

LAKE HAVASU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.1

2200 Havasupai Blvd.
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403

Special Governing Board Minutes

July 16, 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 July 16, 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
Brad Gardner, Director of Educational Services

Others: 1 Terry Fleming, Secretary

1.3 Pledge of Allegiance

2. Review and Accept Agenda for this Session

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

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

3. Action Items

3.1 Approval of Distance Learning Plan to Start August 3, 2020

Dr. Stone recommended that the Board approve the implementation of the Distance Learning Plan on the approved start date of August 3rd for all LHUSD students.

Governor Ducey's Executive Order 2020-44 states that all schools shall delay the start of in-person classes until August 17, 2020, but schools may begin the school year on their regularly planned start date prior to August 17, 2020 through distance learning.

Our students have been out of school since March 2020 and need to return to learning as soon as possible. Implementing the Distance Learning Plan on August 3rd will engage our students connect our teachers, students, and families, and provide the district additional time to consider options for reopening in-person learning when possible.

Mrs. Cox moved, seconded by Mrs. Aliyar that Item 3.1 be approved as presented.

Dr. Stone reviewed a power-point presentation with information on the Distance Learning Plan. Board discussions on attendance/absences, Special Education needs, communication with district counselors, and master schedule and calendars for classes. Mrs. Cohen voiced her concerns with the Google classroom platform. Printed class materials will be provided if parents do not want to use computers. District is working with Parks & Rec for child care on campus. Superintendent, Directors and Board responded to the following public email questions/concern/remarks:

Kambrea Soltero; "To Whom It May Concern: My name is Kambrea Soltero and I am a former student of LHHS class of 2012. Enclosed in this email, I have attached a letter addressed to the governing board from several community members including but not limited to alumni, current students, current/former educators, parents, guardians etc. regarding expansion and incorporating of certain curriculum in all of the Lake Havasu City Schools. I want to thank you for your time and attention regarding this matter. Sincerely" Marcia Cox; "Dear LHUSD Governing Board, The citizens of Lake Havasu City pay the taxes that fund the school district; including those that come from future bonds and overrides. If you're not going to return to in-

person school first then I want to know where I go to get a refund of my tax dollars that's paying for all of the facilities, programs and everything else you will not be using (and that you failed to use for a good part of last school year). Our school district is making critical decisions about opening our schools and allowing our kids to begin school with in-person classrooms instead of online. The people in Lake Havasu (not just the parents of schoolchildren) want to be heard about this in public meetings. You are using "guidelines" and not science and data to make your decisions. In an April 2020 article, the Journal of the American Medical Association stated "N95 respirators cannot be used by children because it is difficult to achieve a proper fit". The article stated "Face masks should not be worn by healthy individuals to protect themselves from acquiring respiratory infection because there is no evidence to suggest that face masks worn by healthy individuals are effective in preventing people from becoming ill". If people are sick they should stay home from school. This has been the expectation of our schools for decades. Our children need to go back to in-person school and the studies prove it. Look at the scientific data. The CDC is offering are guidelines, not mandates. Here is an example of scientific date: In late April 2020, scientists at the Institut Pasteur studied 1,340 people linked to primary schools in Crépy-en-Valois. The conclusion was children did not spread the infection to other students or to teachers or other staff at the schools. <https://www.pasteur.fr/en> The American Academy of Pediatrics "strongly advocates that all policy considerations for the coming school year should start with a goal of having students physically present in school. The importance of in-person learning is well-documented, and there is already evidence of the negative impacts on children because of school closures in the spring of 2020". <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/> A more important concern of not opening in-person are the increased child abuse and attempted suicides cases that will be missed, the missed opportunities to discover that a child needs a hearing test or might need glasses, malnourished kids that we lose track. In UC San Diego professor Dr. Jean Twenge's book iGen we learned the more time kids spend in front of a computer screen and disconnected from their peers the higher the suicide rates and the more isolated they become. We must start our schools in-person and not online. Science and facts, not CDC guidelines support this. In May the Pima County Health Dept sent an alert to local health care providers about an alarming spike in suicides that were occurring. According to Gustavo Perez, PhD, there was a 161.5% jump in suicides comparing the first five weeks of the pandemic to the next five weeks. Social isolation was a major factor. Our kids need to be in schools with their peers, teachers and the other employees that lift them up, encourage them to do a good job, work hard and be a good person. You don't get that talking to a screen. <https://uahs.arizona.edu/news/uarizona-psychiatrists-combat-depression-suicide-spike-during-covid-19-pandemic> You are having a meeting that is critical to our children and not allowing the public to be present because you don't want to face the public. I am asking that you postpone this meeting until you can allow it to be open to the public and, more important, open our schools in-person and not online. Sincerely"

Jordan Melton; "Go back to school! No more delays, please!"

