

LAKE HAVASU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.1

2200 Havasupai Blvd.
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403

Special Governing Board Minutes

August 11, 2020

1. Routine Opening of Meeting - Call to Order

The special session of the Governing Board of Lake Havasu Unified School District No. 1 was called to order by Governing Board President, Lisa Roman, in the District Office Boardroom, 2200 Havasupai Blvd., Lake Havasu City, Arizona at 4:00 p.m., on August 11, 2020.

1.1 Moment of Silent Prayer or Reflection

1.2 ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Lisa Roman, President
Kathy Cox, Vice President
Nichole Cohen, Member
Archana Aliyar, Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: John Masden, Member

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Dr. Rebecca Stone, Superintendent
Aggie Wolter, Director of Special Services
Jaime Festa-Daigle, Director of Personnel/Technology

Others: 1
Terry Fleming, Secretary

1.3 Pledge of Allegiance

2. Review and Accept Agenda for this Session

Mrs. Cox moved, seconded by Mrs. Aliyar, to approve Agenda as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Aliyar: YES, Cohen YES, Cox: YES, Roman: YES

3. Action Items

3.1 Discussion and Action on New Liability Coverage from the Trust

Dr. Stone recommended that the Board discuss and approve the attached Arizona School Risk Retention Trust endorsement in the amount of \$75,000.00.

Discussion: Mrs. Cohen shared her concerns with the requirement to follow all state guidelines. Dr. Stone specified that the Liability Trust and our legal attorney have approved both the parent acknowledgement form and waiver form. Mr. Murray stated that the \$75,000 annual liability fee will be paid from M&O funds, but he is looking at some possible funding from grants.

Mrs. Cohen moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Item 3.1 as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Cohen YES, Aliyar: YES, Cox: YES, Roman: YES

3.2 Discussion and Action on Parent Waiver

Dr. Stone recommended that the Board discuss and approve the attached parent COVID-19 Waiver, Release, and Assumption of Risk Form.

Discussion – Mrs. Roman stated that our parents and families are the first line of defense. If children have any of the noted symptoms parents will need to keep them home and notify their school. Forms will be emailed to parents with request to return to their school site.

Mrs. Cox moved, seconded by Mrs. Aliyar to approve Item 3.2 as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Cohen YES, Aliyar: YES, Cox: YES, Roman: YES

3.3 Discussion and Action on Updated Roadmaps

Dr. Stone recommended that the Board discuss and approve the updated LHUSD Roadmaps. Updated Roadmaps were shared electronically with the Board prior to the meeting.

Discussion: Dr. Stone reviewed changes to the Employee and Student Roadmaps to Reopening our schools. Board discussion on concerns, questions and what teachers are

currently doing for their classes. Mrs. Roman understands there are concerns, nonetheless our school buildings may be closed, but schooling will continue.

Mrs. Cox moved, seconded by Mrs. Aliyar to approve Item 3.3 as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Cohen NO, Aliyar: YES, Cox: YES, Roman: YES

3.4 Discussion and Action on LHUSD Reopening Options

Dr. Stone recommended that the Board discuss reopening options and select a plan for LHUSD.

Discussion: Dr. Stone reviewed the COVID-19 School Benchmarks from the Arizona Health Department. She shared the results of the family survey -576 students for onsite support starting August 17. There are 251 students participating in the SchoolsPLP program. Dr. Stone shared the results of the staff survey and reviewed their concerns.

Board discussion on if District will open school fully or a hybrid. Mrs. Roman proposed that we continue with Distance Learning and online until the percent positivity rate equals 8%, then the Board will meet again to discuss reopening. District would comply with Health Department and continue onsite support.

Public email with questions, concerns, and remarks were read, with Superintendent, Directors and Board responding when appropriate:

○ Naomi Severson: "Dear LHUSD School Board, I would like to offer some insight and share a few concerns I have for the children of LHUSD. We began distance learning this week. I am currently a Stay at Home mom due to Covid. I also have a background in Early Childhood Education. I, personally, welcome the opportunity to teach my children. On Monday, day 1 of distance learning, I had several children call me because both of their parents work and they were unable to navigate the new process alone. They are students of our high school and middle school. They come from good, involved families. I had a house full of kids that really want to succeed but cannot do it alone. That evening I was called by another parent- a single dad- who could not figure out how to navigate google classroom for their 1st grader. As a result, his child will not be going to "school" this week until he can try to look at it again over the weekend when he is not working. My point is this, for the sake of the children in this district you MUST work to have in person learning by the 17th. I asked the question in the first board meeting regarding school closures, "What will qualify keeping schools closed or from opening and closing throughout the year? Would it be dictated by the number of cases or only by executive order?" Mrs. Roman, you gave a short response stating that the schools would only be closed by an "Executive order." I am asking you to keep your word in this matter and consider all of the children in this district. Please realize that not all parents are able to teach. Not all parents can afford to stop working to accommodate distance learning. Keep in mind the fact that many parents will have to choose to not enforce distance learning in lieu of working to feed their families. Think of those children and what the outcome will be for them. The outcome will not be good, not only for their academic progress but for their mental health as well. They will be defeated and they will be behind academically. I am telling you that I am seeing this first hand. This can NOT be a long term solution. Most children are not in the same situation as my children. Please open our schools on August 17th (unless the Executive order is extended). Please realize that the long term implications of what we are currently doing are seriously detrimental to many students in this district. Thank you for your time and consideration. Respectfully,"

○ Kendra Bell: "My name is Kendra Bell. I am a parent of a high school freshman and a high school senior. We have all had a very good attitude about the online school...until today. This online learning, although the teachers are doing a great job) DOES NOT WORK!! My kids and so many others I personally know desperately need to return to in person instruction. Watching both of my girls cry because they aren't learning anything and straight A honors students getting a D on two math assignments is just plain unacceptable to me. We need to go back sooner than later. I understand the virus is real and is a threat, but the numbers are declining (and in my own personal opinion made up). Let the people stay home that are afraid. Let the rest of us get back to life so our kids futures can stay bright!!! Thanks for your consideration."

○ Kristin Stroup: "Our kids need to be in REAL school. They shouldn't have to be masked up like a hazard suit. This is interrupting their whole life. If teachers don't want to teach yet, let them stay home. When I was laid off from work, I had to find a job no matter what the field was. Same should go for now if it's their choice... The masks aren't going to keep this crap away. Let them be kids. Parents who don't want to send the kids, DON'T..... But let our kids be NORMAL. You have NO IDEA how much trauma they already have. My daughter has seen me being suffocated before I was able to break free from her abusive biological father... this is WRONG. These "numbers" being reported are fake and made up. Yes,

the virus is real, but it HAS been. Stop letting these people brainwash. Think for yourselves. Wash hands. Don't spit or sneeze on anyone. It's not hard."

○ Mike Bell: "To whom it may concern. I am requesting that our local schools in lake havasu city open back up and that the mask requirement be dropped. Please understand the myself and many other parents are not being fooled by the media fear mongering about this virus. We are not scared, not worried, and not ok with the current situation. If we can have day care we can have school. If we can riot and burn flags we can have school. These kids are the future of this country. Without our educators and normal school days our current situation will only get worse. For the families and faculty that are falling for the FAKE NEWS, and are afraid have them do schooling online. Please understand that these statements and opinions are from an essential worker who has been working every single day like normal. We are not going to die if we go back to school. Thank you in advance."

○ Katie Bell: "Hello there! I am a freshman here at the lake Havasu high school and I just wanted to message you about going back to school, I feel that many of us are struggling with our assignments and many of our parents are doing the best they can with helping us but between work and their own lives it is not going very well. So if you can do anything to help me and my family with that it would be great! Thank you!"

