

[Video Comment - Phillip Solano](#)

Kathy Fife

Children Back in Classroom

We take issue with your decision to put elementary children back into the classroom at this time when Covid19 is rapidly on the rise. Yes, you were prompt in closing the schools when the virus first started and all should be applauded for that effort but to place these children - young children - in harms way as well as the teacher's and staff while this virus is still very much out of control is alarming. Plus the fact that the schools have made it quite clear that while doing all they can, there will most likely be no ability to keep any type of social distancing in the class. This is neither wise nor responsible on your part. We have listened to and/or read the minutes from every meeting you have held on this subject and your decisions are baffling. We totally understand the hardship online learning places on single parent families as well as families with both parents working however school IS for learning and not a day care facility. Agreed, the children miss a lot by not being in the classroom but the alternative you as the school board have provided is daily exposure to a deadly and contagious virus and this is NOT acceptable. Being in the medical field, the adage of "young children don't get the virus or at least not as bad" is utter and complete hogwash. We are, to say the least, both saddened and appalled by your decision - especially at the elementary school level - to place these children in such danger. The board's decisions that started out with such good common sense when Covid19 first started have seemingly evolved into decisions based around possibly funding, lack of concern and voices of a loud few that still believe this virus is a joke. Shame on you.

Karen O'Leary

High School Occupational Course of Study

I would like to respectfully request that the Occupational Course of Study (OCS) program for high school be categorized under the umbrella of Regional Special Education for the purposes of returning to in-person instruction. OCS students are special education students with IEPs. OCS students are not being prepared to go on to college after graduating high school. Their curriculum teaches life skills and job skills so the students can be independent and secure successful employment without a college degree. These skills are challenging to teach effectively in a remote setting. Initially, when schools were closed, the requirements for work hours required for OCS graduation was reduced so students wouldn't fail the program due to the school closures. That may solve the issue of graduation but it still fails them in terms of being properly prepared for life beyond high school. There is a grim recognition that remote learning is likely causing the students who were already at a disadvantage to fall even further behind. There are many of those disadvantaged students in the OCS program. They are there because they are not likely to successfully complete common core, even with accommodations. Once high school is complete, these students lose a major source of support necessary for their post-education success. Therefore, every hour of preparation for life beyond graduation is vitally important. Sending them back to the classroom comes with minimal risk as there are not very many students in the program. OCS classes are limited in the number of students they can have so distancing should not be an issue. Wearing masks is just another vital life skill that they can get more accustomed to by being in the classroom. I believe keeping them on remote learning is causing far more damage than it is preventing. I know trying to solve all the remote learning challenges for all students while balancing the COVID risk is daunting. This is an option to make a significant impact for some of the students who need it the most. Thank you for your consideration.

Daniel Hupp
Spectators at high events

I am writing again asking for your help in advocating for spectators to be allowed and attend sporting/performing arts events. Last week when I stood I felt front of you, I asked that you help us. I am not just doing it for my student athlete but for all students and families. If we can allow people to shop in a mall, eat at a restaurant, walk the greenways then at least allow parents the opportunity to watch their children in person. Yes, I suggest that you take some advice from local medical experts but don't let them be the deciding factor. There are thousands of parents who have signed a petition asking for some change. Please take that into serious consideration when making a decision about spectators at these events. I am grateful for you reading more words but know there are many others who have the same feelings: LET US WATCH OUR KIDS IN PERSON. Respectfully yours - Danny Hupp

Lindsay Verburgt
High School Return to Campus

My 8th grade daughter just wrapped up her first return to campus day today. She was happy to be back in the building, see her teachers face to face and see her friends. She acknowledged she works better at school after learning virtually since March. Her mood was upbeat, she was happy!

Meanwhile, my 10th grade daughter is still learning virtually with no end in sight. My normally straight "A" student has now become unmotivated and disengaged in some of her classes. She lacks motivation at home, she's struggling. I'm worried for her as I know the only fix to this is being back on campus.