Kristin Stark; "To whom it may concern, My name is Kristin Stark, and I have two students enrolled at OroGrande Classical Academy. One kindergartener, and one 5th grader. It is my sincere hope that schools will re-open as planned on August 17th. I am much more concerned with the toll that this will take on my girls' mental, social, and emotional health, should school not resume as planned, than I am about the COVID-19 virus. Our children NEED to get back to school. They NEED normalcy. They NEED hope. It is my firm belief that re-opening schools is the first step. Thank you"

Renee Frisby; "Hi, My kids are all set to go to in person school next month without hesitation. Please do not go back on this. Keep the schools open and do not hesitate. Also, we need the board meetings public. Thank you"

Monica Moffit; "Good morning, I am writing you to express my view on the 2020/2021 school year. Please watch the video I provided in the link below, this is from a doctor who received family doctor of the year in 2016. Our kids need the interaction of a classroom, they need the structure of a classroom environment, the mind set that it provides. My husband and I wholeheartedly believe that kids need to go back to school. We should be given the choice whether or not our kids go back face-to-face or whether they do online learning. If parents aren't comfortable with face-to-face, they can choose to do online. I feel like the board is making the decision to do online only based on their personal preference, not the preference of the majority. The majority of parents I have spoken with want their kids back in the classroom. They opened up summer camp for the summer, our older child attended. He was so excited every day to get back to the school setting, to see friends, to do art projects, and have PE for exercise. There were no issues whatsoever with summer camp. We never received a report of sick children, sick personnel, etc. I personally can not provide what a child needs in an online setting what they receive from a teacher in a classroom. A teacher has an education specialising in teaching. They enjoy teaching, they love teaching, they are good at teaching. Please, I am asking that we be given a choice to send the kids back to school. There are many teachers that want to go back as well.

<https://www.facebook.com/SenatorJensen/videos/312723573415097/> Thank you"

Ashten Tisdale; “Good morning, my name is Ashten and I will be having 3 children attending school this year. I understand everyone's worries about having children and teachers return to school, this is an obvious concern to everyone. I however, have two children who have IEP's and I believe they will do better in school than out of school. I have no issue sending them to school with a mask to help protect everyone and I will also help implement the rules for handwashing and keeping our distance before school returns so it's not such a burden on teachers to have that sole responsibility to enforce it at school. I work in the medical field and can honestly understand these concerns for everyone. It's such a difficult time but our children need to be in school. Having the option for online school I believe will help alleviate some parent's worries. But I know my children will not be able to learn from home. Not only do we only have one laptop, but my children require a teacher with their learning disabilities. I'm a teacher to my children but a different kind of one. Secondly, I'd have to leave my job because I cannot ask a babysitter to do this for me while I work. Please take into consideration for this. If more teachers and parents don't feel comfortable returning maybe the schools can consolidate for the families and teachers that feel comfortable returning. Thank you”

Kerry Young; “Here is a slightly edited version of my original letter: Dear LHUSD Governing Board, My name is Kerry Young. I am the mother of five current students and the wife of a current educator here with LHUSD#1. I read a recent letter to you sent from Ms. Marcia Cox, LHUSD EBT chairperson. I can tell you that her sentiments do not represent the opinions of stakeholders I am regularly in contact with. While we all agree we would like things to go back to normal, it is important to consider some of the issues Ms. Cox brings up in her letter. First, Ms. Cox states, “you are using ‘guidelines’ and not science and data to make your decisions.” I would like to know—if not through science, then how does the CDC form their guidelines? She quotes “considerations” as opposition to “guidelines,” which seems like an exercise in semantics to support her position. Unfortunately, just because the science does not support Ms. Cox's beliefs, does not mean that the science is inaccurate or unscientific. Forming conclusions without evidence is unscientific. Second, Ms. Cox cited information published by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) in April 2020, which states, “all policy considerations for the coming school year should start with a goal of having students physically present in school.” Since then the AAP has published a new statement highlighting a safe return to schools for students and educators dated July 10, 2020; this newest publication acknowledges that “reopening schools in a way that maximizes safety, learning, and the well-being of children, teachers, and staff will clearly require substantial new investments in our schools and campuses” (AAP, July 2020). This virus, its symptoms and causes, its treatments, and its long-term impact on patients is very new, and the science is moving quickly. We must adapt our teaching and learning protocols for the time being with the ultimate goal of having students physically present in school when it is safe with appropriate safety measures in place. The goal should not be a return for return's sake. A precautionary approach based on science could lead to less illness and death, and it very well might reduce having to close again and therefore speed up a sustained return to being physically present in schools. Third, Ms. Cox's unfortunate call to action to get a “refund” from public education is the opposite (“require substantial new investments in our schools and campuses”) of what the AAP advises is best for our stakeholders, schools, and community. Additionally, I am aware of a private school in town that is offering an on-line only option for students at the same rate as those who would be attending in-person—the private tuition rate is the same whether virtual or physical. Therefore, her demand for a refund is not even aligned with the private sector. Teachers love their students and learning. I know this. They also believe in Maslow's hierarchy of needs, where keeping students safe is foundational. Keeping students and staff safe should take priority; it's what's best for our community and our future. It is difficult to learn when you do not feel safe. As Flip Flippen says, you can't capture kids' minds until you have captured their hearts. Sending students into environments that the AAP believes unsafe does not seem like the way to spread the sentiment that we care about student- and staff welfare more than the almighty dollar. I would be interested to know what Ms. Cox feels she “unfairly” pays for her education tax, and what she deems her money is worth. More than human lives, apparently, by her want to send students into an unsafe environment based on the science we have as of July 10th. I am worried about my own children's safety and well-being because of unscientific and opinionated efforts to put them back into schools during this pandemic—so much so that I am considering non-district options for my children until I believe it is safe for them to make a physical return to school. Maybe Ms. Cox would feel her money is better spent if teachers teach to empty classrooms instead of actively engaging students online and helping them to achieve learning outcomes, providing e-based socio-emotional activities for students, and staying connected to our community though we are physically apart. Our actions will have consequences, and our children and grandparents deserve that we treat it cautiously. Fourth, Gila county teacher Kimberley Chavez Lopez Byrd taught in the same district for more than 30 years, and was teaching an online summer school course with two other teachers physically present in the classroom when she herself became ill. On June 13th, she was admitted to the hospital, then tested positive for COVID-19, and ultimately died on June 26. These are real educators in our state who are affected by COVID-19. How many Havasu teachers and staff are you willingly and knowingly wanting to risk? There are 56 million students in the United States of America. If