○ Kori Stocker O'Connell: "I am writing to express my concern. As a parent of a student at Starline, please don't rush to open schools before they are ready per the guidelines/benchmark set for safe opening. I feel like if students have to wear a mask to go back to school, then it's not safe to open. "

○ Lexi Bell: "The community of Lake Havasu appreciates your efforts during this trying time. The Covid pandemic is nowhere near as bad as everyone thinks. Stop teaching children to have fear of something that should not be feared. Online learning may work for some, although it is more of a struggle for many. The teachers and their efforts are more than appreciated. I respect the people that want to keep their children home. I am sorry to the teachers that are afraid to go back. Both of my parents have been out in this pandemic the whole time because they are ESSENTIAL. I believe that TEACHERS ARE ESSENTIAL. If my parents have to risk themselves, why do teachers get a choice? Does my mother have the option to be a nurse online? Does my father have the option to be a certified master technician online? If you haven't figured it out, the answer is no. What gives teachers the luxury to choose where they want to work? You're welcome from the essential workers that haven't given in to fear. If you want the education of students in Lake Havasu to massively decrease, feel free to keep teaching unnecessary fear and preventing us from going to school. If you want the students to grow in their education, GIVE US THE RIGHT TO SCHOOL BACK. You may argue that "colleges teach online all the time! What's the difference?" Here's the difference. The mental maturity of a 3rd grader and a college student is just a little bit different. COLLEGE STUDENTS ARE ADULTS. Children need in-person community to grow and mature both mentally and emotionally. Stop letting fear control you. Stop taking away our rights because of YOUR ARE WRONGFULLY AFRAID. This is a continuation of my first email. Think about this. Places that have been open through this whole pandemic: grocery stores, daycares, etc. Places that have been closed: church, school, etc. Why is it that the threat of Coronavirus is only present in certain places? Also, think about another thing. Numbers of Covid cases have been wrongfully recorded. Numbers are being stacked month-to-month. Do you really believe that herd immunity isn't becoming a thing? And why all of a sudden in coronavirus the ONLY cause of death anymore? Can we get any other sickness anymore? What about allergies? Are allergies immediately related to Covid? Yes, this virus WAS a threat. As the months have passed, the threat has become so much less. Look around you. Let's end this and give us OUR FREEDOM. "

○ Sabrina Macready-Walton: "I currently have 7 students in my home; 3 in high school, 2 in middle school, and 2 in elementary school. That's roughly 30 different classes, in both Google Classroom and Remind. I was apprehensive, to say the least, between working from home and supervising all of the classes. Fortunately, I was able to get the support I needed to succeed in Distance Education. All of my children can navigate Google Classroom with minimal hiccups, complete their work, and attend a majority of their Zoom meetings with very little assistance. Although, there is a need to help my younger children with classwork and supervise them closely during school time otherwise they'd turn in blank/incorrect documents or fool around in general. I'd like to express my gratitude to all of our teachers, I have been receiving excellent feedback and a great deal of help from several teachers and staff members. I've sent countless emails and I've continually recieved timely responses, usually within the hour! I appreciate the dedication of the staff and I'm grateful for everything that's being done to assist myself and countless other families in our school district. Thank you! Ultimately, these are my children, it is my responsibility as a parent to make sure their educational needs and emotional well-being (among other things) are taken care of... even if it is a personal inconvenience. I view public education as a supplement to my childrens overall education. I am the parent; I am the teacher, I am the social director, I am the accountability police, etc. When did society decide that our schools are responsible for our children's full education, childcare, social life, health, patriotism, morals, and so on? Our school system is not convenient parenting solution and should not be treated as such. I'm particularly concerned for our special needs students, most of the

children have vastly different needs and a 'one size fits all' education plan isn't feasible. I'm concerned about the recent survey implying a glorified childcare setting for a specific group of students. A non-teacher supervising special needs students, 504 plan students, and at risk students sounds catastrophic. Typically, these students need qualified staff to meet their individual needs, which is why they have the IEP's and 504's in place. Then to toss in essential employee's children as well? It sounds dangerous, in my opinion.

I understand there is a lot of pressure to get the kids back into school as soon as possible. I'd like to know about continuing Distance Education in the event that in-school instruction starts sooner than some families had anticipated. I'd like to see Distance Learning continue for those who aren't ready, able, or willing to send their children into our schools for in-school instruction. Our children should have the ongoing relationships with their local teachers and classmates despite their parents decision on what's safe for their family. Children should not be penalized for their parents decisions, that's why we're all making a big stink here, right? Someone made a choice we don't like and we're upset at the fallout. Respectfully; every parent wants to make sure their children are happy, healthy, and safe. We all have the same goal and I feel like we should be respectful regarding all opinions and ideas whether we agree or not. In closing, I'd like to say that I certainly don't prefer this way of learning. I enjoy having my kids in a classroom environment, with their patient and attentive teachers. However, I understand why our 20-21 school year has started this way and I'm supportive. I choose to model positive and accepting behavior in regards to our current schooling situation because I would really like to see my children model the same behavior in the future when things don't go their way."

○ Catherine Lane: "Good evening fellow board members I understand all we have to do to bring our students back to class. Safety for our students and ourselves is very important at this time. I have one concern that is bothering me. In the event that a student/employee comes back to school and we are exposed to covid 19 we are now being quarantined for 2 weeks. In the last board meeting it was stated that we will have to use our sick time for that 2 weeks. We are exposed not diagnosed with covid. Can you clarify this more, or tell me what I misunderstood. This shouldn't be our fault and our sick time shouldn't be used. I could understand if we were diagnosed as having covid but not when we are sent home because some else was. I understand why we would be sent home, but it doesn't seem right to use our time. I have worked with the school district since Nov. 2003 and I love my job. For many years I didn't take sick leave or personal days. I save my sick days so I can use it if an emergency comes up. Two weeks of sick time really hurts us later when we are sick and don't have it in our bank. I know this will all work out and look forward to seeing all our students return to their schools. Thank you"

○ Marcia Stratton-Lynnes: "Once school is in session, what protocols will be in place if a student is diagnosed with covid? Will all students from that class have to quarantine? The school? Will it close again?"

○ Susan Davidson: "Good evening. I understand there will be a board meeting tomorrow. With Covid numbers as high as they are, I am not in favor of in person school at this time. Our students and teachers lives are far too important to put them at risk. It is unfortunate that education cannot be our primary concern at this time because the lives of our loved ones need to be, but some things are just out of our human control. We have amazing teachers and I have full confidence that our teachers can provide education to our students online, until it is safe for everyone to return in person to school. We must put their lives first. If the school chooses to reopen in person, how many children and teachers have to die before we shut down the schools again? Is it okay if your child dies, or their teacher? Is it okay if your child brings COVID19 home and gives it to a parent, grandparent or sibling who's already ill and fighting for their life? My husband has cancer and I shouldn't have to worry about telling my children they cannot go to school because I don't want them to get sick or possibly die, or have them bring the virus home to their ill father, whom doctors say won't likely survive COVID19 if he gets it. The school district should be telling the community that they are not going to be allowing the children and staff back to the school, so that everyone can stay safe. In reality school should probably be closed until October 1st and then things should be reevaluated at that time. Please keep our families safe by not reopening the schools for in person school at this time. Thank you,"

○ Joel Silverstien: "To: The Lake Havasu Unified District Governing Board This Letter Is Also for Public Reading August 11, 2020 Greetings, I am a Biology and Chemistry teacher at Lake Havasu High School. Writing, reading, and critically analyzing data are commonplace for me. This morning a news report came out highlighting the joint report from **The American Academy of Pediatrics and Children's Hospital Association**. The report titled: **Children and COVID 19: State Data Report** is a compilation of the latest data of 49 states and the impact of Covid-19 on children. The compilation source is from State level, best publicly available data on COVID 19 cases in children. The report for 8/6/20 and 7/30/20 are included for your reference. The highlights are alarming as this information directly affects our children, their families, the teachers and administrators responsible, and the community at large. Highlights: Nationwide

- Children represent 9.1% of all available Covid-19 cases in the United States.
- Overall, 501 children per 100,000 children are infected.