My husband and I know the risks with sending our daughters back to campus. We chose Plan B for them. Please let the high schoolers have the opportunity to return to campus if they along with their parents choose. The data has shown this age group can and has returned to campus successfully in other counties, states, and countries. I ask you to trust the data and send our high schoolers back. For my high schooler, you are doing more harm than good at this point.

Vote yes to return high schoolers on Plan B back to school.

Dana Cooke
STUDENTS NEED TO RETURN TO SCHOOL

I am a 5th grade teacher in Wake Co. The following is a transcript from an email we received from a concerned parent. This is a pattern we are seeing in an alarming percentage of students. They are students who are either not showing up to meets, and/or not doing enough work to gauge their success. Worse than that, some students are losing the motivation to learn - please allow all students to return to the classroom 5 days a week.

Email from parent:

Hello! I just wanted to let you know that I am aware of all the assignments --- is missing. She refuses to do any of her school work and I have exhausted all of my efforts to motivate her to get her assignments done. It breaks my heart because --- is typically an outstanding student. Grade however you need to. If she has to repeat the 5th grade again, that is just one of the consequences she will have to endure as I

explained to her that was possible and she doesn't seem to care. It's been a real struggle and as I appreciate your advice on how to best motivate her in getting her work done and giving her consequences for not getting her work done by taking things away, etc., please know that I have tried it all! She just doesn't care. Perhaps we can schedule a talk with the school counselor with her? I don't know of any other options. She just wants to be back in school and the Virtual Learning at home has come to its breaking point with her.

Kim Mackey
reopen plan

I write advocating against my own family's short-term self-interests. I have children in kindergarten and third grade. But it's not about just my kids and how my family has had to adjust during a global pandemic. We are part of a community and as such the broader needs of the community can outweigh individual interests. This is one of the essential standards in the Civics Course of Study – I practice what I teach.

I write as a teacher advocating against my own short-term self-interest. I've taught for 15 years but my colleagues and I are all first-year teachers again reinventing instruction in a new environment. If we dismissed our safety concerns with in-person instruction it would take far less time to plan new lessons and follow up with students. I'd spend more time being mom to my own kids instead of "in loco parentis" to over one hundred teenagers.

If this full-time path over the next few months falls apart for elementary schools it will only further delay our ability to return our older students to buildings.

This moment is unprecedented but not without parallels. Ten years ago a Tea Party school board and Superintendent Tata moved ahead with a redistricting plan, and the new board allowed it to continue because momentum trumped achievability. Concerns by experts tasked with executing plans on paper were minimized by those with less experience for lack of a "make it happen" mentality to put a square peg in a round hole. This time we're not talking about bus routes, we're talking about community spread of a novel virus.

As we did ten years ago, we're offering parents a choice on their child's learning path: virtual academy or in-person instruction as community health conditions allow - that last phrase gets lost in the shuffle. To be clear, students' families' choices trump staff families' needs. Staff living with high-risk members of their households are in classroom settings with more people gathered than is allowed in any other indoor environment in this state.

Principals and teachers have raised red flags on achievability but these concerns have been interpreted by some as white flags on teaching. We're still teaching - pouring more in to supplement the weaknesses of doing so during a pandemic. Working second job hours to make it happen and taking on third jobs to ensure our voices are heard and our students and colleagues are as safe as possible.

As a civics teacher I'd like to leave you with a reminder that we don't vote by email, public comment, petitions or personal anecdotes. Our community voted and returned all but one of you to your seats as a show of support for a careful approach to educating students during a global pandemic. The community has spoken – listen to those results and continue only with plans that ensure the possibility of following all 3Ws. It's easier to triage learning needs than long-term health impacts.

Ten years from now what might someone say in this room to a future Board? Will they reference this moment as a model for wise leadership during a difficult time, or as a cautionary tale as I've done today?

Lizzy McTray
Covid-19 Dashboard

The dashboard provided by WCPSS is unacceptable. It should be able to be separated by school, include percentages (ie. percent of elementary schools with 1+cases, percent of elementary schools with 5+ cases), and should be updated at least 2-3 times a week. Once a week is simply not enough when families need to make decisions that could have serious consequences. There are teachers, students, staff, community members who would gladly help make and maintain a dashboard that is more detailed and helpful (and likely at no cost).