only one-tenth of 1% dies from reopening schools without appropriate measures of safety—that's 56 thousand students dead, never mind the number of students that would become ill and suffer lasting effects such as breathing difficulties, lung damage, and cognitive impairment all effects being studied from COVID-19. God forbid any of them be from our community's unsafe reopen of physical schools because of pressures from opinionated people in positions of power. These numbers are representative of real people like Ms. Kimberley Byrd. They are our spouses, our friends, and our children. We should not wait to have the blood of Havasu residents on our hands before taking action to make our community safe. For example, the school reopening survey in our district happened weeks ago and before our state started to spike. Then, only 1% of our educators had a "qualifying condition" that would prevent a return to the classroom. However, as the survey provided limited examples for these conditions, many educators who qualify as high-risk due to ailments such as severe asthma, thyroid and immune disorders, diabetes, and multiple sclerosis were left out of that percentage. Our citizens have taken this statistic of 99% eligible non-qualifying conditions to mean that 99% of our staff "wants" a full return to normal in August—with minimal physical distancing and optional masks, etc. I clearly recall just months ago how COVID was touted as killing "only people with pre-existing conditions," but we now know that's incorrect as young and healthy people are also suffering severe COVID symptoms and dying. We have at least a quarter of district employees with pre-existing conditions that were not surveyed as "qualifying conditions" and these educators are at an increased risk of COVID death. We are contractually obligating them to unsafe working conditions with no regard to their physical, mental, or emotional health. Letters such as Ms. Cox's that request a refund discredit the hard physical and emotional labor of our educators, even at a time when they are not in the classroom for their own safety. I would encourage everyone to look at the local, national, and global data regarding school re-openings. Look at Sweden, at Israel, at Europe. Compare data. Read the facts. Check the science. We cannot knowingly and willfully open school buildings now or by August 17th. To do so would be unwise and overwhelmingly detrimental to our small hospital. In fact, at the Mohave County Supervisor's Board Meeting on July 14th all three hospital CEOs--Lake Havasu City, Kingman, and Bullhead City—agreed with the statement from Kingman's CEO, that "what we are seeing in our hospitals is something we have never seen before." Therefore, for the safety and well-being of our county and residents, we must adapt to e-learning protocols at this time. Reference: American Academy of Pediatrics, (10 July 2020). Pediatricians, Educators and Superintendents Urge a Safe Return to School This Fall. Retrieved July 15, 2020 from:"

Melissa Titus; "Hello LHUSD Board Members, In the midst of a possible set back to the start of the school year; I would like to strongly suggest that the online program that has been offered to students NOT be delayed any longer than the 17th of August. I have registered my child (incoming freshman) to take the online program not because of fear of the virus but due to the high probability of the year being pushed back or school closures after the return of class. I want my child to be in a setting where she gets consistent education opportunities not an "on again, off again" situation as this will affect her learning significantly. Students have already lost a whole quarter of true "graded and effectively structured" learning. I understand that it happened to most kids around the country and am not placing blame on the school system. I would just like to see an opportunity to continue education now and not hold back our children from staying as much on track as possible compared to others in the country. This especially at the high school level will be critical in getting into university. Thank You"

Ariel Perelka; "Hello, I am writing this email to voice my opinion that schools should resume to open for face to face teaching, on the start day of August 17th, 202. I have a child that is going into first grade, I feel her best interest for her mental health and education, is for her to be at the school for face to face teaching. We want to be with the teacher that want to teach in person! I honestly don't see how these children that are kindergarten to 3rd are going to be able sit for a long period of time learning in front of a computer. I truly hope these school open back for face to face teaching! Thank you! A question I have is, If day care in this town can stay open and be filled with kids ages 1-6, and be in a room with 15-20 kids per room, then why can't our schools be open. Our daycares have stayed open Durning this Pandemic, and I honestly haven't seen or heard about them have a problem. Thank you"

Joni Hall; "Dear LHUSD Board members, our hard-working administrators and district office team, and all others making plans for us to reopen our schools, Like most teachers and families, I would very much like to start in-person schooling. We understand the great benefits of our public schools for our children and our community. However, I decided for me personally that if our district plans to start in-person learning before this first quarter ends, I may opt to teach just online if it is available to me. I am considering my age and my husband's age as a risk factor for this virus. Regardless of people's viewpoints of so many unknown factors and even political viewpoints, your decision needs to consider the health and safety of everyone in the district and ultimately everyone in our community. Sincerely"

