together in months and they had nothing to say? Nothing to laugh about? A few months later when we met outside without masks and not distanced, the girls were finally able to bond, laugh, talk and work together. They acted like 10 year old girls... for the first time in 15 months!

I realize and understand the constant flip flopping from our government on masks makes your job as a board member very challenging. However, as an advocate for my children, I wouldn't be doing my job as their parent if I didn't speak up and voice what is best for them. I advocate for no masks on any child who chooses not to wear one. Both of my children are interested in heading back into the district, however, forced masking is the line in the sand for me.

I appreciate your time on this matter. I know this is a challenging position you are in and I appreciate your service to the community as a board member. I recognize this is not an easy task at hand and appreciate you reading my concerns. Please reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

On Wed, Jul 21, 2021 at 9:58 PM [REDACTED] > wrote:

Thank you for listening to all the concerns at the board meeting on Monday night. I didn't speak but I attended to listen. I am so happy our district is choosing mask optional.

My [REDACTED] will be attending [REDACTED] this fall and I was going to homeschool if D47 didn't make masks optional. I am very happy she will get to go to school with her peers.

I understand this can be a polarizing decision but a decision to give people choices is always a good one.

Thank you again!

[REDACTED]

On Mon, Jul 19, 2021, 8:05 AM [REDACTED] > wrote:

Dear Dr. Barton:

I am writing to you today to request that the District 47 Board of Education reverse its decision to not require masks for unvaccinated students and staff.

Although Dr. Hinz's presentation released in advance of the July 19 board meeting claims "we support the CDC/IDPH/MCDH guidelines that masks should be worn indoors by all individuals (age 2 and older) who are not fully vaccinated," the refusal to enforce masking shows a reckless disregard for the health and safety of the thousands of children enrolled in the district who are not yet eligible for vaccination. These children and their families sacrificed much over the past two school years to protect themselves and the adults in their community. It is unconscionable for the district to throw away our simplest and most powerful mitigation strategy now that the adults have had the opportunity to protect themselves and our children are left vulnerable.

Many students about to walk into these classrooms have an increased risk for severe illness or hospitalization; other families are understandably concerned about the unknown long-term effects of this novel virus and its variants on children and don't want to risk the long-hauler complications already reported in both the pediatric and adult populations. Those who have advocated loudly against CDC and IDPH recommendations often point out that parents who are concerned can choose to mask their child; however, as the CDC has stated, masks are more effective at protecting those *around* the person wearing the mask, rather than the wearer. A parent's choice to send his or her child in a mask does very little to protect that student in a classroom full of unvaccinated unmasked individuals.

Because there is no remote option this year, families are being forced to risk the health and safety of their children without the most basic precaution of enforced masking that allowed the district to successfully offer in-person learning last year. For those eleven and younger, the dangers caused by Covid-19 have not gone away. Rather, with the rise of the more transmissible Delta variant, those dangers have increased. The district's recommendation that parents who wish to protect their children from those dangers should "homeschool" or enroll in an "online platform" shows a disheartening lack of respect and understanding and does little to further Dr. Hinz's stated goal of "building relationships with students and families" and our district's mission of "empowering all students."

Please, until all students are eligible for vaccination, take your responsibility to protect the health and safety of the children who spend hours in district classrooms seriously. Listen to the messaging that experts at the federal, state and county levels are in agreement on: that masks should be worn by all unvaccinated individuals age two and older indoors. To ignore the recommendations of the CDC, IDPH and MCDH places the short- and long-term health of our children at risk and opens the district up to lawsuits in the case of an outbreak. Masks are simple, effective and well-tolerated; this protection is the very least we can offer the children who have given up so much over the past sixteen months.

For further information in support of this request, please see the American Academy of Pediatrics' latest "Return to School" guidance which calls for *universal masking of all students and staff* for the following reasons:

- a significant portion of the student population is not eligible for vaccination
- protection of unvaccinated students from COVID-19 and to reduce transmission
- lack of a system to monitor vaccine status among students, teachers and staff
- potential difficulty in monitoring or enforcing mask policies for those who are not vaccinated
- possibility of low vaccination uptake within the surrounding school community
- continued concerns for variants that are more easily spread among children, adolescents, and adults

Source:

<https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/>

Thank you for taking the time to listen to our concerns and for your commitment to meeting the diverse needs of the children and families of District 47.

Respectfully,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Board of Education Members and Dr. Hinz,

We are unable to attend the meeting on Monday night, but would like to share our concerns regarding the new guidelines from the CDC, that have been adapted by the IDPH and ISBE.

It is refreshing to read "safely returning to in person instruction" is the priority. Making the three foot distancing guideline conditional to accommodate all students is a good move. School districts that have recently voted on other layers of mitigation, are falling short on "safely" by not requiring masks for kindergarten through sixth grade. While our district has yet to officially make a decision on this layer of mitigation, based on Dr. Hinz slide presentation for Monday, that is the direction our district intends to go.

The guidance emphasizes layered mitigation measures, specifically masking, for students under the age of twelve. Kindergarten through sixth grade should be required to wear masks. We fully support parent choice to vaccinate 100%. However, parents with students under the age of twelve do not have a choice. Students under the age of twelve are not eligible for the vaccine. The Friday Covid response briefing at the White House, the CDC repeats over and over again, that the unvaccinated are at the greatest risk for serious illness, hospitalization and death. With the younger population having lower vaccination rates, younger people are getting more sick, especially with the Delta variant starting to ramp up. Several news articles have been published of children needing hospitalization and ICU care recently.

With a large number of our students not eligible for a vaccine and the Delta Variant being a concern with medical professionals, and our community only being 49% fully vaccinated, why would we even consider starting school without a mask requirement for kindergarten to sixth grade, even if our numbers are low right now. We can continue to keep our communities rate of infection low, keep the infection rate in our school buildings low, possibly avoid large outbreaks and school closures and most importantly keep the most vulnerable population (due to not being eligible) safe. Layers of mitigation work. Our district is proof that it works. Last year, with mitigation, did we have the virus spreading inside the school buildings? Our understanding is we did not.

