



## Study Session Agenda

January 16, 2021  
10:00 a.m.

***Due to Governor Inslee's proclamation, there will not be a site for the public to attend this meeting other than electronically or telephonically***

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87043546209?pwd=R2puSEliUINrRTNvNk5zbHFZclZDZz09>

Password: 775505

Call-in numbers: 1-253-215 8782 or 1-346-248-7799

Webinar ID: 870 4354 6209

### Public Comments Submitted Online for January 16, 2021 Study Session

[January 16, 2021 Special School Board Meeting Public Comment Form \(Responses\).pdf \(p. 2\)](#)

#### 1. Updated Recommendation: Implementation of Hybrid Instruction

Presenter: Marla S. Miller, Deputy Superintendent

[Updated Hybrid Recommendation \(1.16.21\)2.pptx.pdf \(p. 48\)](#)

#### 2. Adjournment: \_\_\_\_\_

Name	Relation to Shoreline Public Schools (check all that apply)	Comment to School Board
Staci Kelley	Staff Member, Parent/ Guardian	<p>As a SSD nurse I have been intently listening to the district's presentations to the school board about returning to in person learning. During the last meeting a comment was made by a school board member after Marla Miller answered questions about PPE. The director referred to the WA L&amp;I as "guidance" for PPE. I want to clarify that WA L&amp;I PPE instructions are <b>MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS</b>. You can read the document here: <a href="https://www.k12.wa.us/sites/default/files/public/communications/Employer-Health-and-Safety-Requirements-for-School-Scenarios.pdf">https://www.k12.wa.us/sites/default/files/public/communications/Employer-Health-and-Safety-Requirements-for-School-Scenarios.pdf</a></p> <p>We <b>MUST</b> have the minimum required PPE available before returning to in person learning. It is unclear if school nurses have the minimum required PPE in order to man required Isolation spaces. The district is aware and working very hard to clarify and rectify this concern. I also want you to know that SSD nurses have been following the guidance and requirements set forth by the WA DOH, PHSKC and WA L&amp;I. We have been meeting and reaching out to the district over the course of several months about concerns. We have plans for the health office and are working with our building admin. As nurses we feel fortunate that the district recognizes the importance to having a nurse in every building. We are a group of strong, experienced nurses and we are committed to making this return to in person learning safe!</p>
Megan Sanderson	Parent/Guardian	<p>Regarding in person learning: I don't think there have been enough studies done in regards to COVID 19 spread from students to adults. Especially with the new more easily spreadable strains. Even if the teachers/school employees are vaccinated, that doesn't protect the School Employee's families or the families of the students. If a student picks up the virus at school and brings it home to elderly relatives or other adults with underlying conditions then what? We are so close to having a vaccine for everyone, at this point it seems reckless to open schools. Aim for a safe fall re-opening.</p>
Cassie Trueblood	Parent/Guardian	<p>I am extremely disappointed with the plan for hybrid learning to consist of half-days. Unless there is an aftercare program, it will be impossible for our family to make this work. My husband and I are both essential workers and have to be AT work. We cannot leave in the middle of the day to pick up our first grader. This plan clearly gave no thought to working parents, which is extremely disappointing.</p>