- Seventeen states report more than 500 cases per 100,000
 - Three states report more than 1,000 cases per 100,000
 - Arizona
 - South Carolina
 - Tennessee
 - California and Florida have the most significant caseload of children, due primarily to their overall population. However their infection rate is under 800/100k
 - **Locally** Arizona is leading the nation with the **highest rate of infected children** per 100,000 child population.
 - Arizona rate on the 08/06 data compilation is 1,206 per 100,000
 - Arizona rate on the 07/30 data compilation was 1,098 per 100,000
 - Arizona has increased its infected rate of children by 9% in a one week span.
 - Lake Havasu City's child population reaches 12% of all persons. The city population in 2018 was stated at 55,000 persons by the News Herald in May 2019. This overall population yields a child population of approximately 6,600. Not all of these children are in Lake Havasu City schools, some are not school age, some are in private schools, some are homeschooled, but they are children in our community nonetheless. Applying the Arizona rate to our child population suggests that at this moment our city has, or will have shortly 72 children infected with Covid-19, whether or not testing has occurred. Opinion Based upon this alarming credible data, Arizona is not able to put children back in classrooms yet. The state has the highest rate (per 100k of children) of infected children in the nation. Consequently, Mohave County and Lake Havasu City are not able to put children back in the classroom either. Doing so at this time puts your entire community at significant risk. The Governor has left it up to the individual school districts to decide when and how to put children back in school. That is his "get out of jail free card." He puts the responsibility on you. Since March 14 our students have been out of school. In the spring, the schools rallied quickly and put together distance learning systems to help salvage a semester. This August the teachers and children are better prepared for distance learning. We have seen in the past week how well it is working. Of course, crisis is a strain on everyone. A crisis is not supposed to be easy. It will take incredible work to get through this pandemic. Plea Considering that today Arizona has the highest rate of Covid-19 infected children, the Governing Board should not put the majority of these children back in the school buildings. Consider for this semester keeping Middle and High School on distance and e-Learning. The students with special needs can be provided with special accommodations on campus in limited settings. Elementary school children should be delayed until the rate of infection is less than 7% for 21 days rolling average and then brought back in small numbers. Then, while all of this is in play, properly prepare for a possible spring return. The board has a responsibility to every person in this city and our county. As cliché as it sounds, we are all in this together. Do the right thing. Show the state and the nation that you know what is best for your community. Respectfully submitted,"
 - Melissa Waller: "I know there are a lot of parents who are eager to have buildings re-open, but I am hoping the board will make the best decision for all parties involved. If you decide to re-open as normal as possible, we have only 3 days to prepare for that. And there are so many things to think about:
 - Class layout
 - Bathroom schedules (we have around 210 primary students sharing a bathroom)
 - Face covering procedures
 - Drop-off and pick-up
 - Normal prep of lessons and materials
 - Supplies
 - Cleaning
 - Hand-washing routines
 - Lunchroom procedure (where to store masks, opening food, cleaning)
- A normal school day with all these new procedures and restrictions is a long day for our youngest learners! These are just a few of many things that need to be planned out. I just don't want the board to rush a decision when the stakes are so high."
- Tania Gray: "Madame President and School Board Members, I want to share my thoughts regarding the vote tonight from a teacher in the classroom. I adamantly ask that you vote against reopening the high school on Monday. Firstly, it may be possible to start with a staggered reopening. Elementary schools have fewer students and staff and may have more need for in person instruction. If we come up with a plan for recess and other high traffic times, we may be able to achieve this goal. However, it is impossible to safely open a school with nearly 2000 students and over 100 staff members. We do not have enough room in our classrooms to safely distance a group of 36 (just my first period); this does not even consider the number of students moving between classes in the hallway and eating together at lunch. Gatherings with this many people have not been allowed in our town, so we have not tested whether this can be safely achieved. If we do reopen so quickly, without ensuring that we are ready to do so, the

likelihood that we will have to shut back down to then reopen again later is all the more pronounced. Finally, we need more notice to reopen than a few days, both to work on lesson planning and to establish safety measures as a campus and in our classrooms. We must have time to plan for a smooth transition and to create protocols. I have heard it stated that teachers want to be back in the classroom with their students; although I understand the sentiment, I absolutely do not feel this way without a plan to safely bring students back. I understand that students and parents may be struggling with distance learning, but we have only been doing it for one week; we are just beginning to understand how to effectively use the tools available. I also believe that if parents were given a date for the start of in person learning with logical reasons to support why we cannot open immediately, they will be assured and able to make definite plans. This would alleviate much of the fear and frustration. Please consider the thoughts of a dedicated veteran teacher in this district as you vote tonight”

○ Jessica Wood: “Dear members of the board, My name is Jessica Surprenant and I currently have 2 children enrolled in Lake Havasu’s school district. I have 3 questions that I will ask you to address this evening. Please, take a moment and put yourself in the parents and children’s shoe’s when you are thinking about your answers. My first questions is how are you as a board putting so much trust into the benchmarks for the schools reopening when we are not being provided with the equations they are using to obtain the percentages needed to meet those bench marks? How do they get their numbers? Lisa, please elaborate to the board if they do not understand my meaning on this question. My second question is can you as a board really rely on the numbers that are being provided when they are suggesting to meet the benchmarks as a whole county? We are a small community compared to our county as a whole and our city numbers are no where near the county numbers. Also, If they are using the number of positive cases divided by the number of people tested, that does not reflect an accurate # of the county as a whole.

Finally, Is the fear of reopening full time and then having another shutdown playing a role in you decision? I know that Lisa feels that this type of a scenario would be more detrimental to our children than the current circumstances. Is that too how the rest of the board feels? If so, can I just point out that we, the actual parents of the children effected, do not feel this way. You yourselves have sat up there since March, talking about how resilient and adaptive our children are. If this is the case, how can you say that opening and then closing again would be worse than their current reality? I know you all take your roles seriously and have the intentions of keeping our children safe. But keeping our kids safe ultimately falls on the parents in any other circumstance. I feel you should be looking more towards the parents for the answers and less toward the media and government websites. Please, stop making our children the victims of political blackmail and reopen our schools. Even Hybrid models would be better than what we are experiencing currently. REOPEN OUR SCHOOLS Thank you from a concerned parent”

○ Brittany Velasco: “Dear Members of the Board, My name is Brittany Velasco and I currently have two children enrolled in elementary school in the Lake Havasu Unified School District. This last week of distance learning, has been one of the hardest as a parent. Like many of the parents in this small community, I am an essential worker. I am not going to sit here and complain about how hard it has been on me as a parent because I know that its been hard on everyone. And I will do whatever it takes for my kids to be successful students. As a Mom it breaks my heart to see my children and other children suffering from all of this. They miss their community. The teachers, the staff members, and their friends. Our district needs to see how this is negatively impacting the children in our community. Think of the harsh reality that some of the children in our community are facing. As you make your decision today, remember all of the children who are being left behind. Though this meeting is about the children, I would like for you think of the parents who can barely pay their rent and are now being faced with having to pay daily daycare costs. Can you imagine what that might feel like for those parents. What are those children now going without to make up the difference. Think of the parents who have anxiety or depression. How do you think they are handling all of this change. The decisions you are about to make today are going to have a huge impact on our small community. I am not going to bore you with statistics or numbers because we all know you have already seen them. Please reopen our schools. Thank you for your time and consideration, “