If our district does officially decide to make masking optional for all grades, regardless of vaccine eligibility, many families will be forced to make really hard decisions. Illinois state law requires parents to educate their children. Parents will be forced to choose between an unsafe learning environment in school buildings, homeschooling or private school. No parent should be forced to homeschool their child, quite frankly, most families aren't able to homeschool because they work. Most families would not be able to afford a private school. Another concern, if our district chooses not to follow mitigation guidelines from the IDPH and ISBE, will that make our district liable? Will district funds (thus tax payer money) be used to fight lawsuits for not following guidelines? We would much rather see district funds (tax payer money) being used to better our schools than litigation.

Hopefully, before decisions for this Fall are decided, you will really think about and consider the risk of students that have no choice to be vaccinated. No one wants their child or any student in our district to be a cautionary tale.

we greatly appreciate you taking the time to read our concerns.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

Members of the D47 BoE,

I am writing to respectfully implore you to require masking for all unvaccinated students and staff for the 2021-2022 school year.

I know you are receiving a lot of communication from parents imploring the opposite and to a certain extent, I get that. We are all weary of the measures we have had to take during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are ready for our lives to go back to normal. We are ready for our children's lives to go back to normal. I feel completely done with my stupid mask too.

But to give up safety precautions now is to stick your head in the sand and ignore the real threat to our most vulnerable population: children who cannot yet be vaccinated against COVID-19. We do not yet know the full extent of COVID's lasting impact on those who have been infected, especially children. We do not yet know how dangerous the Delta variant, or mutations to come, will be to our community. And the end goal is so close! Vaccination for children might be available by Halloween!

I implore you to follow the guidance of the CDC, WHO, ISBE, IDPH, and MCDH on this issue, and not the feedback of community members who have chosen partisan politics and personal comfort over the welfare of our children. The suggestion from Dr Hinz's FAQs stating that parents who feel her proposals are unsafe are welcome to homeschool their children is appallingly callous and classist. The time, resources, and knowledge needed to provide an effective homeschool education to multiple children of different ages is not a privilege available to the majority of District 47 parents.

I am very much looking forward to my two D47 children returning to the in-person education they desperately need (and deserve). Please do not turn that enthusiasm into worry by pretending the risk of COVID-19 no longer exists.

Respectfully,



D47 Parent

On Thu, Aug 12, 2021 at 9:47 AM Schmidt, Kristin <klschmidt@d47.org> wrote:

Thanks Melissa!! I read the [REDACTED] and there are none written for [REDACTED] so I am not sure if

mom was confused because its pull out resource? We would follow the [REDACTED] as it was written even

though its expired. MOre details of how to handle kids expired [REDACTED] is forthcoming but we have lots of kids who have missed services, struggled with remote learning or homeschooling or kids that

had a hard time because of the pandemic....so we are hoping to get these kiddos in school, get to

know them, let them reacclimate to a school setting and implement the [REDACTED] as written while wwe

get more current info....I anticipate we'll be amending [REDACTED] for these kinds of students as we know more about their needs. Hope that helps clarify a bit!

Kind Regards,

Kristin Schmidt

Assistant Director of Special Ed.



CRYSTAL
LAKE

Stadlman, Carolyn <ckstadlman@d47.org>

Join Kids Discover Online's FREE Summer Reading Program!

1 message

Mon, Jun 7, 2021 at 7:30 AM

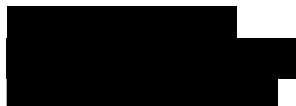
[REDACTED]
to: ckstadlman@d47.org

Hi Carolyn,

Have you heard the good news? Last week, we officially launched our [Summer Reading Program: A Topic a Day](#).

Be sure to sign up before June 25th to access our full Kids Discover Online library all summer long. Whether you consider yourself a [Parent](#), [Homeschooler](#), or [Teacher](#), we have a Summer Plan that is right for you and your students.

--



We are rated **4.7** out of 5



★ Trustpilot

Kids Discover | [REDACTED]
[Unsubscribe](#) from future marketing messages from Kids Discover



CRYSTAL
LAKE

Stadlman, Carolyn <ckstadlman@d47.org>

LAST CHANCE: Kids Discover Online's FREE Summer Reading Program!

1 message

Katie - [REDACTED]

To: ckstadlman@d47.org

Hi Carolyn,

Time is running out! We have officially launched our **free** [Summer Reading Program: A Topic a Day](#) and the deadline to enroll is coming soon. Be sure to sign up before June 25 to access our full Kids Discover Online library all summer long.

Whether you'll need access as a [Parent](#), [Homeschooler](#), or [Educator](#), we have a plan that is right for you!

Sincerely,

--

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

We are rated **4.7** out of 5



★ Trustpilot

Kids Discover | [606 Post Road East | Suite 3 | Westport, CT 06880 | United States](#)
[Unsubscribe](#) from future marketing messages from Kids Discover

On Thu, Jul 29, 2021 at 4:30 PM [REDACTED] > wrote:

Hello Mr. Sromek and Ms. Fitzgerald,

My name is [REDACTED] and my [REDACTED] will be in [REDACTED] grade at [REDACTED] this year. I just received the emailback from the registration survey and we are in the process of completing the documents. I homeschooled [REDACTED] last year and therefore I am not on any of the district email lists. I looked for current updates on the website that address specifics for the COVID precautions plan and found only basic information. When I spoke with a friend whose children attend school in D47, she informed me about an "application" to be included in a masked classroom.

As I'm sure you're aware, the viral load of the Delta variant is 1,000 times higher than that of the original strain. Additionally, researchers have also established that it can take an average of 4 days -nearly a full school week- for the delta variant to reach detectable levels using a standard COVID-19 test kit. The current spread in McHenry County is rated as "SUBSTANTIAL."