Peter Lamar
Keep Schools Open

I disagree strongly with the idea of closing elementary schools. The lockdown goals have been vague and arguably ill executed as the virus has still spread regardless of the economic damage that the lockdown has cost. Initiating another ill defined lockdown that continues with no goal or end date is extremely frustrating. I have three young children 2nd grade and below and these lockdowns have already taken almost a year off of their in person schooling. When will it end? Will you be happy when we lose another year of school? The virus is already out and spreading. Locking my elementary kids out of school will do nothing but give people a slight sense of comfort while they still attend malls, parties, and other social gatherings.

Brigid Lowman
Teacher Safety--Notification of Positive Covid Tests for Students in my classroom

Dear Board Members,

First, thank you for your tireless work during the last nine months. You have been faced with many difficult decisions and had to endure public disagreement with some of those decisions. I am grateful to you for your hard work and dedication to the students and citizens of Wake County.

I write to you today concerned about how some current policies are playing out in our schools.

As a teacher, I have had a front row seat to some of these issues.

I am gravely concerned that a student could be in my classroom, test positive for Covid 19, my administrator would know yet not be able to inform me. My survey of colleagues at various schools, many with positive cases, indicates that very little contact tracing is happening. The few people who have been contacted by the health department are reporting a 4-10 day delay. Relying on the health department to deliver this news to your employees when others in the building have that information is not acceptable.

While I understand HIPAA protects the privacy of each individual, I also believe I have a right to a safe work environment. The current practice of not promptly informing teachers of a positive case with one of her students is denying teachers their right to a safe workplace.

Timely notification of a hazard within the work environment that those in charge are aware of seems like a basic request.

Outsourcing this to the overwhelmed health department is unacceptable. Our teachers deserve better.

Regardless, please be transparent with the community and your workforce.

Principals will know of positive cases in their building but will be informing only the health department. The rest of the school community, including the teachers then have to wait 4-10 days for the information to possibly reach them through the health department.

Every day I report to work I am asked to complete a screening. The first question is: Have you been exposed to someone who has tested positive for Covid 19. The only two answer choices are YES or NO. Unless something changes, we need to have "I DON'T KNOW" added as an answer choice.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration of my comments.

Most sincerely, Brigid Lowman

Stephanie storey
High school in person

I am writing to you and honestly begging you to allow high schoolers to return to in person in the spring. My son is a senior and has missed out on so many high school senior year "lasts". After months of safe in person learning for other NC high schools (Wilkes county had been in person with no issues since the beginning of the year as have private high schools in wake county) it has clearly been shown to be able to be done safely. In addition, many other states that have had full time in-person schooling have proven this is very feasible. Our children's mental health is suffering tremendously. The few stories that I have heard of my friends' middle schoolers who have returned have been dramatic. It's like these children are living again! Wake county has offered a very robust plan for those families who do not want to return via the virtual academy which combined with cohorts will dramatically decrease the number of students in person at a time which further ensures a safe return. Please realize our students have not had in person leaning for what will be almost a full school year minus a few months. They are suffering- Academically , emotionally and even physically. And other counties in NC have proven it can be done safely within our governor's guidelines. And private schools - which seem to be exempt from the governor's restrictions - have proven in-person is very feasible/safe even with much higher numbers of students and staff. Also these other counties and private high schools and sport leagues have also proven that attendance at sports and other extracurriculars such as marching band can be done safely. We now DO have the data and science to prove it is safe. AND the data and science to prove that virtual only instruction combined with a lack of social interaction /extra activities is EXTREMELY detrimental. Please do what is right for our students! Please

Marla Pisconta
COVID Clusters in Schools

Recently it was brought to our families attention that a student's family had tested positive for Covid. What is WCPSS doing to ensure that the following cohort will be notified? What is WCPSS doing to clean the building? Will someone discuss contact tracing? Schools can be breeding grounds for COVID.