<p>Jessica Hendrick, Natalie Campbell, Rhonda Okazaki, Polly Olson, Elizabeth Chamberlain, Laurie Pearson, Kimberly Clasen, Maureen Timony, Joanne Olson, Frank Kleyn, Brittany Rieck, Bob Phillips, Kelly Holloway, Tom Doggett, April Johnston, Jacqui Rublee, Barbara Phipps, Heidi Langsdorf, Sharon Ridge, Tami Thompson, Barbara Dreier, Lori Scobie, Grace Kim</p>	<p>Staff Member</p>	<p>We, some members of the staff of Lake Forest Park Elementary School, would like to share some concerns that were raised and questions we still have after the district presentation to the school board on Monday night. Our concerns are two-fold; we do not feel the district presentation adequately addressed all of our safety questions and concerns that were submitted prior to the meeting and only very briefly even referenced our concerns related to best practices when it comes to educating our students, which should be our most paramount duty whether in a pandemic or not.</p> <p>To downplay the danger of COVID-19 is irresponsible and dangerous for our community. Deputy Superintendent Marla Miller cited data in the meeting on Monday about the number of cases of Covid-19 being spread in schools in our state that have already returned to an in-person model. She mentioned several cases of schools having outbreaks from anywhere between 2-11 people and then said that it was not too many. The message that was received from that statement was that the Shoreline School District does have a certain number of Covid-19 cases and deaths they feel comfortable with allowing amongst our staff, students, and families, which is disheartening to say the least. In addition to that, Mrs. Miller neglected to mention any of the science or data that says that Washington state does not currently have a way to accurately track data in schools in regards to the transmission of Covid-19 (Seattle Times, Washington State shares little data about public schools and whether coronavirus is spreading, 12/1/20). One of our states foremost authorities on Covid-19, Dr. Vin Gupta, has stated that, "Teachers and support staff in schools should be fully vaccinated before they're expected to return to in-person instruction. Doing otherwise is wrong and unjust to teachers nationwide." Today, our state legislative leaders and the WEA have asked the governor and the Washington State Department of Health to reconsider the timeline for getting school staff vaccinated. To claim that the district's plans are based on science, but to ignore a significant portion of the data or even acknowledge a lack of data is not safe.</p> <p>We also have concerns that the district believes there is no number of cases high enough that would pivot hybrid learning back to remote learning. The current rate of transmission is 15%, which is well above the target rate of 10% and our entire state does not have one region that was deemed safe enough to move out of Phase 1 at this point in time. In just the few days since the board meeting the case rates in King County have increased from 281 to 334 per 100,000. To act like schools, even with safety procedures in place, would not be a source of any transmission is very dangerous to our community. We again ask how this could be considered safe.</p> <p>In addition to our concerns about safety and science, we were very disappointed the district's presentation did not include evidence for why moving to hybrid instruction would be better for students' educational progress at this point in time than the remote instruction they are currently receiving. Deputy Superintendent Miller said that students "have not made gains" this year, which is absolutely untrue and completely undocumented. As a matter of fact, since our baseline assessments in September, there has not been one single district assessment done with our students, so there is absolutely no data to suggest gains haven't been made. That is an offensive assumption. In fact, there is significant data from all of our classroom assessments to suggest that students are making gains comparable to those they do in person, which we believe will be supported when the district assessments are completed in the next month.</p> <p>It was also stated that the half day cohort model was chosen because it would increase the frequency that students see their teacher when compared to an ABxAB model. What the presentation neglected to mention is that the amount of time students will spend with their teacher compared to the remote model will be much less. Currently we see our students "live" for a minimum of 3 hours per day and the possibility of up to 3 hours and 40 minutes. That is significantly more than they will receive in this hybrid model. Our remote model also allows us to work with students individually and in small groups, which will not be possible during in-person teaching of ELA or math. This is a</p>
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Michaela Buckner	Parent/Guardian	<p>To Whom It May Concern,</p> <p>I am just writing to express my disappointment when I learned that the board had decided to transition to morning/afternoon cohorts vs Mon/Tues and Thurs/Fri cohorts. I feel that I am speaking for many families when I say that this is a childcare/logistical nightmare. My son is 5 and in Kindergarten at Syre. We desperately want him to start in-person learning as soon as it is available. My husband and I both work out of the home and leave our house with our two children at 6am. We found a learning pod that he has been attending but we realize that in order to make any type of in-person attendance work, we will have to hire a nanny. I had missed the information about the recommendation back in November to go to half days. I had been assuming that when we did return we would be going with the model that was proposed earlier last year. From a childcare perspective we are going to have to spend a lot more money with the half day model. The nanny would only be dropping off our child for school for 2 to 2 1/2 hours so essentially we will have to pay her for the entire day. (Our other child is in a preschool that we really do not want to withdraw her from.) We had a plan in place for the Mon/Tues (A) cohort vs Thurs/Fri (B), but this new model is much more stressful.</p> <p>I also thought that the idea was to have a deep clean mid-week between the cohorts vs every day between morning and afternoon. It seems that there would be more time to do a better clean when you have a whole day to do it. From what I understand, the reason you are moving to this model is because you do not want the children eating at school, which involves them taking off their masks. Is there really no other way to safely distance the kids while they do this? I know of several other schools that have been open, either here or in other states, who have been able to make this work. Why can't we??</p> <p>I have also heard that your decision was based on children waiting 5 days in between in-person class days and that this would be too hard of a transition. I, personally, think that it is better to at least get two days of hands-on teaching vs 5 days straight of sitting in front of a screen. If 2020 has taught us anything, it has taught us how resilient children can be. (A year ago I never would have thought that my child would wear a mask for an hour, much less a full day, five days a week. Turns out he can do it, and will remind others to wear theirs as well.) I think you need to give our children a little more credit.</p> <p>I know that you are making some big decisions this week. I just want to be on the record saying that I do not support the morning/afternoon model. I do fully support the Mon/Tues vs Thurs/Fri model and I hope that you can reconsider that plan.</p> <p>Thank you for listening, Michaela Buckner</p>
Christopher Lirhus	Staff Member	<p>I am eager to get back into the classroom and marked YES at the opportunity to return. I do however believe it is the best interest of ALL students to remain with the grade level teacher they currently have and/or grade level teacher from the same building. With rumors flying around I cringe at the idea of teaching a grade level vastly different than what I know how to teach. It would be huge disservice to have me teach reading to K,1,2 students as I do not have those skills. Not to mention the time it will take to create community with new students and families. If we go back to hybrid I believe would be in the best interest of everyone for students, families and teachers to continue working with the same students and/or students a grade above or below within the same building. Thank you for your understanding and hard work.</p>