That's without school being in session. Can you clarify what data-supported factors have factored into D47's current plan? It does not appear to be in-line with current transmission trends or the recommendations of medical professionals. For a District that claims to prioritize data-driven instruction, this appears to be a departure from long held decision-making factors. I have heard that there has been a vocal group of D47 parents who have said they do not support masks at school. I'm not active on Facebook and am not current on the gossip and drama surrounding the local conversation. I understand that this has become a very heated topic. However, at the end of the day, we need to follow the recommendations of our physicians on this and my daughter's pediatrician strongly recommends masks at school as does the CDC. I guess I don't understand why masked classrooms aren't the standard given what we know about the transmissibility of the delta variant? It seems backwards and out-of-step with science to have to fill out a survey to be "considered" for a masked classroom. It's borderline offensive, quite honestly.

My parents are our childcare providers and my father has heart issues. I am a speech pathologist and work with medically fragile children who are unable to receive the vaccine. As I'm sure you also know, it has been found that fully vaccinated adults are capable of asymptomatic spread, and although rare, this places my clients and family in an unacceptable predicament with regard to transmission and risk. As such, with this email I'm notifying the school that I absolutely want my [REDACTED] to be in a masked classroom at Husmann. And because District 47 is not mandating vaccines for their employees, will you be able to ensure that all adults [REDACTED] comes into contact with will be masked; as we cannot establish that all D47 adults working with our children are vaccinated?

I am deeply concerned about the direction D47's "precaution plan" is heading. I feel it's important to speak up. I want my [REDACTED] to attend school, in-person, as safely as possible.

The best chance of

keeping schools open and sustaining in-person instruction

is to follow the CDC guidelines. The current plan appears to be -at best- a laissez-faire approach toward protecting the health of our students and -at worst- a blatant disregard for the recommendations of medical professionals and scientists. Surely the District must take into account that these students will go home to daycares, family members, grandparents, infant

siblings, and other potentially vulnerable individuals in our community. Unmasked attendance exponentially increases the risk of spread. Period. The District has a responsibility and a duty to take all of these community members into account as their potential sickness certainly impacts the students in your care emotionally, financially, and academically.

I hope that District 47 will be revising their guidelines in light of the newly released recommendations from the CDC. In the meantime, please include [REDACTED] in the count for students who will be in a masked [REDACTED] grade classroom for the upcoming school year.

It is unfortunate that we are having to grapple with this issue as we start a new school year. I know that you personally are not drafting the recommendations in question and I want to take this opportunity to express my thanks for all you do in general as educators, and specifically for the way you have navigated the pandemic gauntlet over the past year. You have my utmost gratitude and respect as educators dedicated to our students. I am sending this email not because I want to add to the noise, but because I feel it's important for you to know that there are many parents who are upset and concerned with District 47's current precautions plan. I hope the District will be revising these plans in the days to come and I look forward to hearing how the District plans to put the recommendations of medical professionals in the driver's seat when it comes to keeping students, their families, and District staff healthy and safe. We love [REDACTED] and in spite of these circumstances, we are excited for her to begin attending her homeschool again.

Thank you for taking the time to read this email.

Respectfully,

[REDACTED]

On Mon, Jul 19, 2021 at 8:05 AM E [REDACTED]

Dear Dr. Hinz:

I am writing to you today to request that District 47 reverse its decision to not require masks for unvaccinated students and staff.

Although the presentation released in advance of the July 19 board meeting claims "we support the CDC/IDPH/MCDH guidelines that masks should be worn indoors by all individuals (age 2 and older) who are not fully vaccinated," the refusal to enforce masking shows a reckless disregard for the health and safety of the thousands of children enrolled in the district who are not yet eligible for vaccination. These children and their families sacrificed much over the past two school years to protect themselves and the adults in their community. It is unconscionable for the district to throw away our simplest and most powerful mitigation strategy now that the adults have had the opportunity to protect themselves and our children are left vulnerable. Many students about to walk into these classrooms have an increased risk for severe illness or hospitalization; other families are understandably concerned about the unknown long-term effects of this novel virus and its variants on children and don't want to risk the long-hauler complications already reported in both the pediatric and adult populations. Those who have advocated loudly against CDC and IDPH recommendations often point out that parents who are concerned can choose to mask their child; however, as the CDC has stated, masks are more effective at protecting those around

the person wearing the mask, rather than the wearer. A parent's choice to send his or her child in a mask does very little to protect that student in a classroom full of unvaccinated unmasked individuals.

Because there is no remote option this year, families are being forced to risk the health and safety of their children without the most basic precaution of enforced masking that allowed the district to successfully offer in-person learning last year. For those eleven and younger, the dangers caused by Covid-19 have not gone away. Rather, with the rise of the more transmissible Delta variant, those dangers have increased. The district's recommendation that parents who wish to protect their children from those dangers should "homeschool" or enroll in an "online platform" shows a disheartening lack of respect and understanding and does little to further the stated goal of "building relationships with students and families" and our district's mission of "empowering all students."

Please, until all students are eligible for vaccination, take your responsibility to protect the health and safety of the children who spend hours in district classrooms seriously. Listen to the messaging that experts at the federal, state and county levels are in agreement on: that masks should be worn by all unvaccinated individuals age two and older indoors. To ignore the recommendations of the CDC, IDPH and MCDH places the short- and long-term health of our children at risk and opens the district up to lawsuits in the case of an outbreak. Masks are simple, effective and well-tolerated; this protection is the very least we can offer the children who have given up so much over the past sixteen months.