D'arcy Babcock; "Dear School board members, Due to my husband's poor health I will NEED to work in a remote/virtual setting until this COVID-19 threat is bested. I must keep as little exposure to the public as I can. I personally do not want to catch this virus (I am 63 next month) and I absolutely do not want to bring this virus home to my husband. My husband is a disabled Veteran. At age 63 he has several

comorbidities: heart failure, lung failure, kidney failure, and diabetes. I am his sole care giver. I am age 63 with a Heart Murmur. We have stopped going to church and I do not take him out unless it is to a doctor's appointment and several of those have been via ZOOM/Signal. We do not visit family/friends and I do not let family or friends come into our home to visit us. When we do contact family/friends it is in a virtual setting. The only shopping I do is for groceries and needed medicine at the pharmacy. The entire month of June and the first two weeks of July were spent taking my husband to have Cataract eye surgery. Just this week I went to my eye doctor, he has referred me to the eye surgeon as well, for my own Cataract eye surgery. My vision has been getting worse and worse over the past few years and now I need the surgery. I was not expecting this turn of events, I just thought I was going to get a new pair of glasses! Now my eye surgery and recovery will have to be placed into the mix and accommodations figured out. My husband and I have come to terms with the fact that if we should catch this COVID-19 virus based on our comorbidities we would likely not survive. I would NEVER forgive myself if I was the cause of bringing home this terrible COVID-19 virus to him because I was working daily in a closed school/classroom environment where I am at a greater risk of being exposed to COVID-19 than I would be safely in my home, working remotely. Why would I take all this care to these past few months, to keep my husband and myself safe, just to place myself in an environment where I can't control where my students, or fellow staff members have been, or who they have come into contact with?? The CDC is now reporting that the COVID-19 virus is "Airborne" and if this is actually true, the building I work in is a closed environment. This means the air I breath in that building is circulated throughout the entire building, it reminds me of a cruise ship or an airplane and we all know what the consequences were in those closed environments with this "Airborne" virus. Thank you for considering my concerns. Respectfully submitted"

Wendy Moore; "Dear LHUSD School Board, First, I would like to thank you for everything the Board has been discussing and working on, especially over the past several months As we all navigate the "new normal" and as decisions need to be made with respect to the schools opening and meetings, I would like to encourage the Board to open schools to in-person as soon as possible and not push out any further than August 17 or at the latest perhaps after Labor Day. I would also like the Board to strongly consider adding the option of Zoom/conference calls available to the public so that the community can participate in real-time at the meetings. I goes without saying that we all need to take responsibility for our health and the schools play a huge role in our children through education and keeping them safe. I strongly believe that students should come back to school while steps are taken to keep them safe as well as the educators and staff. There are many options available to accomplish this - consistent hand-washing and surface cleaning, encouraging the older kids to wear masks and helping the littles to understand their hygiene. Our students need to get back to their normal studies and not live in fear. This virus is going to continue to spread through our country and we all need to change how we interact with each other - social distancing and of course staying home when sick. Distant learning is not the same as in-person, especially for the younger students and for many is not feasible to parents due to their work schedules. However, it is definitely something that could be implemented in conjunction with in-person learning. If educators and/or students are staying home due to positive covid-19 and asymptomatic, there could be a way for them to teach from home online. Perhaps looking at staggered schedules or some combination of online/in-person would be ideal for when illnesses are experienced in a majority of the class. There has to be ways to get creative so that our students aren't left behind in their education. My daughter, Jane Moore, is looking forward to continuing her education as a Junior this fall at the high school and is excited to continue the Wave program at J-Ted. She does not want to do online/distant learning and I hope that the Board can help to make in-person learning available to those that want to attend school on-site, like my daughter. Regarding school board meetings going forward, please consider having options available so that more of the community can participate. It's been wonderful to have our residents participate, especially over the past several years and anything the Board could do to continue encouraging people to "attend" meetings will be beneficial to all. As taxpayers, it is our responsibility and we should be expected to participate and hold our leaders accountable. Again, any help that the Board to encourage real time participation and discussion would be appreciated. Thank you again for everything you do and for your time today. All my best"

Rebecca Aguinaga; "Hello and Thank you for taking the time to read and review my concerns of the 2020/2021 up and coming school year. As I am not allowed to attend physically to these meetings, although unlawful and meetings are completely capable of being held in a safe and spacious manner for the public and parents of our school age children, I am extremely concerned. Finding out that the again a new start date is being considered for our children is extremely frustrating as not only my family but many households are trying to work around the inconsistencies and changes of decisions made for our children are becoming problematic to work around as there are jobs being threatened of loss or forced to loose to accommodate these unnecessary changes and constant start date change, I keep up on the CDC guidelines that are "advised" to follow and as of right now there is absolutely no reason to to allow our children to attend school physically. Data shown and used for decisions on our children conflicts with real time data and with arguments that I continuously hear of why keeping our children from physically attending

school is ok. In my case I would love to speak for a lot of other parents and children but I will only speak for mine. My 10 year has been affected in such a negative manner since the cancellation of school last season I don't even know where to begin. She excels academically and socially and absolutely loves and looks forward to going to school, she always has. Since the closure within 2 weeks she started showing small signs of depression as she did not mentally transition well but had a great attitude about it, as time went on and I had to keep breaking her spirit with closure updates and she started to decline more. My daughter is supposed to transfer to a new school this year for the gifted program and with the uncertainties of it even being held, I've been reassured that it would be yet explained with no hands on. No hands on in a program that is necessary for interaction and hands on is frustrating and now come to find out that not only has the start date possibly changed again but my daughter will be unable to attend a program she worked extremely hard for, in person or at all. My daughter since the time passing realising she will continue to have no social interaction with teachers whom she admires and interaction with children which is necessary for academic release and social growth has fallen into such a depression that she's completely changed and has no desire anymore. This is completely unfair to our children, curriculums are being accepted and passed without full review or public input, our children's social and academic life has come to a halt and they are stuck in doors without the option to see their friends/classmates, and teachers that they so look up to. Our children have had 0 choice in a situation they didn't even cause. It is extremely possible to put our children back in school physically and still provide precautions for safety. Viruses come and go, Physical and mental depression does not. I have this saying. "Suppression leads to Depression". My daughter is a prime example. Please consider allowing our children back in school at least by the end of August like previously planned so they can go back to some sort of normalcy before it becomes too late for my child and a majority of children as they really do benefit from more than just academics. I again, Thank you for taking the time to review my concerns"