○ Sally Patterson: “My name is Sally Patterson and I’m a single mother of 2. My daughter started kindergarten this year and my son started 2nd grade. I work remotely from home and my job is fast paced and very demanding. Although my children’s teachers have done an amazing job thus far with the distance learning, it just hasn’t been a successful process in our home. It’s very difficult to coordinate my work tasks and client calls in order to accommodate both of my children’s needs with school work and zoom meetings. Both of my children are disengaged and miss the school environment with friends and teachers who are trained at what they do. We need to open schools back up and provide our children with the proper education and developmental milestones that they deserve! Thank you,”

○ Leanne Collins: “Dear members of the board, Hello my name is Leanne Collins. I currently have 2 children in the Lake Havasu Unified School District. Both of my children currently have IEPs, my youngest is in 3rd grade. She barley is even reading yet, and having a really hard time with math. She does so much better when she’s in class and also has her resource classes that she can go to, to get extra help that she really truly needs, and depends on for that help. This shut down of schools has really had a impact

on her. I can only do so much as I am her mom and she wants/needs to be in class. My son is a sophomore and also having a real hard time understanding the work for his classes. He also has IEP. He does so much better with in person learning than from at home. He really needs in class learning. If they can't go back full time maybe have them with last names A-M go to school Monday and Wednesday, then N-Z go Tuesday and Thursday. All day of not 1/2 day. I know this is how another City is doing their school and at least their kids are getting something. Thank you for your time and hope my words move you in the right direction. Please please reopen our schools Concerned parent,"

○ Chessa Frei: "Greetings, In response to yesterday's staff survey, I feel inclined to provide a more detailed response than the selections allowed. Like many teachers, I marked that I would return to work in person if we reopen. I felt that was my only option as I'm not retirement age, and my working from home when students are at school does not seem possible. However, I don't feel that response captures the stress, anxiety, and concern that I have for those returning students. I am a chemistry, algebra, and AP Biology teacher at LHHS, and my classroom is simply not equipped to handle the social distancing that is required should students return. I have bulky lab tables that seat two students each, and the room is not large enough to adequately distance the 18 tables from each other. The hand sanitizer dispensers that the district has provided uses a product that is not alcohol based, so is not adequate to protect the spread of Covid-19. Five of my six classes are lab sciences, and there is not enough room to socially distance students to do lab activities, nor do I have enough equipment for individuals to have their own; sharing and lab groups is the only way I can do labs in person. I am further concerned about the crowded hallways during passing periods, the recirculated air with no windows in the classrooms, and the current board stance on masks being optional rather than a mandatory part of our dress code. Frankly, I'm worried about our kids. While Covid numbers in Lake Havasu may be approaching the state's "acceptable" level of 7% positivity, I am worried about an explosion of cases that are all but inevitable once we are all back on campus. Please do not put our 1800 high school students and their families in the predicament of deciding between their health and their education. We have alternatives for education, we do not have alternatives for a sick child or family member. I am respectfully asking you to consider delaying our in-person opening until our numbers are lower, and our students can return safely. Respectfully,"

○ Meghan Ulmer: "Dear Madame President and members of the board, I am writing to you today with concern for the safety of our students and the reopening of schools. As I sit and think about the daily adventure of a high school student from the time they enter the campus until they go home, I can only think about all of the unsafe scenarios we would be putting our students in if we are to return to school before we have a plan or safety measures put in place that mirror the CDC guidelines. One thing that stands out to me, are classrooms that have multi student tables and not a single desk for each student. In classrooms with said tables, we would be putting 2-4 young adults in close proximity for 55minutes multiple times a day. With class sizes being 25+, and many times 30+, it would be impossible to navigate safe social distancing to minimize contact. Secondly, I think about the classrooms that require hands on learning (art, science, PE, Autos, woodshop, band, and drama) Classrooms in the district are not equipped with enough supplies for each student to have their own. Teachers would not be able to maintain a safe classroom if they are continually having to disinfect/clean supplies for each student/class. Lastly, I think about passing periods and restrooms where students are not able to maintain social distancing due to the amount of students needing to access the same areas. I also think about all of the surfaces that are continually touched as students move from class to class (door handles, drinking fountains, sinks, toilets, desks, chairs, lockers, ect) that will not be cleaned consistently throughout the day. With this being said, we all want students back in the classroom but we need to make sure we are being responsible and taking all safety precautions possible. Please consider rescheduling the opening of school until at least fall break or when it is considered safe for all students to return. Thank you for your time and consideration. "

○ Brian Ulmer: "Good afternoon Madame President and members of the board, I am writing to you this afternoon, concerned for our students. I am the CTE Cabinetmaking teacher at Lake Havasu High School. For those not familiar with the Cabinetmaking shop, it is a Career and Technical Education course offered at the high school, giving students skills and knowledge they can take from high school and enter the woodworking/construction/cabinetmaking industry. As you can imagine, we have a large shop at Lake Havasu High School, however not large enough for 25 students to "socially distance" while working at a piece of equipment or workstation. Not only is this not enough space, there are not enough tools or pieces of equipment for everyone to have their own and not have to share during a class period. As a shop teacher, my goal, is to be as present as possible in the shop setting, not having to wipe down tools every two seconds. This should go without saying, but during this time, is when preventable accidents could happen. Let's move back in to my classroom, which is approximately 25 by 40, or 1,000 sq ft. By CDC guidelines, I can have 27 students in my classroom. This includes the area in which instructional materials, tables, and desks currently inhabit. When students enter my room, they are supposed to use the hand sanitizer that is provided which is alcohol-free and per the manufacturers research lab, has NOT been tested against COVID and will not be tested, until after October? For those who are unaware, benzalkonium chloride is the "active ingredient" in the Symmetry Alcohol-Free Hand Sanitizer

manufactured for Buckeye cleaning products. However, it is also known benzalkonium chloride has less reliable activity against certain bacteria and viruses than either of the alcohols, per the CDC. How are we supposed to keep all 1800 students safe in our hallways during passing periods when our hallways average 12-15 feet wide? That would equal two students wide during passing periods. For those who have not seen our hallways during passing periods, you squeeze through sideways. What happens when student "A" tests positive after a few days or even weeks of school, and has 30 other students in each of their classes? I am working 2-3 times as hard creating content, attending virtual meetings with other schools, coming up with ways to get material in to students hands. I want nothing more than for our students to be safe. If safety measures that met the CDC guidelines were in place, I would feel a little more at ease knowing we are doing what we can to protect our students and their families. I know they all have families to go home to, whether that is elderly grandparents, parents, guardians, or even brothers and sisters. We all know someone that is immune compromised. This isn't about keeping us staff members safe, it's about our students. We miss them in our classrooms, in our hallways, however, if something happened to them because we acted irresponsibly with COVID, we wouldn't get them back. We do NOT want that. Please think of our students. I know you all as a board, have a very difficult task ahead. Please consider pushing back the reopening of school until Fall Break or when safe. Thank you for your time this evening.