For further information in support of this request, please see the American Academy of Pediatrics' latest "Return to School" guidance which calls for universal masking of all students and staff

for the following reasons:

-

a significant portion of the student population is not eligible for vaccination

- protection of unvaccinated students from COVID-19 and to reduce transmission

- lack of a system to monitor vaccine status among students, teachers and staff

- potential difficulty in monitoring or enforcing mask policies for those who are not vaccinated

- possibility of low vaccination uptake within the surrounding school community

- continued concerns for variants that are more easily spread among children, adolescents, and adults

Source:

[https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-](https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/)

[coronavirus-covid-19-](https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/)

[infections/clinical-guidance/](https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/)

[covid-19-planning-](https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/)

[considerations-return-to-in-](https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/)

[person-education-in-schools/](https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/)

Thank you for taking the time to listen to our concerns and for your commitment to meeting the diverse needs of the children and families of District 47.

Respectfully,

[REDACTED]

On Thu, Jul 22, 2021 at 11:57 AM [REDACTED] wrote:

Good afternoon,

I understand that you are getting overwhelmed by pressure from opposing sides regarding how the district is handling masks. I do not usually intervene with the school board, but this is incredibly important!

My [REDACTED] will be going into 6th grade at [REDACTED] this year and I am genuinely afraid for [REDACTED] life. [REDACTED] has spent [REDACTED] life in and out of hospitals. [REDACTED] had a kidney transplant early in life. This means [REDACTED] has a need to be on a lifetime of medication that suppresses [REDACTED] immune system. Last year [REDACTED] got cancer and an infection that almost took [REDACTED] life. I watched my child in the ICU on a ventilator in multi system organ failure from an infection.

[REDACTED] is now doing great and has made a remarkable recovery. However, [REDACTED] will always have a weak immune system.

The thought of needing to tell [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] again need to be alone at home without socializing with other kids and living [REDACTED] life after all he has been through is not ok. [REDACTED] is healthy and should be able to live a typically life of a [REDACTED] grader. But

without the masks my child's life is on the front line.

Your mask optional decision being the only choice for [REDACTED] to go to school this year puts me in a place where I must choose either [REDACTED] mental health (homeschool) or physical health (mask optional at school). Both choices could have detrimental effects. There has to be another option! It is literally a matter of life and death for him. [REDACTED] is a child and deserves to be allowed to live his life without being alone.

Without a vaccine for this age group they need to be masked. Or grouped with children whose parents agree to mask. We need to protect our kids.

I am also adding a picture of my [REDACTED] from last year. It's a reminder that not everyone gets a choice. We have to deal with [REDACTED] cards we are dealt and this kid has already been handed enough shitty hands. Don't give [REDACTED] any more. [REDACTED] deserves better!!!!

Thank you for your time,

[REDACTED]



CRYSTAL
LAKE

Petersen, Monica <mjpetersen@d47.org>

just in case you're homeschooling this year [last chance]

1 message

To: Monica <mjpetersen@d47.org>

Mon, Aug 9, 2021 at 6:05 PM

Monica,

There's no better way to prepare for the coming school year than to completely strip everything down, stop overcomplicating, and choose simplicity.

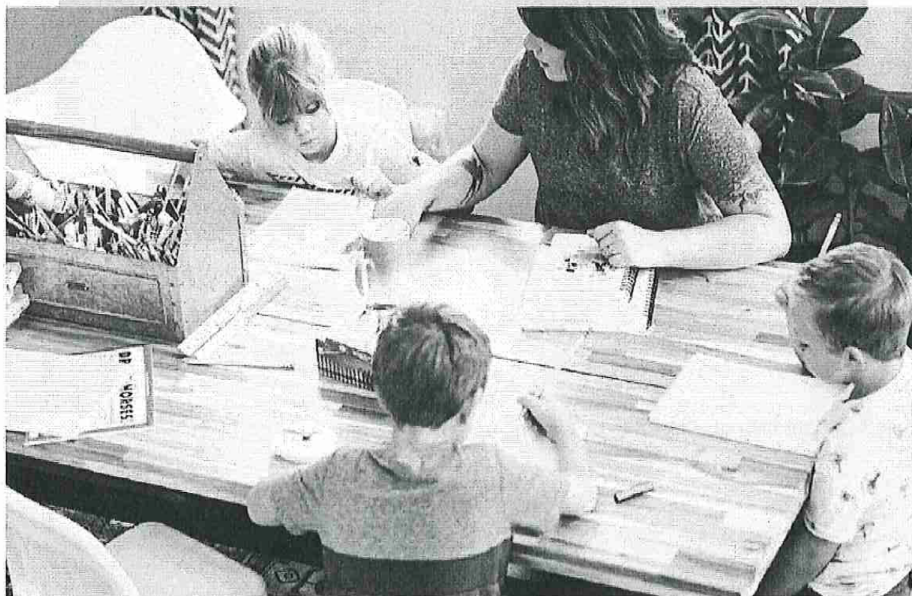
Is anything causing you stress? Get quiet and really let yourself feel where your stress is coming from.

What's stealing your joy in homeschooling (or has in the past?) What is too much?

Whatever comes up for you, journal through that.

I want to help you strip away the complications and actually get ready for this year in a way that's fairly counter-cultural. You can choose the crazed rush and stress induced panic that everyone else is doing. Or you can choose ease and flow. It's your choice-no matter which schooling option you choose!

SIMPLIFY YOUR HOMESCHOOL



Just in case you missed it - tonight is the last chance to get my course **Simplify Your Homeschool** for only \$99!

8/20/2021

Crystal Lake School District 47 Mail - just in case you're homeschooling this year [last chance]

It's also the last chance to get my Get Yo Day Right workbook as a bonus so that you can set up some rhythms that help your home run as smoothly as possible.

I want you to choose from a place of ease and simplicity. From a place that brings peace in your heart and home.

Grab Simplify Your Homeschool for only \$99 (that's \$50 off!).

Always, always rooting for you.

xo Allie



Not a homeschooling mom? Opt out of emails like this by clicking here.



STEM2Go! Subscription Boxes

*Perfect for a classroom, Scout group, youth group, quarantine pod or
homeschool group*

We are so excited to announce our partnership with Stem2Go! Subscription Boxes to help us bring Make & Take activities directly to you. In these times when not everyone is able to attend in-person programs, we feel it is so important to provide all children with hands-on learning opportunities in the safety and comfort of their own homes. Single boxes, 3-month and 6-month subscriptions are available!