Brittney Delgado; "Good afternoon board members, What is the plan to inform parents of positive Covid 19 in the classroom? Will all students and teacher be quarantined? Also, will the sick have to make up the work? Thank you"

Brittney Millsaps; "Hello. Who is the one to decide where to find the facts, studies and information on COVID for returning to school? There are plenty of well backed articles and studies on why kids SHOULD go back to school as normal. Why are these facts going ignored. It sounds like if the study or facts do not agree to ones thinking it gets set aside. Who is the one to make this decision? Also the statistics and numbers have been proven false. Doesn't everyone realize the media is out to keep fear and panic in everyone. This is detrimental to the kids health and mental state to not return to a normal school environment. Get the kids back to school. If you choose to stay home then stay home and online school. We have rights as Americans to choose. Thank you"

Brittney Millsaps; "<https://www.instagram.com/tv/CCocJqZHAdx/?igshid=qln9ykm09jpo>
<https://aapsonline.org/mask-facts/> link to the National Pediatrics board: Have a great day"

Chris Proulx; " Thank you for your time, Board President Mrs. Roman, Board Vice President Cox, Board Members Mrs.Cohen and Mrs. Aliyar, Superintendent Dr. Stone, and Educational Director Brad Gardner: After watching the last board meeting in its entirety, I felt the need to speak. Everybody wants to return to school like we always have. We cannot forget this point, as it seems to be a silent wedge hindering us on figuring-out what to do next. It's important to keep in mind that it's not a matter of if we are ever going to open schools again and return to normal, it's a matter of deciding when the safest time to open in-person is. And I firmly believe our wants and needs should come second to what our science professionals tells us. And respectfully, I don't believe the school board is in a position to judge the efficacy of organizations such as the CDC or the Health Departments or other leading experts, who by and large, have spent the greater part of their lives studying and understanding what us "common folk" are trying to synthesize in a matter of months. Politics are prejudice are what distort facts. Don't get me wrong, healthy scepticism is integral in getting to as close to the truth as possible. But, it is equally as imperative we draw a distinct line between healthy scepticism and believing we understand more than the top scientists in the entire world. And I applaud anybody who tries to understand this on their own. But make no mistake, the internet drowns us in information while starving us of real wisdom. And for this reason, I believe any "facts" brought up in a board meeting should have to be sourced, so it can be scrutinized by a large group of people. It seems inarguable that we are currently in this position because we still lack a complete understanding of this virus. And by "we", I mean "the entire world". And now school boards across America are trying to figure out what's better: being too cautious or being too reckless with reopening; all while health officials scramble for answers that comes from the heavy lifting of our scientific professionals who have been put under unfathomable pressure. Considering we are betting with children's well-being and safety, in addition to the most seemingly at risk (the staff), I would much much, much rather err on the side of caution. I would also like to make a quick comment to our School Board: These meetings should reflect how we want our children, and the adults of those children, to act. These meetings have devolved into competition and contempt, rather than collaboration. The amount of disrespectful and unprofessional actions is simply unacceptable for your positions. It's truly incredible to sit back and watch fingerpointing

and yelling and cutting people off and dismissing people's views without any indication of the ability to take in new information that contradicts previously-held beliefs. Getting back to the task at hand- I think it is crucial that we fully digest the fact that we are not virologists, immunologists, epidemiologists, or infectious disease experts. These people have spent a majority of their life in this profession, and i believe that earns them the benefit of the doubt. The last board meeting there was discussions between what numbers are truthful and what numbers are meaningful in regards to how we measure the danger involved in reopening or not. And if we insert those questions in the context of our current situation, which is: Our local hospital will not treat kids with covid, hospitals are very close to capacity (1), PPE shortages are still a very big issue (2), testing still isn't where it needs to be, recent testing is showing a 15 to 20% return rate of positives (3), In addition to the fact that we are doing close to nothing to protect our staffI implore you tread very cautiously and not get too cavalier when trusting your gut and limited info over the scientific community consensus, which has not arrived yet. Not to mention the newly discovered possibility of long term effects after getting Covid (4). It is for this reason we cannot simply say children are safe because the possibility of them dying is very low. I cannot, nay, I will not, let my own personal desire for the "return to normal" skew my judgement in deciding how my wife and I will protect our children, and ourselves in the imminent future. And finally, I would like to respectfully ask Board Member Nichole Cohen to rescind her statement of "kids cant spread this", on the grounds that there's been no scientific consensus on that particular matter. Without scientific consensus to back that statement, it is misleading.... and even more so, dangerous. Thank you to everyone for all that you are doing to try to navigate us through an almost impossible situation.

(1) <https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/covid-19/dashboards/index.php>

<https://www.abc15.com/news/coronavirus/less-than-10-of-icu-beds-available-in-arizona-152-medical-personnel-sent-in-to-help>

(2) <https://health.usnews.com/hospital-heroes/articles/arizona-surgeon-designs-isolation-gowns-to-combat-ppe-shortages>

<https://asunow.asu.edu/20200707-low-cost-sterilization-units-combat-n95-shortage-help-businesses>

<https://www.havasuregional.com/coronavirus-covid-19-preparedness-information>

(3) <https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/covid-19/dashboards/index.php>

<https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/testing/individual-states/arizona>

<https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/07/02/886949217/nearly-one-in-four-arizona-coronavirus-tests-positive-now>

(4) <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2020/06/200625140719.htm>

<https://hms.harvard.edu/news/complication-constellation>

Mrs. Roman ask that any emails received after 5:30 p.m. not be read, but sent to the Board for review.