○ Leslie Hobday: "Dearest Board members, my name is Lezlie Hobday. Perhaps we could consider reopening our schools in the following manner: Half student body from 0800-11:30 and the other half from 12:30-4p. No one has lunch there, but rather at home. Kindly and sincerely thank y'all, "

○ Jennifer Tarnow: "Dear LHUSD board members, My name is Jennifer Tarnow and I have a Dual Enrollment LHHS junior who began Dual Enrollment one year earlier than the program allows. My son had always been a straight A student until that class where he missed an A by .6%. Currently my son is enrolled in Dual Enrollment Trigonometry. For a highly proficient math student, he is struggling with distance learning in this class. He needs the interaction with the teacher and other students in order to successfully learn the material. My son is also enrolled in his favorite elective, advanced Wood shop. However, he cannot practice woodworking at home so this class via distant learning is extremely frustrating for him. I am seeing my highly achieving, happy go lucky student turn into a negative and angry student. He is having problems sleeping and barely eats. I blame this on the turmoil he is going through academically. I am very concerned about him mentally and academically. I am confident other families are facing similar issues and concerns. According to <https://covid-19-mohave.hub.arcgis.com/> positive COVID cases went down 25% in the final week of July, with a 0% change the week before, and a 3% reduction the week prior to that. The website also shows that children 0-20 have been 301 of the 3,297 positive cases in Mohave County. That is .09%. Furthermore, of the 158 COVID related deaths in Mohave County, 5 have been under the age of 50. As we can reasonably deduct from this data, children are the least likely to contract, or die, from COVID-19. I would strongly urge LHUSD to reopen in-person learning for our community. The mental health benefits of going to school far outweigh the odds of our children becoming infected with COVID-19. I am confident our community would be willing to pull together to retrofit classrooms as deemed necessary, to reduce the possible spread of this virus. I am also in favor of a hybrid structure to get the kids back to school! Thank you for your consideration,"

○ Ana Ortiz: " Dear member of the board. My name is Ana Ortiz, I have 2 children enrolled in Lake Havasu school district. Please reopen our schools. One of my children was very stressed about her assignments. First because our internet back and forth..then she said Mom I'm done! If I'm not going back to school face to face I quit! My tears came out and I started crying too!. Please reopen our schools. Thank you from concerned.."

○ Adam Houle: "My name is Adam Houle. I am a parent of two students at Starline elementary school. I'm writing to express my frustrations about distance learning. I understand this is a new process, and like all things, is going to take a little time to get it all figured out. With that being said, distance learning is not an acceptable replacement for school. My wife does most of schooling with our children, and I'm still able to pick up on this fact. Just watching the frustration my wife and kids have experienced, tells me there's something wrong here. Just an example: today's zoom meeting was scheduled from 9:30-10. The first 7 or so minutes were spent on reviewing a story the kids were supposed to have read. The next few minutes the teacher attempted to get the class talking about anything they wanted to; a few students responded and then nothing. I tried encouraging my kids to say something, anything! They just weren't interested. At this point the teacher told the class they were able to talk amongst themselves, which basically consisted of random sounds and giggles followed by blank stares and silence. The teacher finally pulled the plug with 15 minutes left to go. I kid you not, the meeting ended at 9:45. From what I can tell everyone wants the schools reopened. The teachers put in hard work and it's currently going to waste. The kids just want to be kids. And the parents are tired of trying to balance the roles of being the teacher and the parent. I see no good coming from the schools being shut down, it's time we think about what's best for our children! We urge you to please think about the negative affect this is having on these kids. We should be encouraging curiosity and learning, instead we're turning it into a chore they

can't stand to do. It's only a matter of time before these kids start to hate the idea of school. We need to change this before it's too late, and the damage can't be undone. Thank you,"

○ Alison Hendrikson: "Lake Havasu Unified School District Board Members: I hope this email finds you all in good health. I understand how challenging it must be for you to be the ones deciding when and how to reopen the schools' campuses to our youth. This can be especially hard as members of the community and school staff members voice their concerns supporting widely different views and resolutions to the problem. As a teacher with an extensive medical education and background in pathology, I can tell you that reopening the schools completely is just not safe for our students. Here is a list of reasons that explain why our students and children are not safe to return yet. 1. Too many students and not enough teachers. Socially distancing students will require small class populations. Many classrooms, including some of my sections, are expecting up to 40 students per class period. That is one hour in close proximity to each other. Throughout the day they will attend 5 such class periods. As it is, my classroom only has 32 chairs and all of them are only one foot apart. There is not any room left to safely distance any more than 15 students in my classroom, where they will be performing laboratories regularly. Due to the lab setting my class furniture consists of permanent fixtures like sinks and counter tops that cannot be moved. 2. My class supplies for science are extremely limited so students typically need to share everything, including computers. Many of these materials cannot be disinfected or wiped down because they are porous. 3. There are asymptomatic carriers and no way of knowing if we are exposing the students or not until someone is already sick. Students will be exposed to the virus, regardless of the precautions made in a regular on campus setting and there are not enough disinfecting wipes to properly clean surfaces between students. 4. The students health needs to be a priority over everything else and we are not ready to provide all the safeguards at this time. We can't expect students and parents who are not educated in universal precautions or pathology to follow guidelines when they were already sending sick children to school before this pandemic. Sure we can take temperatures and send them home but thermometers are not always accurate or used properly. Thermometers can also spread the virus. 5. We don't know enough about Covid - 19 yet to be able to return children safely. Thank you for your time,"

○ Nicole George: "Hello. My name is Nicole George. I have two little ones that are in jamacia elementary. Kinder and first. Their teachers are amazing. Their teachers also want to go back to school in person. They have lives too. They are spending more time working on distance learning than they would teaching face to face. Your decisions and making PLENTY of parents withdraw their kids from the school they are used to. Like them, i have started at another school- however i have no withdrawn, hoping that you will look at the facts and statistics of Mohave county benchmarks. What numbers are we using for the metric? Why would we use total positive cases vs total tested to show our stats? Shouldn't it be total positive cases vs total Mohave county population? Which would put our percentage testing positive way below the benchmark? Also, since your going to be making your decision based on your research why don't you look at the daycares that have been up and running with NO POSITIVE CASES!!! Isn't that amazing no positive cases just taking daily temps and cleaning more. Oh wait they don't even we're masks there????! Wow why wouldn't we follow protocols that work? Your making daily lives so much harder due to the unknown. Let the teachers who want to teach face to face. Let our kids succeed and grow. I will not allow a computer to be the way my child learns. This is what they want. Our kids to be taught further away and strange materials being introduced. I miss the traditional way of learning. We need to bring back the originality. Please use common sense and vote on reopening the schools face to face. Here's some valuable links that say kids are safer in schools backed by the America's pediatrics board and the CDC. It's sad as a community we already know how this Voting will go. We need some people who are educated to vote. 3-1 can't wait to see it. What about the third party who cannot vote? So if it's a tie it's whatever you guys want. Right Lisa? <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/> <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/reopening-schools.html> <https://www.infectioncontroltoday.com/view/cloth-masks-are-useless-against-covid-19> <https://www.rcreader.com/commentary/masks-dont-work-covid-a-review-of-science-relevant-to-covide-19-social-policy> "