Thank you

Marla Pisconta

Kathryn Solano
Unsafe Working Conditions

Plan A is unacceptable at this time. When parents and teachers were considering Virtual Academy vs. Plan B in the summer, we were expecting 3-cohort rotations. We certainly were not expecting to be rushed back into full classrooms after only 3 weeks of rotations. Parents were not informed of the actual logistics of full K-3 classes under Plan A and are understandably concerned we are suddenly packing 14-21 students into a room when cases are spiking across the country like never before. As a teacher, I feel occasionally considered at your board meetings, but nothing is ever done about our concerns. You understand you're asking us to do the impossible, yet make us do the impossible anyways. My whole day is running back and forth between students to collect trash, distribute wipes or hand sanitizer, refill water cups, explain how to do an assignment or use a Chromebook, adjust masks, sharpen pencils, coordinate bathroom breaks or lining up, among other tasks. I am near my students enough that I hope I am contacted if they get sick. Because we were wearing masks, I know I won't be contacted. My kids are going to Adventure Landing, the store, vacations, and the park outside of school. They are playing with other kids in their neighborhoods unmasked. We are also preparing to send students off to a season of holiday activities. Relatives are visiting my kids for Thanksgiving. I have already had a student test positive this year before coming to school. I have had students come to school when a sibling is at home sick, even after the new mandate that everyone stays home if one person is sick. Teachers are not safe at school. Students are not safe at school. Stop ignoring the concerns of teachers, parents, and students and keep us safe.

Catherine Robinson
Return to in-person school

Please vote to send ALL students back to school under plan A. Follow the science. There is no evidence that a return to school has caused any spike in cases. This is based on the data that the ABC Science Collaborative continues to share with you - please listen to them. You hired them to provide data and they have shown over and over that opening schools to in-person learning does not increase the risk of Covid.

Please know that our kids are suffering. They are depressed, despondent, isolated, and anxious. They need to be in school. I recognize there are physical health concerns, but the schools have plans to mitigate those. What about the mental health concerns of keeping kids locked out - or going back on a rotation where they will end up with only four in-person days of school per month? Please do not ignore the mental health issues that have been detailed by our local physicians.

Virtual Academy is not working for a large majority of students. The longer you wait to allow our kids back into the schools, the greater the educational divide YOU are creating between our kids and those in other states who are in the classroom, and our kids and those in private schools who have been back in the classroom since day one. Please vote to send all kids back on Plan A for the second semester.

Zachary Martens

Class size

To whom it may concern, I understand that there have been many challenges this year due to COVID but passing the buck to teachers is unacceptable. Under normal circumstances there is a limit of 18 children in a 2nd grade class. Currently there are at least two classes that have surpassed that limit and continue to grow as students are added. That limit exists normally because there are only so many children that one teacher can handle. So adding on all of the extra precautions of COVID and distancing requirements, having so many kids in one class is not only overburdening teachers but also putting them and all their students at further risk of sickness and death. The current solution is unacceptable and there has to be a better way that doesn't further risk the students and teachers' health.

Shaun Pollenz

Lack of Respect for the Community

It is astounding that this Board continues to disrespect the community by restricting our First Amendment rights to the bare minimum, and infringing on these rights with prior restraint language on what can and cannot be discussed during public comments.

When a person seeks to speak with you, they are first met with language that will have a chilling effect on the speaker's commentary. This language is a violation of the First Amendment and shows this Board's complete disrespect for the foundational principles that make America special.

As for delivering in person speech, it is disgusting that the Board Chair insists that he is providing us with sufficient access when an idiot could set up a Zoom meeting and allow speakers to call in, be unmuted, speak, and then be muted again. The City Council has been doing this for months. Apparently this is too difficult a task for the Wake County Board of Education as they simultaneously demand that teachers do it every day while also teaching to students in person.

Once again, this Board embarrasses itself by doing the bare minimum for our community. You can always tell a person has been in office too long when they stop caring about their constituents. If you have been serving on this Board for 8 years or more, it is time for you to leave. You have nothing left to offer WCPSS. Your ideas have dried up and you are addicted to power. You should resign before you do more harm to WCPSS.