ORDER NOW



CRYSTAL
LAKE
DISTRICT

Petersen, Monica <mjpetersen@d47.org>

It starts tomorrow...parenting experts at your fingertips

1 message

To: monica <mjpetersen@d47.org>

Sun, Oct 4, 2020 at 7:46 PM

Hey there,

I wanted to pop in and remind you that [The Happily Family Conference](#) is starting tomorrow!

This conference is packed full of insights and tips from some of the top experts in the parenting field like Dr. Dan Siegal and Dr. Ross Greene.

Here's the deal...

Maybe you are maxed out between the demands of work and home. You're running on empty but you also want to help your kids be resilient during tough times.

Maybe your child(ren) are doing distance learning, attending school, or homeschooling. Either way, things probably look different in your family than they did last fall. How do you keep them motivated and engaged?

Maybe your child is struggling with making and maintaining friendships when so many social events have been canceled or moved online. How can you help your child navigate this new social landscape?

Maybe you are worried about your child's mental health. With everything happening your child might be even more spirited, strong-willed, distracted, or anxious than normal.

The information and speakers in this conference can help.

This conference is known for bringing the heart and the science of parenting together. It's where parents (teachers & therapists) go to get inspired and recharged.

[Make sure you sign up \(for free\)](#), so you don't miss out.

Tomorrow, Monday, October 5th is the first day.

You'll get to hear from...

Dr. Daniel Siegel, Ali Smith, Suzanne Tucker, Meena Srinivasan, and Todd and Cathy Adams talk about:

- How to use mindfulness—with yourself and your kids—at home to get through tough times
- Post-traumatic growth and resilience
- How to truly love your kids unconditionally
- Racial justice
- And more...

[Get your free pass here.](#)

See you on the inside!

Warmly,



CRYSTAL
LAKE

Petersen, Monica <mjpetersen@d47.org>

Urgent Action for K-12 Schools - Digital Transition Event

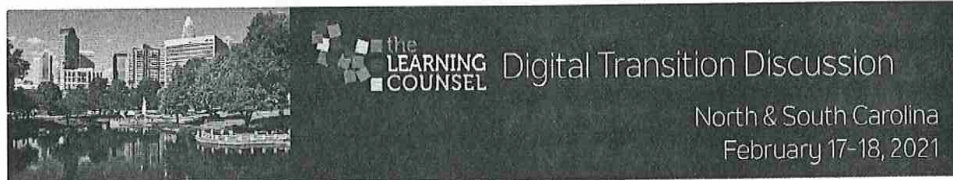
2 messages

Learning Counsel Webinar <participate@learningcounselevents.org>
To: Monica Petersen <mjpetersen@d47.org>

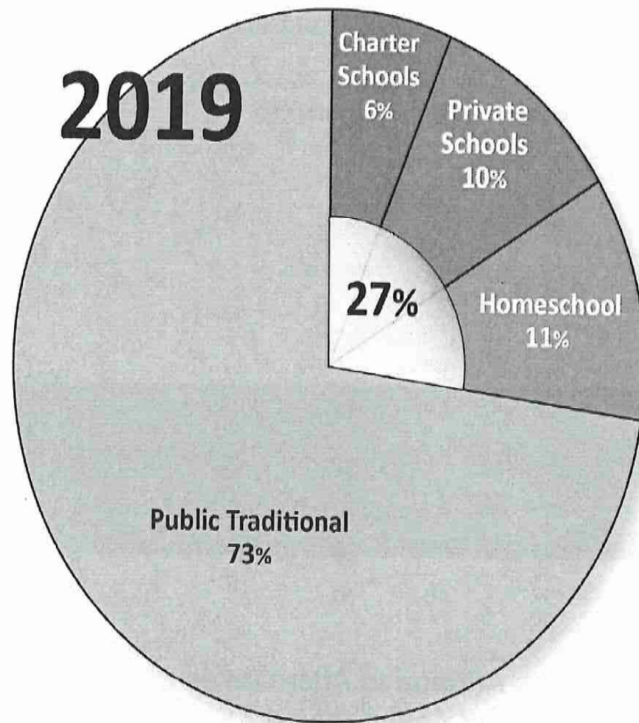
Mon, Feb 15, 2021 at 8:09 AM

Web Version

Like Tweet in



**Mass Attrition to Alternatives Requires
Urgent Action for K-12 Schools to
Understand New Ideas About Digital Transitioning.**



In 2020, the average defection away from traditional public education was an additional 3.6% per school or district. Many districts were experiencing well above that. Homeschooling continues to be the fastest growth segment. How can K-12 adapt and compete?



CRYSTAL
LAKE

Brooks, Anthony (Tony) <abrooks@d47.org>

question

2 messages

Tue, Aug 17, 2021 at 12:39 PM

To: abrooks@d47.org

Dear Anthony Brooks,

The d47 website lists you as the special education director, so I thought you could answer or direct me. My [REDACTED] was in the [REDACTED] program and we now homeschool because it works better for [REDACTED]. I heard the district still offers services and some individual schools allow students to participate in extracurricular programs. I know last year another homeschool student took band through [REDACTED] (which would be my [REDACTED] school). Is there anything available to [REDACTED]? We are struggling with social opportunities. Most co-ops are religious and we've been snubbed because my [REDACTED] identifies as [REDACTED]. I'm starting an [REDACTED] teen game night with some other community groups (Woodstock Pride, and the Break), but would love more options for [REDACTED].

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone



CRYSTAL
LAKE

Brooks, Anthony (Tony) <abrooks@d47.org>

NIA DHH

3 messages

Mon, Aug 16, 2021 at 9:40 AM

To: "Brooks, Anthony (Tony)" <abrooks@d47.org>

Hi Mr. Brooks,
Hope your year is starting well. We are off and running in the NIA- DHH program housed in d300.