Allison Bowhay	Staff Member	<p>Hello,  I am a 4th grade teacher at Echo Lake with a daughter who also attends Echo Lake. These are the questions I posed to my administrator and the questions I pose to the board and the district.  Why now? How many of the MERV filters have been installed at EL? The POD? Classrooms? What improvements have been made to the ventilation system at EL? I would like to see the staff survey results that show 65-75% of teachers want to return to in person learning that was cited by the district. What if teachers are unable to clean mid-day between cohorts of students because they are caring for their own child and getting them to ? care? When will we know who will be remote teachers and who will be hybrid teachers? Are families going to be able to choose AM or PM? Can staff choose AM/PM for their child? Can a student follow the teacher either remotely or hybrid so they don't have to change teachers? What are options for childcare for staff's children who will have to be in care ½ day, 4 days a week? Can they stay in the parent's classroom if care cannot be coordinated by the time we start hybrid? Can staff work remotely on Wednesdays or do we need to be on site? What is the protocol when a student or family tests positive? Do both cohorts have to quarantine? Does teacher teach remotely to the class during this time? How are teachers expected to plan for both in-person learning and the asynchronous (Health,SS, science, Art) half of the day? How will we teach math, reading and SEL in 2 hours? How long will the at school day be? This shift will be detrimental to learning and learning time. Don't expect to see any growth this year from students and pacing guides will need to slow way down. The timing of grades 3-5 returning on 2/22/21 is disrespectful to teachers. The week before that start date is our much needed mid-winter break. Teachers will be spending break preparing for students. What will be provided for teachers to use to support students through the traumatic event of losing a teacher who has helped them get through this year? If you say Smart Start for teachers to do it all, there must be more. We have been talking for years about the importance of relationships, yet that is not considered during this pivotal time? What will recess look like? Are supplies going to be purchased for students so each student has their own supplies? How will you make decisions for who is hybrid and who is a remote teacher? Will seniority be used or principal choice like always? Who will be building the new classes? Once again-equity, Shoreline! More affluent families can choose to stay home, many working class families cannot. What PPE will be provided? All teachers will need to have N95/Kn95 masks if not fully vaccinated.  Thank you for your time. Allison Bowhay</p>
Kristin Mesler	Staff Member	<p>Please do not go into a Hybrid situation for Shoreline. This will totally disrupt the flow of education that has been set up for Online Learning, configuration of classes, staffing, and more. The students and families have a sense of stability with the teacher that they know online and if COVID gets worse - then the schools will have to be closed again and this is even more disruptive! Also, we have staff with multiple issues in terms of COVID and until everyone is vaccinated (twice) they will not be safe. Please do not go into a Hybrid situation. Thank you!</p>
Sarah K	Students, Parent/ Guardian	<p>Coordination between schools and school districts on hybrid scheduling seems like the smart thing to do for families. M/Tu &amp; Th/F cohort schedule makes so much more sense than a half-day schedule (for all families but especially for working parents) - also for symptom identification.... as students would have multiple days at home between at-school days.</p>