Paige Christianson

Unsafe Working Conditions

I am a second grade teacher in the WCPSS. I love my school and my students, but frankly, after 3 weeks of rotations and now starting Day 2 of Plan A, I am appalled at the working conditions teachers are currently being forced to work under, especially those teaching Plan A. (I say Plan A because I am currently in my classroom every day with 20 children. I have parents who are angry that their choice of

Plan B has been revoked and they are now being forced to send their child to school with all other students in the class. Some of my students have not shown up in person at all because of the unsafe conditions, so they are missing 3+ weeks of school.) I come to work every day with the fear that my students and their families will get sick. I am also faced with the constant worry that my own family will get sick due to my career choice. After constantly worrying about my students, their families, and my own families, there is not much energy left in me to worry about myself, but I still do. I am a young teacher with no children, so maybe the risk is "lesser" for me. This does not speak for every "Plan B" teacher that was forced back into the classroom before anyone is ready. Some have families, roommates, and others in their lives who are at risk now that we are completely back in school. Just yesterday alone, two of my students were in my classroom ALL DAY and I found out at the end of the day that their respective siblings were at home sick with a fever, cough, and sore throat. Did this get caught at the health screening? No. Do I blame the screeners? No. They are not being asked to ask these questions. This is at the fault of the county and the board because there are just too many unknowns right now. No one knows how to do this return to school safely, so why are we doing it?? Teachers are not being informed of when siblings stay home sick. They are not being informed of how much they should worry when there is a COVID case at their school (there have now been 2 at mine). We are just told "Persevere!," "We'll get through this!" "We'll figure it out!" Last time I checked, the numbers are going up, not down. We need to come up with a SECURE plan and wait until it's safe to return to school before throwing all Pre-K-3rd grade students back in school. Now fourth and fifth graders are returning. Why are MORE students returning when we haven't even figured out the best way to carry out groups of 6-10???? Teachers are already overworked and underpaid. This year, it is devastating how much work and time is spent during school keeping everyone else without worrying about our own safety. Let alone the nonexistent time to plan quality lessons, review data, grade, attend meetings, keep the kids happy, and teach social-emotional learning. Do we matter? It doesn't seem like it to the people in charge of making decisions of coming back to school. It doesn't seem like it to the parents who expect us to have all the answers when I don't even have time to eat lunch some days. I love teaching more than most things. It has been my dream since I was a child to become a teacher. It is what I was meant to do. But due to these incredibly unsafe and unfair working conditions myself, as well as other AWESOME teachers I know, have considered RESIGNING because the job is getting too hard. Too hard with too little appreciation, too little pay, too little consideration for our humanity. MAKE SOME CHANGES. Please. What will it take for something to change? Hopefully not the lives of students, teachers, and staff.

Bekah Brown
Reopening Under Plan A

Wake County School Board members and Superintendent Moore:

Yesterday WCPSS' elementary schools began in-person learning with triple the students in classrooms. This decision was made with disregard for the concerns expressed by teachers, principals, and community members — the people on the ground — as well as the rising case numbers within our community and the mounting death toll in our nation.

During last week's work session, the question was posed, "What is the number of cases we can expect per week, given our size?" The ABC Collaborative representative explained that in a hybrid setting, where everyone is following the 3 W's, WCPSS can expect 0.5 primary cases per school. That means every single week you, the school board, are willfully placing 100-200 families in harm's way; families that voted for you to make decisions to protect them.

COVID-19 disproportionately affects the health and wellbeing of our black and brown students. Black, Indigenous, and Latinx Americans have a death rate of TRIPLE their white counterparts. Those 100-200 students who may be infected, have families—families with members who may have preexisting conditions. Grandparents that they hug and kiss when they get home from school. Accepting that transmission will occur in schools is also accepting that the lives of the people your students love are worth risking too.

Families who chose Plan B did so because they were assured schools would be following the 3 W's. By ending rotations and moving to Plan A those families are being hoodwinked into a plan they can no longer back out of. Will the district relay to parents that social distancing is no longer a priority or just move to implement a plan without painting a clear picture of the environment students will be in for 7 hours a day?