Heather Davis; "With online learning academy are there a manditory seat/logon time needed?"

Michele Anderson; "Please clarify. Dual enrollment courses will be available only through the Online Academy??"

Judy Long; "How will students connect with their teachers sing Google classroom?"

Dawn Leivas; "I'm wondering what specifically is being done for gifted students for the online learning options. My son will be in 4th grade gifted but I don't think I want him going in for at least the 1st quarter for in person learning. Thanks"

Mama Maltos; "What about students who have special classes or go to another classroom for extra help during an on campus day? How will distance learning accommodate them?"

Ginger Balboni; "Dear members of the Board, Can you clarify or confirm that distance learning option, not online academy, will still be an option once campuses open? When Lisa asked, it was hard to hear the exact response from Dr. Stone. Thank you"

Deanna Ainsworth; "It was noted that HS students can take dual enrollment through the online academy. Can you clarify as dual enrollment is either in person on LHHS campus or on google classroom when distant learning? If online academy students want to take dual enrollment classes, they would need to enroll with MCC and take that class through MCC's online course platform, correct? Not through the distant learning google classroom."

Amy Gregorich; "Will students be required to sit in front of a computer for a normal class day or as long as they complete the daily required readings/homework that will be sufficient?"

Tiffany Goade; "Are you expecting the students to have certain hours of online/ in front of screen time? Also how are you proposing parents with young elementary school students to complete the online time when both parents work until 5pm? Thank you"

Jessica Klostermeier; "What will happen to students who aren't logging in? What about families without technology? How will you address these?"

Nadine Beaumont; "I watched the meeting and am still completely confused....what exactly is the difference between distance learning and online academy??? thank you"

Erynne Holmstrom; "My name is Erynne Oblak. Please clarify: if A student is enrolled in PLP and school reopens as usual, can That student choose to stay in PLP and not attend LHUSD In person or through google classroom for the remainder of the year?"

Mama Maltos; "How do we sign our students up for distance learning and NOT the online academy?"

Cindy Iglesias; "I want to start off by saying how grateful I am to the Smoketree staff and how they contributed to the growth of my son who was in kindergarten this last year. Staff was like a [b](#)reath of fresh air. I can't tell you how reassuring this was to me as a parent entrusting my son to them. With that said, i was saddened to have to wrap the school year up so early. And i am disappointed because i do not feel reassured that this pandemic is managed yet. I want so badly for my son to rejoin in-person classes, but i care about the lives and health of staff [a](#)nd families. I will be making a choice for an online program for my son this year. I hope Smoketree will offer one with a local teacher so we can join it to support our local schools."

Dr. Khamranie Persaud; "Dear Board Members, I commend the school board for implementation of a comprehensive distance learning course. I agree, traditional learning is risky to implement during these unprecedented times. Currently here is an idea of the general situation:

Arizona: Confirmed total cases 135,000 Total deaths to date: 2,499 Numbers are trending up ICUS are almost at capacity Hospitals are full ERs are full Tests are almost all done as we are running out so quickly The labcorp COVID test machine is at capacity and now takes 7-10 business days before we can receive a result Locally: Are numbers are rapidly trending up There are now 626 positive cases in Lake Havasu With 60 positive tests as of yesterday, the highest we have ever seen The local hospital is very short staffed and is overwhelmed and has recently had to hire locums nurses Although the mortality rate is low, the morbidity is significant and we are still learning about the long term effects of COVID on the body We must diligently try to encourage social distancing and universal masking with respect to learning. Best"

Melissa Paviglianiti; "To all of you on the Board, I thank you for your hard work. I absolutely love the idea of Distance Learning long term, as my children, and lots of children need their teachers but families may not be comfortable to send the Child back to the physical classroom."

Mandy Jaramillo; "Good afternoon, How are families with multiple children supposed to do distance learning with limited and or no computers available to their children?"

Victoria Rolando; "With the student doing distant learning at home, how are families with multiple children supposed to be able to have all children doing online work at one time? We have four children, two elementary, one in middle school and one in high school. We have one laptop. I have no way to afford one more computer let alone three. How is this going to be handled?"

Heather Davis; "Will the distance learning follow the same curriculum as in person learning?"

Bonnie Helman; "Governing Board, Why not have all students participate in Online Academy until in-person begins? (and have each teacher responsible for their own class) Having teachers create all of this on Google Classroom in 1 WEEK to start on Aug. 3rd is a lot of work for teachers who are not familiar with it. Thank you"

Brooke Pope; "My husband and I both work full time jobs as do many parents. What is the school district going to do to assist families like mine that are unable to stay home with our children to monitor "remote learning"?"

Jessica Kitterman; "Madam President and School Board, Will the district be providing chrome books to students with no technology access at home for support with google classroom?"

Brett Miller; "What is being done to address the social and emotional well being of the students in the online academy? How is the district going to make sure the online students feel a part of their school?"

Becca Bunnell; "Could you clarify: How many lessons will be taught for each subject, each week for high school?"

Brett Miller; "Since the online academy will not be having collaboration with peers (or you don't know if it will) and you seem to be setting up the infrastructure for distance learning just in case, can I just sign up for the distance learning instead of returning to campus or doing online?"