I have an update regarding one of your d47 students who attended our DHH program last year and was scheduled to attend this year as well. Due to the mask mandate, [REDACTED] will not be attending our DHH program. Mom has decided to home school. I think she will do so until the mask mandate is lifted.

We have another D47 student [REDACTED] is coming daily and has great attendance. [REDACTED] is tentatively scheduled for Sept. 22. Since Nancy McGuire resigned, do you have another person who will be attending [REDACTED] meeting? I wanted to be able to send a google invite with enough advance notice. If you can let me know who it is and send me their email, I will introduce myself and share the date.

If you need anything, let me know. Thank you so much and hope you have a wonderful school year.

[REDACTED]
Northwestern Illinois Association
[REDACTED]



NIA | THE NORTHWESTERN
ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION

The NIA Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program recognizes and supports the diversity of each student and utilizes Total Communication to meet their academic, social emotional and vocational needs. We facilitate independence and self-advocacy to empower students to make successful life choices.

On Wed, Aug 11, 2021 at 4:10 PM [REDACTED]:

Good afternoon,

My name is [REDACTED] and I have 4 students currently enrolled in district 47. In light of the new mask mandates I have decided to homeschool my children this year. What do I need to do to withdraw them from the district?

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

8/23/2021

Crystal Lake School District 47 Mail - Last Call: Grades 3 & Up - Promote Language & Literacy Skills with Picture Books July 26 Webinar



**CRYSTAL
LAKE**

Brooks, Anthony (Tony) <abrooks@d47.org>

Last Call: Grades 3 & Up - Promote Language & Literacy Skills with Picture Books July 26 Webinar

1 message

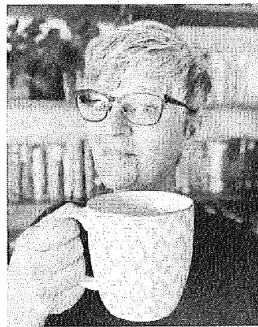
Mon, Jul 26, 2021 at 8:19 AM

Reply-To: updates@readingwithtlc.com
To: abrooks@d47.org



Our older students still enjoy seeing the pictures!

Learn from internationally renowned expert, Hanna Stroud, how to use engaging books with pictures to help your older students develop various language and literacy skills in ways that are fun and effective.



**Promoting Language & Literacy Skills With
Picture Books for Grade 3 & Up
Live & Recorded Webinar
Monday, July 26th 7-9 PM EST**

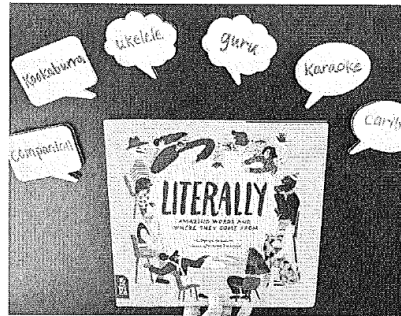
All who register can view live and/or watch the recording which will be available for one month. 2 Cont. Ed. Hrs. for All and CMHs for SLPs.

\$30 Save your Seat Now for July 26th

Webinar Description:

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ik=57ch89df08e&view=nt&search=all&permthid=thread-f%3A1706353588404404486&simpl=msg-f%3A1706353588404404486>

1/3



Picture books aren't just for the early grades, they can be used as mentor texts to make connections to important language and literacy goals for all grades!

Let's take a look at specific picture books and other amazing interactive texts that feature important skills for intermediate and advanced concepts. Along with seeing demonstrations of tons of effective and engaging strategies, each participant will receive a list of books, resources and extension activities to model, practice and master reading and spelling skills following a structured literacy approach. In person and online strategies will be included for whole group, small group, or one-on-one tutoring/speech therapy sessions.

Who is this for? This session is great for those working with students in grade 3 and up (or those achieving at grade 3 and up skill level). It is appropriate for those who are General Ed. Teachers, Special Ed. Teachers, Reading Specialists, Speech & Language Pathologists, Paraprofessionals, and Homeschool families.

About the Presenter:

Hanna Stroud, an engaging, passionate presenter who has a unique way of interacting with her audience, has operated a private tutoring and consulting company called My Literacy Space since 2008 in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. She provides one-on-one tutoring sessions with a focus on structured literacy. An internationally renowned speaker, consultant, and dynamic social media super star, Hanna consistently receives stellar ratings and testimonials whenever she presents her special topics. Along with being a National Trainer for Reading With TLC, Hanna provides workshops and webinars for public and private school boards, homeschool groups and online presentations to support collaborations with educational companies. Using a multisensory approach to engage and motivate, invite exploration and explicitly teach skills, Hanna specializes in partnering children's picture books with coordinating activities to encourage language and literacy goals with children of all ages. Hanna has helped thousands of educators learn to include play-based learning activities in day-to-day interactions in order to help students experience an increase in confidence, curiosity and foundational knowledge of language.

\$30 Save your Seat Now for July 26th

All Upcoming Webinars

www.readingwithtlc.com

8/23/2021

Crystal Lake School District 47 Mail - Use Comprehension Strategies that Stick - Aug. 30 Webinar by Hanna Stroud



**CRYSTAL
LAKE**

Brooks, Anthony (Tony) <abrooks@d47.org>

Use Comprehension Strategies that Stick - Aug. 30 Webinar by Hanna Stroud

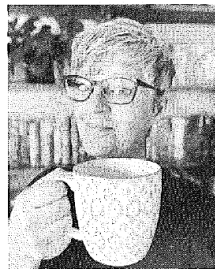
1 message

Thu, Jul 29, 2021 at 5:03 AM

Reply-To: updates@readingwithtlc.com
To: abrooks@d47.org



One of the key components to a structured literacy approach is to explicitly teach listening and reading comprehension skills. Learn from renowned expert, Hanna Stroud, how to creatively train seven proven comprehension strategies.