Families are not struggling with remote learning because of poor instruction; they are struggling because the district has not prioritized the support necessary to ensure success. We don't need more tech support, we need a plan to support the academic, social, and emotional needs of our students. We need a district-wide academic improvement plan along with more social workers, counselors, and psychologists. This is the real discussion that should be taking place.

The message repeated to the public has been, "Plan B was designed so WCPSS can pivot efficiently when needed." This is it. This is the time to pivot. Pivot the thinking to quantify percentages of possible cases to the number of families that may be devastated by a situation that can be avoided. Plan C is the safest plan for everyone, but that option is not being voted on tonight. Therefore, I will ask that you move to keep ALL K-5 students in rotations to ensure the 3 W's are followed so students and families remain safe.

Bekah Brown
Education Justice Alliance,
Community Organizer

Kristin Beller
A transparent decision-making process for second semester

Dear Chair Sutton and Board members,

Good afternoon.

We've been back in full, in-person instruction for a day and a half and tonight you will vote whether we expand that option for additional students after Winter Break. As you prepare for this vote today, there is a lot we don't know about what is to occur over the next month. Have you considered delaying the vote to see how full, in-person instruction is going or possibly setting conditions on the plan as you vote? For example, if certain metrics are met, one plan is used and if they are not, another plan is used. We don't have to have a plan that is implemented irrespective of conditions. You can instead choose to set some benchmarks that have to be met for a plan to be put into place. Such a choice would improve transparency in decision-making and give our whole community the opportunity to actively engage in building the culture of trust and safety that Dr. Benjamin and Superintendent Moore emphasized last week. We, as educators, parents, students, and community members, would then have a way to know what is guiding your decision as well as how to get to our desired outcome of students safely learning in school buildings.

Such indicators would need to be measurable and named at the time of the vote, but they don't need to be complex. Without them, you currently are using some list in your own personal decision-making, which may or may not be the same list as the other board members, and undoubtedly leads to the possibility that all nine of you vote the same way but for nine different reasons. I'm simply asking that you clearly define and share what those indicators are for the rest of our county in an effort to provide a clear, transparent, and consistent decision-making process.

I imagine that most of you are considering a variety of factors including but not limited to:

- Data demonstrating the strict adherence to the 3Ws evidenced by students and staff consistently wearing face coverings over their nose, mouth, and chin;
- Data demonstrating the consistent cleaning and disinfecting of school and transportation spaces each evening;
- Data demonstrating a high rate of staff reporting their conditions each day;
- Data demonstrating the number of cases in our county and how it translates to risk of spread in school settings using tools such as those provided by the Coronavirus Research Center at John Hopkins University; and
- Data demonstrating impact of positive cases in schools and whether they are leading to secondary transmission.

Instead of allowing the possibility for seeds of division to be sown as individuals guess or misrepresent what they think is guiding your decision-making, why not just put the factors out there for all to see and hear for themselves? If we all know what will impact whether we start the second semester in rotations of two- or three-cohorts or in full classes, then there are no surprises or misunderstandings about what to expect.

Sincerely hopeful,
Kristin Beller
Wake NCAE President

Angela Cular
Plan B 2 Cohort Rotation

If Plan B second semester is required to return for high school due to Governor Cooper's order please consider making a 2 cohort rotation for high school! 5 hours of live instruction is unacceptable while virtual. Learning and grades will suffer even more than 1st semester. The district must find a way to return to a minimum of 2 cohorts!

Jim Elrod
Culture of Silence Cottage Cheese on the Counter

Dear WCPSS BOE

What happens if you let a problem go unaddressed? It doesn't get better it gets worse!!!

I ask that you all watch this you tube video, and encourage your hired principals and area superintendents to follow up with parents on concerns. Encourage to problem solve and not continue with this culture of silence that is within wake county public schools.