○ Ashlee Byerley: "I would like to share my thoughts in regards to tonight's vote. As a teacher in the classroom, I ask that you vote against the plan to reopen on Monday. The notion that campuses would reopen on Monday leaves a lot to be determined with such short notice. Teachers will need time to lesson plan and prepare materials as well as be adequately prepared to implement health and safety measures in the classroom and on campus as established by LHUSD. There must be detailed thought put into the appropriate protocols for a safe and viable return. The established safety measures must give an appropriate length of time to set in place, and transition into action before students arrive on campus, to be effective. I have heard that teachers desire to be back in the classroom with their students, and while that passion for our students may be shared, I do not feel there is a safe way to bring back our students at this time. The health and safety measures required seem impossible to meet in such a short time frame when you consider the number of students coming back to campus. At a school with nearly 2,000 students,

there is no proper way to spatially distance within the classroom when you consider a classroom seating arrangement of up to 36 students. The spatial distance recommended could not be met in the classroom or controlled in the hallways or even at lunches. I empathize with the parents and students during distance learning; however, we have only engaged in distance learning for one week. Both teachers and students are just beginning to understand the tools and resources available to them in this platform and how to use them effectively. Even during this unusual beginning to the school year, educators have dedicated an immense amount of time and work into their days to create a thriving digital learning environment. If a definitive return date were selected, parents, teachers, and schools would have the time to make logical plans easing the frustrations that have resulted. Finally, I would like you to consider the image that LHUSD is putting out to current and potential teachers and staff. If LHUSD is more concerned about the comments and opinions of the community rather than the safety and healthy work environment of its students and teachers, it is sending the wrong message. Unfortunately, the image projected indicates LHUSD is more concerned about the fear produced from the community than the hazardous work environment of its most valuable resource: educators. It may be possible to reopen schools with a well-thought-out plan. This plan should address safety measures for high traffic zones and times of the day like classrooms, lunches, hallways, and passing periods; but, until that plan is soundly established, a later reopening date must be considered. We all are striving toward the same goal: to safely reopen schools in order to offer an exceptional education to our students. So we all must communicate and plan the most effective strategies to reach that goal. Please consider the thoughts of an engaged, young, dedicated teacher in this district as you vote tonight."

- Rosetta Galindo: "We as parents of the Lake Havasu Schools would like a choice to be able to allow our children to return to school if not then the schools should be defunded."

- Jenna Lowder: "Dear School Board, You've heard all the reasons schools *should* and *should not* be bringing students and teachers back in person. As a parent of two elementary children and as an educator myself, I would like to suggest that CHOICE is the solution right now. Teachers who want to teach in person should teach in person. Parents who want to send their children back to the classrooms should send their children back, with precautions in place. Parents should be allowed to keep their students home to work remotely. Teachers who feel at-risk should be allowed to teach remotely to work with the remote students. Those who are finding the online program valuable should keep their kids in the online program. There is no one solution that will please everyone or keep everyone safe. I think families and teachers need to have the personal responsibility to decide what is best for themselves and their families. Furthermore, there are plenty of options for modified schedules to allow for half the students in the classrooms at a time. I would also like to give kudos to all the teachers who are working so hard to master the technology needed to teach remotely. It has been a good first week and two days, and I am grateful for the dedication of LHUSD teachers and staff. Thank you,"

- Leah Juve: "I see the benchmark about percentage case positives need to be under 7% for two weeks before opening up school. Are we going off of Mohave county or just Lake Havasu? It states in the roadmap that it is not legal advice so don't we truly have a decision do not follow this at all? We can make up our own rules then right? Thank you"

- Sara Slettebo: "Dear Member's of the Board, My name is Sara Slettebo and I have 2 children in Lake Havasu City. One is entering 9th grade and the other is starting his Senior year, both extremely pivotal grades. First I would like to add that I understand the importance of our children's safety. I would never want to place my children or other children in harm's way but there must be something more we can do to open our schools back up. Both myself and their Dad are essential workers so we are unable to be present to confirm accuracy of the work. We have also had multiple issues with the present Google Classroom, for example; child getting removed from class accidentally by teacher, not given clear instruction on how to monitor child's progress etc. I am not placing blame on the teachers because I could only imagine all that they are now having to adapt to also. We need our kids in school for many reasons but education and social interaction are of most importance for me personally. . So much of our lives are being forced to the online world. This is the last impression I want my children to have. We need our children learning face to face, in person which can be done safely. We also need to look into compiling data from our city alone and not the entire county. I appreciate your time in reading this. Sincerely, a concerned parent"

- Marcia Cox: "Considering "covid-like" illness includes influenza how is our community going to ever be assured that our district will open for in-person classroom? From June 5th 2018 to June 27th 2020 the district paid for 97 confirmed cases of influenza and you have no idea if any of these members reported for work. If we had closed our schools for confirmed influenza cases we wouldn't have had a 2018 or 2019 school year. Sincerely,"

- Leah Juve: "Why can't your online school support Honors classes and dual enrollment? The distant learning is not for us. I have two kids that take honors classes and I have one of them doing dual enrollment. I don't know how long we can do this distant learning. I feel like we're approaching leaving the district if the school is closed for much longer."

- Wendy Moore: "How many sick day allowances will students be allowed? I think it's set at 8 days now but I'm not sure. Will letter grade changes happen if they go over the allowed days? Thank you,"
- Erynne Holmstrom: "My name is Erynne Oblak. If the board agrees that it is safe to open up campus for all students to attend our schools, why would we need parents and teachers to sign a waiver pertaining to COVID-19 if the board has already agreed that it is safe enough for thousands of students to attend schools in this district?"
- Natalie Livermore: "I would like to take a moment to thank all of the administration, staff and teachers for going above and beyond for our students. These are such uncertain times and while we all want our children to return to in-person schooling, we must take into consideration that returning and then having to close again would be more detrimental and frustrating to our children. Once again, I would like to thank the teachers for seeing to it that our kids are no longer on hold. It's not perfect but growth is happening. Thank you"
- Marcia Cox: "There is a lot of detail spent on what you require from the parent to assure they are guaranteeing their child is not a threat to district members or other children. What steps is the district taking to make sure the children can return to in-person classroom learning? Do teachers even want children back in the classroom? I've heard from teachers from other districts that are demanding in-person classroom teaching but not our district. This "legalese" looks like you don't want the kiddos back in the classroom. Sincerely,"
- Corey and Leeann Schnore: "Why can we not open schools if parents are willing to sign these waivers?? I stand with everything Nichole Cohen is saying. She is the voice of our city and parents that want our schools open. This is not enough learning for our children. This is not fair to our future. I'm crying sitting here looking at the parents commenting on this board all asking to open and no one is listening!!! This isn't fair to our teachers either!!! You will open sports but not schools??! Please listen to us. Open our schools - let us sign the waivers and get them back!!!! Thank you Kathy Cox for your voice of reason as well."

Dr. Stone stated that High School athletics will begin August 17 under the AIA guidelines.

- Jennifer Ward: "From personal experience with my child in 4th grade doing the online class, this is difficult. Most parents work and are unable to be there for zoom or the open office hours. It should be the choice of the parent as to whether they want the children to attend school in person or not. Suggestion, why can't they do 1/2 day school - some kids in the morning, some in the afternoon - that way the kids are in school for at least 3 hours a day rather than at most 90 minutes a day and then it makes the class sizes smaller."
- Lisa and Ryan San Juan: "Hello, You really need to open the schools. You are hurting children more by not allowing them face-to-face learning. They need to resume their lives. You cannot keep them locked inside our homes forever. The flu kills more than COVID and yet we NEVER closed anything! Do you plan on keeping schools closed forever because COVID is never going to fully go away, just like the flu. Everyone gets sick, it happens! Not to mention parents who work full time, we already have a small window to make dinner, shower children, etc let alone now having to teach our children, especially the parents who have more than one child! We have had essential grocery store workers who have been working through all of this and teachers are essential workers and need to teach. There are many schools around the US who have been opening and are doing fine. If parents want to keep their children home to continue online learning, they can, but the ones who want to allow them to return to school face-to-face should be able to. Let us as parents have the choice! Reopen the schools!"
- Eugenia Anderson: "Board Members, Fellow Educators, and Community Members: I am both a teacher (of 17 years) and a parent in this district. I am invested in the success of our schools and students.