Bonnie Helman; "I f they are going to push back the time of distance learning, why don't they make the decision NOW so parents and teachers can plan? (Not do it week by week) Thank you"

Melissa Paviglianiti; "To the board Ms Cohan As your feelings are valid, and concerns are real, what is your solution.? You are arguing issues of governmentThis is what we know ... what the government says For the people that believe in the pandemic what is your solution? Go against the state? Open because you say it's ok? And who will pay for hospital bills and loss of work when our children gets sick, What is your specific metric"

Brett Miller; "How about the school board focus on making decisions on something they have control over rather than public health statistical analysis and testing methodologies?"

Dr. Khamranie Persaud; “

Antigen tests test for an active infection for people who are currently ill. It is an RNA test to look for the actual virus itself. Antibody tests test to see if a person has developed immunity to the virus. Antibody tests are only positive around 4 weeks after initial infection and then usually the antibody levels drop and the test becomes negative.”

Suzanne Strader; “So will ALL students be enrolled in schoolsplp program that was offered as our online choice?”

Justin Harrison; “Why not invest and implement safety protocols that make air quality safer? <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0160412020317876> Opening without proper safety is not likely to go well if there are mass outbreaks among staff. Modifying HVAC systems and implementing technology that purifies and disinfects the air will be a proactive investment that will keep students and staff safe, and in the classroom. It will lead to lower absenteeism for years to come whether we are battling SARS CoV-2, common cold, or influenza.”

Jessica Surprenant; “Public board meetings are needed for parents to feel included and heard! Our children need to go back to school please don’t delay that. It is mind blowing that children are allowed to be with each other and city employees daily for parks and wreck but not normal school hours? How does that make any logical sense??? My question is if the distance learning is a requirement or optional starting such. 3rd. Thank you.”

Nichole George; “o who this may concern, My son and daughter are enrolled at jamacia elementary. I feel that keeping them from school is only going to do more harm then good. They are five and six and will be entering kindergarten and first grade. These years are critical not only for their learning skills, but for their development. They will not be able to learn how to communicate with other children, teachers and friends. They will be missing out of socialization skills and instead glued to a computer. The computer will do nothing for them. They need to learn how to socialize in a school environment, not at home. Also, my husband and I depend on our children going back to school so that we can work and make our income. Without school we will not be able to work and afford our home. The statistics of getting covid or slim to none. There is too much fear brought forward by the media. I hope we can all come to a common ground and accept our futures, while making the best decisions for our families. Masks will restrict their oxygen, and I don’t know a kid that will keep one on. Also they don’t do anything for the pathogens in the air. Open our schools up and let our kids be kids. Thank you for your time.”

Sally Miura; “When will we as parents find out more of the specifics about exactly how starting school will go? How often will the child be required to log in? Will it include specific times or be flexible as parents may be working? Some parents may have to adjust their working schedule or quit a job to be able to do the distance learning until in person schooling is allowed. Will the information come from the specific school or the district? Will there be instructions for parents on how to use google classroom? Thank you”

Danielle Stuhlberg; “How many students, teachers, and staff member's lives are you willing to risk to re-open schools? If you cannot even have an in-person, public meeting due to safety concerns, how are we even discussing sending children back to school? “Society: In the richest country in the world, between 11 and 13 million children live in food insecure homes. Schools: We can help..... Kids can eat breakfast and lunch at school, and in many places, teachers will spend their own money on snacks. For the most needy, we will send home food for dinner and weekends. Society: Over 4 million children in the US do not have health insurance or adequate healthcare. Schools: We can help..... we will bring doctors to do free physicals, eye exams, and dental treatments right at school. In many places, school nurses will spend their own money on sanitary supplies for girls. Society: Over 17% of US children live without basic necessities. Schools: We can help.... we will install washers and dryers in schools. We will hand out clothes, school supplies, shoes, and winter coats for free. Many of these items are purchased by school nurses and teachers. Society: There are 5.5 million reports annually of physical abuse, sexual abuse, and neglect. Schools: We can help.... schools will be safe places and teachers will be safe people. We will have some counselors, but not enough.... some therapists, but not enough, right in the schools. Teachers with minimal training in trauma will come to school early and stay late to mentor these children. Teachers will spend more time with their students than with their own children. Teachers will cry and sometimes crumble at the thought of not being able to do more for the innocent children in their care. Society: Almost 25% of US children have parents that work past school hours. Schools: We can help.... we will install before and after school programs in thousands of schools where kids can get another meal, get help with their homework, and participate in organized activities. Society: Almost 14 million children in the US are obese. Schools: we can help... Physical Education classes will be mandatory and we will incorporate lessons about healthy food choices. Society: The US averages one school shooting every 77 days. School: We can help... we will do lock down drills and train our students to hide and be quiet. And if need be, teachers will literally die for their students. Society: We are in the midst of a global pandemic which our government has failed to control. Almost 130,000 Americans are dead and the numbers are rising, not declining, in many places. Because we have chosen to ignore, for decades, the racism, inequality, and discrimination that is at the