When this school system postpones, procrastinates, and goes silent the problem gets worse. Its cottage cheese on the counter.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-PRnxs43Shk>

Amy Marshall

Reopening/Spectators/American flag removed/Pledge/OEA Politically Biased Content & Skyrocketing OEA Budget

11/17/20

To: Wake Board of Ed and Superintendent Moore

CC: Lt. Governor Elect Mark Robinson and NC Superintendent Elect Catherine Truitt

RE: HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS NOT ALLOWED IN SCHOOL/ SPORTS SPECTATORS/ AMERICAN FLAGS REMOVED FROM SCHOOL/ OEA/ POLITICALLY BIASED CURRICULUM

Regarding my last public comment one week ago, no one from the WCPSS Board of Education replied to my public comments of that time. Please provide feedback to parents who post public comments that you have read them, and provide feedback on remedies you intend to provide, if any, to parent concerns. Thank you.

KEEPING HIGH SCHOOLERS HOME AND NOT ALLOWING THEM IN SCHOOL – ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS NEED TO BE BACK IN SCHOOL EVERY SINGLE DAY, AND NOT ON ROTATIONS. If parents or kids are not comfortable going to the school building, then they can stay virtual. The goal should be getting all grades back into school every single day. High school students have not been allowed to attend school for 8 months. This is unacceptable.

SPECTATORS AT HIGH SCHOOL SPORTING EVENTS: All sporting events should be restored and parents and scouts should be able to attend as spectators. There are countless examples of local, state, and national other schools who have not shut down sports or spectators. Restricting sports and spectators is only hurting the kids. The level of restriction you are mandating does not match society where people are going to parks, grocery stores, and countless other places. Your reaction to Covid is hysterical and not helpful to kids.

APEX MIDDLE SCHOOL - AMERICAN FLAGS REMOVED: Parents are reporting that American flags have been removed from the front office of the school, or in other large spaces such as media center or auditorium. Also, the daily Pledge of Allegiance is not being recited at the school. WCPSS is in violation of North Carolina law in these two respects. Please remind AMS principal to require daily Pledge of Allegiance and remind to replace American flags that have been removed.

POLITICALLY BIASED CURRICULUM AND BUILDING MURALS: WCPSS continues to maintain the following politically biased web site that creates division among staff and students. Perpetuating a victim-focused mentality and teaching kids to be proud of a victim mentality is not in the kids' best interest. The court cases mentioned on your site contain false information, so kids are being given incorrect information that is not consistent with rulings and jury findings in particular court cases. The bottom line is it is politically biased and not NCDPI curriculum so it should be removed from WCPSS.

<https://tfcloudshare.com/wcpssoea/racial-equity-resources/>,

You also have not removed the politically biased racially divisive, anti-police, pro-violence, pro-rioting mural at Green Level High School. You promote BLM in the mural. BLM calls for the national defunding of all police, and the leader of BLM, Patrisse Cullors, describes herself as a "trained Marxist." Racism should be vehemently condemned, but promoting that concept the way you are doing it is not productive.

Politically biased murals which represent the nationwide defunding of police have no place in our public schools. 3,000 WCPSS parents signed this petition asking you to remove the politically biased Office of

Equity Affairs pro-BLM website from WCPSS. You have ignored this petition.

<https://www.ipetitions.com/petition/petition-to-remove-blm-marxist-curriculum?fbclid=IwAR0MXjiYZvZWGAayn3nbY5grcAoMPjxaasEg02AQ0Blp3TylTuTObWPYNYs>

WCPSS OFFICE OF EQUITY AFFAIRS – A recent FOIA document request revealed that the WCPSS Office of Equity Affairs continues to frivolously spending taxpayer dollars. Why should OEA staff get their cell phones and cell phone bills paid for? Teachers don't. WCPSS spent \$6million on OEA over the past six years. Their budget started at \$250,000 and has now skyrocketed to over \$1.6 million last year. This included expensive airfares and hotels all around America, not to mention expensive meals. That \$1.6 million also included racist politically biased trainings. Why? OEA salaries alone are half a million. OEA employees CS & LM promote violence on Twitter supporting such statements during Raleigh rioting as "Colonization is violent, so decolonization must be violent too" and support such statements as "the real revolution will not be diversity trainings." Why does WCPSS tolerate OEA staff promoting violence on Twitter? Why does WCPSS continue to allow OEA spending to be out of control? OEA staff also perpetuates racially-divisive trainings to teachers that include such racist content as "White privilege," and "Seeing White," and teachers who decline racist trainings get demoted or forced out. It's time to put the focus back on education and away from victimization and politically biased trainings. It's time to spend the money on academics. Will you do it?