Comprehension Strategies That Stick

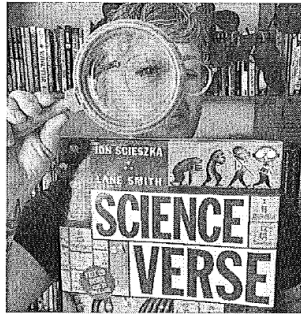
**Live & Recorded Webinar
Monday, August 30 7-9 PM EST**

All who register can view live and/or watch the recording which will be available for one month. 2 Cont. Ed. Hrs. for All and CMHs for SLPs.

\$30 Save your Seat Now for August 30th

Webinar Description:

Join us as we look into 7 key skills that support comprehension for students including vocabulary,



**predicting/inferencing,
retelling/summarizing, main idea,
making connections and more.**

During this webinar you will learn, and watch demonstrations of, many uniquely successful strategies that are rooted in research and that are engaging for students, as well. Who is this for? This session is appropriate for those who are General Ed.

Teachers, Special Ed. Teachers, Reading Specialists, Speech & Language Pathologists, Paraprofessionals, and Homeschool families.

About the Presenter:

Hanna Stroud, an engaging, passionate presenter who has a unique way of interacting with her audience, has operated a private tutoring and consulting company called My Literacy Space since 2008 in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. She provides one-on-one tutoring sessions with a focus on structured literacy. An internationally renowned speaker, consultant, and dynamic social media super star, Hanna consistently receives stellar ratings and testimonials whenever she presents her special topics. Along with being a National Trainer for Reading With TLC, Hanna provides workshops and webinars for public and private school boards, homeschool groups and online presentations to support collaborations with educational companies. Using a multisensory approach to engage and motivate, invite exploration and explicitly teach skills, Hanna specializes in partnering children's picture books with coordinating activities to encourage language and literacy goals with children of all ages. Hanna has helped thousands of educators learn to include play-based learning activities in day-to-day interactions in order to help students experience an increase in confidence, curiosity and foundational knowledge of language.

\$30 Save your Seat Now for August 30th

All Upcoming Webinars



Reading with TLC | 775 Pleasant St #6, Weymouth, MA 02189

Unsubscribe abrooks@d47.org

Update Profile | Constant Contact Data Notice

Sent by updates@readingwithtlic.com powered by



Try email marketing for free today!

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] m [REDACTED]
Date: Fri, Jul 16, 2021 at 9:24 AM
Subject: Questions about the 2021-22 school year
To: Help Desk <hd@d47.org>

Hello,

I'm a concerned mother of **Husmann Elementary** School students (**Kindergartener and a second grade**). Recently we have received an email with the new CDC guidelines for this school year (2021-22) from district 47. I am really confused of what the new school year is going to look like for our kids. I would love it if you can provide us with more information on the options we have this Fall because we would like to make the appropriate decisions and plans for our little ones. Are you going to offer a remote option for the kids that are not of age to be vaccinated yet? I'm concerned to send them to school not protected, some districts even decided to do masks wearing optional which honestly makes me a little nervous though I know it's hard for the kids to wear masks all day long. For that reason we are even considering homeschooling or if you have a remote option this year again it would be ideal. Please give us more information on our options so we can make the right choice for ourselves and our kids.

Thank you in advance,
Milena Ilieva

From: **gatosdoulos**
Date: Thu, Jul 22, 2021 at 12:37 PM
Subject: Re: Survey about creating optional mask-required classrooms
To: Crystal Lake Elementary District 47 <communications@d47.org>
Cc: Matthew M <listentopunkrock@gmail.com>

I would like to know when exactly our district decided to disregard evidence based practice, succumb to conspiracy theories, and put our children at risk?

What's next? Throw vaccine requirements out the window because a handful of antivaxx parents yell loud enough that you're trampling on their right to leave their children vulnerable at put immune compromised children at risk? Or do you believe the science that vaccines are safe and protective for the majority and that schools have a responsibility to protect the health of the children entrusted in your care?

The layered approach was what eased our minds about our kids returning to school. Vaccinated staff, ventilation, testing, distancing, cleaning, and masks are imperative until our children are vaccinated.

I am not a teacher and homeschooling is not what my child deserves. He deserves an education in a school environment that prioritizes his safety and his health. Mask requirements follow AAP guidelines and should be the standard our district follows if they are prioritizing our children's health. I should not need to be considering pulling my child and attempting to teach him at home in order to avoid him contracting covid.

Shannon Majewski

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Wed, Aug 4, 2021 at 9:25 AM
Subject: Re: Mask-required classroom confirmation; Confirmación de clase con mascarilla
To: communications@d47.org <communications@d47.org>

Good morning! I'm not exactly sure how to reply to this message because I don't know where I want my [REDACTED] placed. [REDACTED] health is the most important to me, but to say that the kids placed in the all masked room will probably not be placed based on academics or may be at a different school is ridiculous to me. How is this district not putting the health of ALL of their students and staff first? It's a given that all of us are tired of this, but many in the community, including my family, have done every possible thing to protect ourselves and our community. So the kids that want to be the most protected get shoved aside? Seriously? How about those not willing to comply with wearing masks get sent to other schools or are the ones that need to adjust their lives and homeschool because their families are "over it." My [REDACTED] needs to be placed academically appropriate, as I'm sure most kids do. I don't like that I have to reply by the 6th when there is a board meeting next week that will hopefully change things. I know you won't place kids without asking parents first, but I have to assume that you are already placing kids based on the survey. If we change our minds, will our kids just be thrown wherever? Last year, I completely supported the decisions made by the district and thought it crazy for people to complain. This year, however, I am shocked that masks aren't required, at least in the beginning until we see how Delta is playing out. Last year at the start of the year, kids weren't at as big a risk and we had all kinds of safety measures in place, now kids are the biggest risk and the number 1 thing that can be done is optional? That doesn't make sense and makes the district look like it doesn't care about the well being of their students...and seems awfully cowardly because the other side is "louder." I saw a letter written from one of the board members for district 26 and he perfectly said everything many of us are thinking. Basically wouldn't the district

rather keep their staff and students safe by wearing masks from the beginning and the worst that could happen is everyone had to wear masks for a little longer, but are all safe, than to have an outbreak, kids getting sick, and having to quickly reconfigure and go back to remote? The choice seems so easy to me and to so many others. I just think the district better be preparing for remote classrooms if there isn't a mask mandate from the start. I want my [REDACTED], and all others, to be safe, protected, and also placed appropriately based on academic level. I am so thrown that this isn't the obvious decision at this point.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
From: [REDACTED]