As we approach this integral decision to re-open our schools for in-person instruction, there are many variables to consider: How will students and staff be kept safe from the spread of Covid-19? Think about recess, lunch, passing periods in a hallway with ~2000 students (LHHS) and over 100 staff (distancing) Think about students with asthma or other underlying conditions that, according to scientific/medical data, is a sensitive factor if Covid-19 is contracted: Think about what a classroom of 30-35+ students will look like in the course of a day (X6 periods/classrooms a day at the secondary level) Think about behavior patterns in elementary-aged students and how well they are able to follow the safety measures Think about the fact that symptoms may not be recognizable for up to two weeks after contraction of the virus How will daily function of in-person school look? Think about the enforcement of the safety measures being balanced with behavior management and instruction of the standards Think about the time it will take to plan instruction for in-person learning, especially while trying to also plan for safety Think about the social anxieties that students and staff may experience being in the classroom/school setting Think about what will happen if one student or staff tests positive: will everyone who has had contact with that individual have to quarantine? Will there be subs for staff? Will staff have to use sick days to quarantine? There are most likely many other factors that I have not even considered that we can add to the list. I know that I can teach my own child how to protect herself against the spread of the virus in a social setting; however, can I trust that all parents are expecting their children to adhere to the implemented protocols?

Can I trust that all children, even my own, will be able to adhere to those protocols? There are too many unanswered questions... My personal philosophy has always been to err on the side of caution. We should not rush the opening of schools without more information and protocols already in place. Perhaps with more time, we can establish a more reasonable in-person start date (at least after Labor Day) that will allow staff to prepare, and that will lead to better assurances of safety for both our families and our staff. Thank you,"

○ Marcia Stratton-Lynnes: "he teachers are doing an amazing job compared to Spring at teaching these kids. Parents need to remember that it takes much less time to complete a lesson when one on one than it does for a whole class to complete a lesson. A homeschoolers life is not 7 hours a day doing book work. Thank you for keeping our kids safe. "

○ Nicole Brown: "Hello, I am Nicole Brown, mother (and teacher) of a 6th grader at Oro Grande Classical Academy. My son's teacher, Mrs. Nowakowski, does a wonderful job making videos, PowerPoints, and does Zooms. She is able to help him after contract hours, also. As long as I have contact with his teacher, I am fine with waiting until it is safe to open the schools to keep staff, students and families safe.

Thank you"

○ Brittney LeAnn: "If we selected distance learning at the beginning of the year, but do not want to send children in-person upon reopening, what are the options at that point? I assume distance learning will stop. Online school option seemed to be changeable only at semester. Is it you must attend upon reopening?"

○ Chasitee Leon: "Thank you to all the teachers for doing an amazing job during this tough time. Also, thank you to the board for keeping our students, teachers, and staff safe."

○ Marcia Cox: "Are teacher's that receive a stipend for extracurricular activities still going to receive their stipend even if their club or activity doesn't meet? Rachel's Challenge is a big part of our district and especially Chain Reaction week for the Sophomore students. During COVID-19 Arizona has seen an increase in suicides and Rachel's Challenge goes a long way to address teen bullying and teen suicide. How are we going to make sure this year's sophomores are not going to miss out of this valuable and important message? Sincerely,"

○ Andy Nelson: "Have the kids stay with their one class. Have them eat lunch in their room. Send them out to recess at staggered times. If there is a Covid outbreak it is regulated to the one class and does not affect the whole school and cause a complete shut down it would only be the one class of students."

○ Leeann Schnore: "I am completely dishearten right now. Not only did Cathy cox and Archana Aliyar not want to take time to listen to emails I am watching Archana almost fall asleep during this meeting. These people were voted in and yet don't even want to take time to listen to the parents of this city and even consider what is going on with these children. Your image you are portraying right now is disgusting. When will this ever end?? We cannot keep our schools closed. Covid is not going away!!! Can you please give at least a goal date like sept 7? Something any kid of goal with a date"

○ Angelica Castaneda: "Dear LHSUD School Board, I have a 4th grader at Oro Grande and 7th grade with an IEP at Thunderbolt. We have chosen to do distance learning as we hope to be back in school sooner rather than later. Although this way of learning is not ideal and definitely difficult at times, I would like to acknowledge the effort that teachers have made. It cannot be easy to learn to teach this way and learn how to keep kids focused. Our video lessons had been visually engaging with a nice lesson plan layout. Live lessons are a day we look forward to seeing our teacher and getting to know each other. I can only imagine the time it takes to put these plans together. As a parent and essential worker, I understand parents' frustration with the situation. I too struggle and have to email teachers with questions constantly. They have been great about getting back to me quickly and helping with all our needs. Again, even though this is not the way I would like my kids to learn I just want to say THANK YOU to all of them for their effort and for continuing to be there for my kids!!! Thank you"

○ Jessica Klostermeier: "Dear members of the board, My name is Jessica Klostermeier and my daughter is currently enrolled in the Lake Havasu district. I understand that we are trying to do what is best and safest for our staff and students. I want to commend teachers, students and parents for doing their best to go along with all the changes that have been taking place. However, the negatives of keeping them home far outweighs the positive. Yes COVID is a real virus, however making our district follow these benchmarks is completely unfair. We are basing these requirements on data that is unfounded, science that is completely biased and censored. The numbers that are being reported are completely inflated. The media is doing nothing but pushing fear to get the people to blindly follow. We have certified doctors who are showing that we have a way to help treat COVID, however because it is not part of the vaccine agenda it is being censored and these doctors are being ridiculed and fired. If we are to believe in the "experts" don't you think that they would be giving us correct information rather than keeping us in fear? To say that a mask is going to help slow the spread is comical. When they are referring to masks wearing they are going off of the n95 grade. Homemade cloth masks, which is also what the district is offering for parents, do not help to slow the spread at all. The droplets of the virus can pass right through cotton masks, so asking us

to make our children wear these all day long is unrealistic. Also, keeping our kids home and not exposing them to daily germs is detrimental to their immune systems. Not to mention what keeping kids home is doing to their mental health. I have seen way to many kids, my own included, who are becoming discouraged, depressed and agitated for having to stay home, not being able to socialize with friends. We need to actually open our eyes and see all the false information we are being fed, get our kids back in school, and take our country back. We didn't shut schools or anything down like this for any previous illnesses, even ones we didn't know enough information about, so why is this one any different? I appreciate your time and hope that the board helps us get our kids back in school. Thank you,"