root of all the aforementioned problems, we now need schools to reopen so that kids can eat, get healthcare, get clothes, shoes, and school supplies, be safe, be healthy, and be supervised. Oh, and so that they can get an education. It appears that COVID doesn't affect children, so let's go back to school. Teachers: We can help.... but what about the 25-30% of us that are over the age of 50? What about those of us who are immunocompromised or live with someone who is? What about those of us who are pregnant... we still have very limited data on what COVID does to unborn children. Will you have PPE for us? Will you have hand sanitizer for us? What if we get sick, and don't have enough sick days to cover the time that we are out? What if a family member gets sick and we need to care for them? Society: Wow, why are you suddenly being a bunch of crybabies? Before you were always willing to sacrifice your time, your money, your mental health.... and now when we need you, you aren't willing to sacrifice your health or your life? But 75% of you are women.... and that's what we, as a society, expect women to do... sacrifice yourself for others. For decades, schools and teachers have been the band-aid on society's failings because we care about children. Schools and teachers are not the ones that can fix the things that are broken with our society. At the same time, we cannot be the lambs sent to slaughter because no one else cared enough to actually fix society while schools and teachers were holding it all together with said band-aid." "

Daniel Plane; "Please address how do teachers manage large class size of 30-40 students and keeping students safe with small spaces. Thank you. What if teachers aren't comfortable returning? What is the plan for them? Can you explain who is advocating for faculty and how are you guaranteeing their safety? Please clarify your responsibility to staff if they are forced to work under conditions they might feel are unsafe but want to keep their job?"

Marcia Cox; "President Roman, Your comments on not reading all of the emails is exactly why we should be having these meetings in public. You are preventing the public from having the right to speak at a public meeting."

Leah Juve; "What happens when you get a positive COVID student will this cause a shut down? What if my student is sick with flu like illness like every school year, will you demand a COVID test? Basically what will be the procedure if someone gets sick flu or COVID? Kids will get sick it's life. It's gonna happen. Thank you,"

Wendy Moore; "Is anyone going to address or are there any solutions the internet service issue that seems to be happening in Lake Havasu? The bandwidth is apparently being taxed to capacity at this point without the 1000s of students utilizing it. What will be the Plan B that will be put into effect when the issues begin? Thank you again for your time,"

Megan Randall; "Hi, I am Megan Randall, Family Nurse Practitioner here in Lake Havasu City. I have 4 children, 2 of which attend Starline and one that attends Thunderbolt Middle School. Yes we are seeing a rise in cases in AZ, however COVID19 is not going anywhere any time soon. How long do we put our children's essential education on hold? Our kids need to go back to school, in person with hygiene as a top priority. We need to implement good hand washing, and sanitizing. Our kids still need interaction with others for their mental health as well. It has been shown that children are not affected like adults with Covid, with that said I understand that those children may spread to other family members that may be at risk. We are building some herd immunity as well. Our children need their education, and I highly support our children going back to school in person and those that want to do online can do online. Thank you"

Jessica Kitterman; "After listening...its our opinion as a family with a sped student that the school board needs to realize that the district calendar needs to be simply be revised to 8/17. Offer both platforms with one start date vs this hybrid model for two weeks. If the hybrid is passed it will be an absolute nightmare for transitioning. Our preference is in person learning for our son with safety measures."

J. Dehert; "What gives a Public school board the dictatorship to make a public school private? Isn't this against the law? Public Schools should be opened to the public. Herd immunity is the only truth and yet you board members would rather assault our child..."

Pete Pakes (emailed to Nichole Cohen); "LHUSD Board and Administration, If you would please share with the tax payers the consequences of starting school during the executive order and the consequences of not teaching our students at our school locations. If parents decide to educate their children a different way other than public education, what are the consequences to the school district short and long term and how does the district recover from the lack of enrollment? What plan is in place or has been discussed to lower overhead including personnel and unused classrooms or buildings if enrollment has declined significantly due to the executive order to not open the schools for physical attendance"

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

3.2 Approval of Renewal of Quality First Child Care Scholarships Provider Agreement between Valley of the Sun United Way and Lake Havasu Unified School District – Little Knights and Smoketree Preschools

Mrs. Wolter recommended that the Board approve the Quality First Child Care Scholarships Provider Agreement between Valley of the Sun United Way and LHUSD Little Knights and Smoketree Developmental Preschools.

The First Things First preschool scholarship program provides access to quality preschool programs to eligible low-income families. This program requires annual renewal by the Lake Havasu Unified School District Governing Board. The Valley of the Sun United Way is the direct recipient of FTF funding. Quality First FTF through United Way awards the annual preschool scholarships to participating eligible programs. This agreement will be in effect pending final approval from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 with consecutive yearly renewal options pending Quality First Star Rating and availability of FTF funding.

This agreement has been reviewed by legal.

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

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

3.3 Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between Havasu Community Health Foundation and Lake Havasu Unified School District for Student Assistance Program

Mrs. Wolter recommended the Governing Board approve the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding between Havasu Community Health Foundation (HCHF) and Lake Havasu Unified School District for Student Assistance Program for the 2020-21 school year.

The Memorandum establishes a formal commitment between the parties to support collaborative work in better addressing the behavioral and social emotional needs of our at risk students through the Student Assistance Program in all our elementary schools with intent of providing services in the middle and/or high schools if opportunity and time permit. HCHF agrees to administer and provide the Student Assistance Program to support elementary schools and LHUSD agrees to provide \$12,000 in grant funding to supplement the wage and benefits of the Student Assistance Program Coordinator.

Funding will come from MIPS funding. This has been reviewed by purchasing. Legal has reviewed the document as to form. The agreement was attached for board review, and will be presented to the board annually for renewal approval.

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

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 6:23 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 July 16, 2020 are approved as submitted.

Lisa Roman, President

Kathy Cox, Vice President