Date: Wed, Aug 11, 2021 at 12:20 PM

Subject: Re: Parent Update - 8.11.21; Actualización para padres - 11.8.21

To: Crystal Lake Elementary District 47 <communications@d47.org>

I WANT MY MONEY BACK SO I CAN SEND MY CHILD TO PRIVATE SCHOOL!!!
LAST THING I'LL DO IS LISTEN TO MORBIDLY OBESE PERSON TELLING ME SOMETHING
ABOUT HEALTH !!!

Thu, Aug 19, 5:08 PM (19
hours ago)

[REDACTED]

to Schmidt, Kristin, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Jacobsen, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Seisser, Alexis

Hi Kristin (and everybody!),

To clarify, I believe that [REDACTED] will be exploring whether or not homebound services are necessary for [REDACTED] due to a combination of [REDACTED] making it unsafe to be at school without a mask. [REDACTED] is aware that [REDACTED] I need to get documentation in order to pursue that, so the concern is really about what happens in the interim. Kristin, is your suggestion to switch to homeschool status temporarily to avoid truancy issues? Would there be any barrier to switching from homeschool to homebound or [REDACTED] as we move through the process with the doctor? I just want to verify that if she were to switch over to homeschool it wouldn't prevent her from accessing any other options once more information becomes available – in other words, that it can be completely temporary.

Thank you,

Dan

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Zoom Meeting Link: [REDACTED]

Pronouns: he, him, his

Schmidt, Kristin <klschmidt@d47.org>

Tue, Aug 17, 9:48 PM

to Grace, [REDACTED], John Jacobsen, Karla Reinhardt

Ok thanks for letting me know. She just said she was withdrawing [REDACTED]? Sounds like they'll be homeschooling as [REDACTED] will be marked withdrawn from d47. Thanks!

Stay Well!

Kristin Schmidt

Assistant Director of Special Ed

District 47

On Tue, Aug 17, 2021, 6:13 PM G [REDACTED], [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Kristin,

I did not reach out to the parent today and this is due to the mother calling the school building this morning to pull [REDACTED] [REDACTED] out of the program. I spoke with Alexis after my meeting and she did not have any additional information. Unfortunately I'm unaware on whether they will be homeschooling their kiddo or not.

On a side note, the student has an [REDACTED] that's due on September 17th and the [REDACTED] will expire at this time.

Thank you,

Dana

On Mon, Aug 16, 2021 at 2:59 PM G [REDACTED], [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hi Kristin,

Can you please provide us with an update on C. [REDACTED] as soon as possible. I've been told that [REDACTED] currently registered to be an in-person learner beginning this week. As of last school year, the parents were thinking about homeschooling their [REDACTED] until [REDACTED] transitions into [REDACTED] school. No one from our team has heard from or spoken to the parents.

Thank you so much,

Dana

Helen [REDACTED] To: "Moss, Jodie" <jlmoss@d47.org>

Tue, Aug 10, 2021 at 1:28 PM

Dear Mrs. Moss,

This was a hard, but easy decision. We appreciate your kindness always and sweet words.

The mandatory mask requirement is a big no for us and know this is the Governor's mandate, not our

school board's. Should the mandate be lifted and normalcy return, we will be happy to reunite

[REDACTED] with [REDACTED] friends and beloved educators.

Is there anything further we need to do? Also, I understand that homeschooled students can still

participate in

extracurricular activities in our assigned school/district. I'm not sure if this is something

we'll pursue, but nice to know our options.

Fondly,

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone



**CRYSTAL
LAKE**

Alberth, Cathy <clalberth@d47.org>

MobyMax data will be archived July 31st

1 message

Thu, Jun 3, 2021 at 6:24 AM

Reply-To: MobyMax <support@mobymax.com>

To: CLAlberth@d47.org



Hi Cathy,

Summer is rolling in, and we want to remind you that your students' 2020-2021 data will be archived on July 31st. We archive student data each year to make room for a new year of student data.

After data is archived, you can still access your students' prior progress history, placement test results, lesson scores, and session times. Game time and badges also stick around! However, the specific problems done will be cleared out. You'll find a handy "Prior Year" section in many of your Moby reports, like in the "Detailed History" in your Progress tab.

James L Show all students			
Completed		Assign	Sequence
Exclude		Class View	
Grade Level	Lesson	Score	Date
2	Bar Graphs	85%	Jan 09, 2020 - 9:47 am
2	Estimating Lengths	94%	Jan 09, 2020 - 9:41 am
2	Comparing Lengths	90%	Jan 08, 2020 - 9:44 am
6	Area	91%	Dec 10, 2019 - 9:49 am
6	Ratios	84%	Dec 09, 2019 - 9:53 am

☐ Current Year
 ☒ Prior Year
 Time Period: All time periods

If your students are in summer school, year-round schools or homeschool, or are simply working in Moby in July, their data will not be archived, so they can continue working uninterrupted.

If you'd like to keep specific records like contest results or messages from this year, now is the time to save them as PDFs or print them out.

We hope you stay safe and healthy and enjoy some well-deserved summer sunshine. We look forward to seeing you next school year!

Cheers,

The MobyMax Support Team



Moby is amazing - at least we think so :). Still want to unsubscribe? [Click here.](#)