Tony and Tamara Ramirez
OCR Complaints against WCPSS

Dear WCPSS BOE

My mom network in the community, want to know where we can find OCR complaints filed against WCPSS. I do not see this public information on your website.

Chronic Problems that have not been addressed.

Thank you

Tamara Ramirez

Carrie Bley
Secondary math resources

WCPSS Board Meeting
(Virtual)
11/17/2020
Carrie Bley Comments

We need Secondary Math Resources

I would like to take a historical perspective in this plea. Since both the middle school and high school math curriculum contracts are expiring June 30, 2021 we would like to make sure that WCPSS has all the reliable data you need to make an informed decision about renewing these programs. We do not feel that you have that reliable data and we are afraid that WCPSS will renew these programs without such information.

You will need teacher input. We have not seen a survey from educators on these curriculums since 2018, so that information is not up to date (If we are mistaken about your efforts to collect that data, please let us know). The high school curriculum company, Mathematics Vision Project, has made themselves infamous by suing a parent in Wake County in 2019 for speaking out in opposition of their product. That reputation will now need to be considered.

Have you really collected and weighed the community, parent, and student voices and solicited useful data on these two math programs since implementation? That is where we can take a history lesson. One year ago, WCPSS hired a 3rd party, MGT of America Consulting, LLC, to review the MVP high school math curriculum due to objections such as ours. The cost was \$107,899. MGT in cooperation with WCPSS staff then issued the only "official" math survey to parents since these curriculums were implemented in 2017. It eventually yielded over 3,000+ responses and they were overwhelmingly negative. It was devastating to read how poorly a math program has affected both students and families in Wake County. There was no other conclusion to draw from that data. It painted MVP in a very bad light.

That survey process did not go well. Here are some of the issues encountered:

WCPSS and MGT staff could not define exactly WHO the survey was emailed to.
Math survey was initially issued without comment boxes. When the parents requested them, the survey had to be re-issued. There is NO confirmation that the NEW math survey was then emailed to.
WCPSS and MGT staff could not tell us the date and time the survey ended.
Survey results were not organized. It was issued in 3 versions in 2 separate formats.

Version #1- 207 pages- The 1st page indicates that these were only the results and comments received until November 2, 2019 11:23AM. Yet the Survey period extended until November 13th. This version is missing ALL comments for question #5.

Version #2- 292 page- Missing ~19 pages from Question #1. Comments for question #5 were added to this version.

Version #3-20 pages- The missing comments from question #1.

I want to stop here and point out that this survey was not emailed to the entirety of WCPSS parents and staff. It was sent to such a small percentage of Wake County parents, and it STILL produced over 3,000 results. That should speak volumes. Because we had been speaking about this topic for 6 months at Board Meetings and had a child that was re-taking a MVP Math 1 class in 2nd semester....and we were NEVER sent this survey.

In December of 2019 when the final MGT review of MVP high school math curriculum was presented to the Wake County Board in a Student Achievement Committee Meeting...these community concerns were not communicated very well. And I was sitting in that room with you.

We have been advised that WCPSS thinks that the surveys were filled out multiple times by parents cheating. I have been told by a member of the WCPSS Board that no one has the time to read hundreds of pages of comments and that the negative responses should be seen as a sign that the more rigorous math work included in the MVP curriculum....is working. Kids are struggling...productively...just like they should be.

If WCPSS staff did not trust the survey results from a company they paid \$107,899 dollars to...then have them redo their work. Keep seeking out useful data. We most definitely feel that no care was taken with this survey. Quite frankly, it's heartbreaking to these families to have our words and fears dismissed by our leaders.

No public feedback has ever been solicited for the middle school math curriculum of Open up Resources. We are asking that you make an effort to gather more data and feedback on these math programs from your teachers, students and parents before renewing these contracts. Please do not renew Open up Resources and MVP without all the information you need to make an informed decision.

-Carrie Bley