○ Christina Musselman: "As a parent, my high school student is successful with Google Classroom. She has her week of work given on Monday to work at her own pace. She can check in with ALL of the teachers every day during office hours. She has live sessions with ALL of her teachers on Fridays -- this was a highlight as they got to see "who" was in their class. She is an honors, DE junior this year. She is the ASB president. While this situation is not ideal, she is hanging in there, enjoying the pacing and feels supported by her teachers. Does she want to return -- of course! But at her age, she does understand the circumstances and she herself has asked me several times, what C hall will look like, what football games will be like with social distancing and also is already struggling with no Homecoming (just like spring had no prom). But with quality educators -- and family support - she will live on.... 7-12 students can continue DL and they will be able to make it work. My son, 6th grade at Starline is getting in the groove of GC. Last week, there was a lot of trial and error on both the teachers and student (family) view. We worked together, communicated in both directions directly to one another and made learning happen. I have a happy kid. He enjoys his daily Zooms, which are recommended for one hour per day for all but Thursdays. Now in week 2, getting into content, there has been some slight struggles. He is listening to teacher videos, logging into HW help, and does have my support after hours to help him work through an assignment. Overall he feels like he's doing "real school" and is able to differentiate the glaring difference from the spring session. He misses school -- he misses friends, teachers, and just the normal school life. He gets it -- but it's more of a struggle than rationalizing it with a HS student. HOWEVER, our family is making the best of this situation, staying positive and moving forward daily... Intermediate children can do it... if needed. As a first grade teacher, my families are working hard -- harder than I have EVER asked them to work in the past. I am recording daily lessons in all subjects - Reading, Language (Grammar & Phonics), Math. I am also doing my best to create primary friendly assignments (drag and drop, pictures, and fill in the box tasks which are created from scratch in Google) to make learning accessible to all learners. I am offering consumable bags of resources that accompany our lessons (handwriting practice that was laminated and accompanied by a dry erase marker, math manipulatives). My students purchased a journal off the supply list and they write in their journal daily -- when we check in each week, they are either reading me a journal page or they are telling me about what they wrote or drew. I may not see this daily, but my families know that I will be looking at it when we return in person -- it will be a portfolio of progress. THIS IS NOT A PIECE OF CAKE. This is incredibly difficult, BUT I am working on it to get easier daily, and I am also working to make sure that the platform meets student needs because I AM ESSENTIAL and this is my job -- to educate the youth. I am doing one on one Zoom meetings with EVERY child in my class every week. I am assessing them via Zoom (sight words, math concepts, etc.), and I am providing one hour of homework help -- NOT OFFICE HOURS but HOMEWORK HELP -- to my students daily who are able to log in. I am providing 60 minutes of live lessons per week. I offered a half hour of parent help to my classroom of parents every evening during the first week of school. With the communication via Dojo, and LOTS of HOW TO VIDEOS which I personally recorded....my families are in a good place. Am I the perfect GC teacher?-- nope! I am learning with the best of them. However my families are communicating with me and we are making learning happen. As a teacher, primary students need to have face time with teachers... this is the best case scenario for ALL learners. We need to be safe... we need to be smart... but students need live time with teachers --- half day schedule / split groups... but we need this face time with students. Masks/Shields -- whatever it may be -- we need time to communicate with our students in person. I would take the blessing of getting one 15 minute slot with a child with a barrier between us for those families that will allow it. Primary children, K-2, need to have a hybrid model as SOON as it is safe. No lunch, no recess, no specials -- just time with teachers -- small groups. I have 29 students in my class this year with 2 who have no ability to access tech so they are on paper packets. I want all students to have access to my instruction. Please consider looking at a slow start... let's roll out slowly, safely, while continuing DL and Google Classroom in a hybrid model. In person -- we have a small time to collaborate, practice skills and use manipulatives -- not worksheet driven, but application and practice of hands-on skills. A few hours per day would be better than zero hours per day. Families who are not prepared to send children back will continue to get instruction. We can make this work, but PLEASE begin to look at the hybrid model. Let's go slow to go fast... I would like to personally invite any board member to come join my team and I as we plan for distance learning.... we can give you a glimpse into what this entails. Door is open... Thank you for your time."

- Jeff Rehark: "Hello my name is Jeff Rehark, the kids need to go back to school, alot of kids will suffer with this online schooling they need in classroom instruction, I'm an essential worker I've worked every day during this pandemic, in and out of all these homes in lake havasu, during the summer everyone was crowding the lake and especially the channel, parks campgrounds and to include walmart lowes and home depot everyone is acting like everyone in this town has been locked down to their homes since march alot of people have been out and about enjoying life as they should, life goes on you keep schools closed because of a virus, our kids are loosing the knowledge due to not being in the classroom, instead of arguing about this matter yall need to find a common ground and work it out to get the schools open for our kids they are the future, alot of parents aren't equipped with tools to teach at home, seniors that graduated in 2020 got stripped of their high school proms and what they look forward the most is crossing that stage and recieving their diploma virtually that doesn't ever need to happen again our kids need the classroom thank you have a great day"
- Ernie Severson: "Lake Havasu School board members, At this point it's become apparent where your members lie on the political spectrum. Keep in mind, your constituency matters no matter which side they are on. It's abundantly clear thr majority of your end users are in favor of reopening. I'm also aware the online program will still be available to those who are in fear of returning. The numbers being thrown around are arbitrary at best and are being used to instill fear. I am a first responder who has been working throughout the pandemic. I'm also in education and have seen the haphazard way our system is being run. At this point, if teachers are not interested in returning to in person teaching, they should begin to look toward Primavera or another online option. As a taxpayer, I'm no longer willing to pay their salary. Thank you for your time, "
- Stacy Azar: "Dear Board Members, My name is Stacy Azar, I am a stay at home mom to 7 children due to the shut down. My kids are Kindergarten, 5, 8, 8, 9, 11, & 12 grades. My kindergartener has been in preschool for the last two years and know that this online is not how school is supposed to go. He is beginning to have crying melt downs everyday he has to do a zoom session just wanting to be in class. My 5th grader has autism. Trying to keep him focused on the zoom lesson is close to impossible some days. This shut down has caused major regressions for him, not only in academics but socially as well. I've already pulled my older 5 children out as my husband and I were not willing to play your games anymore. Unfortunately we have no choice with the two youngest. You are hurting our children by keeping them out of school. This on-site supervision you guys offered is a joke. You want the children to be in school but have no instructional time, no access to their required zoom sessions, no socialization and no recess. How do you expect to have successful children when you continue to deny them a proper education? Please reopen our schools, you've already given an option to parents who don't wish to have their children in class so give those parents that wish to have their children in school their choice. Please think of the children"

Mrs. Cox proposed that we do not got back to in person until after 1st quarter, then the Board can look at what going on during this time. Mrs. Roman would like to allow us to start sooner if we reach the 8% positivity. Mrs. Aliyar agrees.

Mrs. Roman moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to wait until we meet the benchmark of 8 present positivity or until the last week of September. We will continue with Distance Learning and online academy, and onsite support starting August 17.

Mrs. Cohen would like to postpone the vote until more specific information on testing can be provides by the Mohave County Health Department. Discussion on PCR testing and research. Mrs. Roman stated that if teachers leave, we would not have enough workforce or staff left to teach our students.

Mrs. Roman moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to withdraw her previous motion.

Mrs. Roman moved, seconded by Mrs. Aliyar. to delay opening school until at least August 24 and to have on August 18 a member of the Arizona Health Department and/or the Mohave County Health Depart present to answer questions, and then make the decision about opening schools.
Discussion.

Mrs. Roman moved, seconded by Mrs. Aliyar to amend her motion to suspend opening school until at least the Board meeting on August 18 at the regular board meeting.

Discussion. Revised motion an agreed upon by all: "We will delay in person learning until at least August 28 when the Board will discuss and determine an opening date during their regularly scheduled board meeting.

Mrs. Cohen voiced her concerns on the methods used to keep our schools closed.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Cohen YES, Aliyar: YES, Cox: YES, Roman: YES

4. Announcements - none

5. Adjournment

Following a motion by Mrs. Cox, seconded by Mrs. Aliyar, the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m. by a unanimous vote.

Video of the entire meeting may be seen on the District website [www.lhusd.org] under Governing Board.

Minutes of the Special Governing Board meeting of August 11, 2020 are approved as submitted.

Lisa Roman, President

Kathy Cox, Vice President