Joel Anderson	Parent/Guardian, Community Member	<p>I strongly urge you to follow Governor Inslee's recommendations to fully reopen schools for elementary students. This should be done with proper safety mechanisms in place, such as masks and social distancing.</p> <p>The negative effects of school closures on children, such as a rise in dropout rates, increased exposure to violence and exploitation, and social isolation are well documented. UNESCO has an excellent summary [1] of these effects. However, we do not need to subject our children to these negative consequences.</p> <p>In epidemiological studies nationally and globally, evidence shows that children contract COVID-19 less frequently than adults. For example, population-wide studies in Iceland [2] and Spain [3] using antibody tests that assess prior infection at any time find that children have lower rates of infection compared to adults.</p> <p>Transmission among or from students is uncommon. A recent study [4] in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) from the CDC found that for students, going to schools was not associated with having a positive COVID-19 test. Another study in Australia [5] investigated the cases where there was transmission in school. It found that, of children who tested positive, only 0.3% had had contact with another child who was positive (child-to-child transmission). Child-to-adult transmission occurred only 1% of the time. In contrast, adult-to-child transmission occurred 1.5% of the time, and adult-to-adult transmission was 4.4%, almost 15 times higher than child-to-child transmission. This suggests that adult-to-adult transmission is the most likely scenario for in-school transmission, and can thus be more easily controlled with proper safety precautions.</p> <p>Unfortunately, the full extent of irreparable harm being done to children through school closures may not be known for years to come. I strongly urge you to correct course now, and get our most vulnerable students, elementary-aged children, back into school as soon as possible.</p> <p>[1] <a href="https://en.unesco.org/covid19/educationresponse/consequences">https://en.unesco.org/covid19/educationresponse/consequences</a>  [2] <a href="https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa2006100">https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa2006100</a>  [3] <a href="https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)31483-5/fulltext">https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)31483-5/fulltext</a>  [4] <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6950e3.htm">https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6950e3.htm</a>  [5] <a href="https://www.thelancet.com/action/showPdf?pii=S2352-4642%2820%2930251-0">https://www.thelancet.com/action/showPdf?pii=S2352-4642%2820%2930251-0</a></p>
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Elizabeth Norberg	Staff Member	<p>A few questions from my colleagues and I...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. WHY NOW before we are vaccinated and numbers are still climbing?</li> <li>2. What is the timeline for the teaching assignments for all classroom teachers (online, in-person, grade level, building change....) and who will be making those decisions?</li> <li>3. Is seniority considered in any decisions?</li> <li>4. What is the plan for classroom/school quarantine for exposures?</li> <li>5. Is the district going to do anything to advocate for speed of vaccines?</li> <li>6. Will there be training/time to learn what the safety protocols are, expectations for learning?</li> <li>7. What happens when we have students who are non-compliant with masks or behaviors?</li> <li>8. Who is forming the new classroom configurations?</li> <li>9. Are we looking at balance in placements?</li> <li>10. Where is district equity, when it appears (at least in my community) that the more educated, informed families indicate they will stay online?</li> <li>11. Can we stay with the bulk of our class?</li> <li>12. Where will teachers be during the classroom cleaning between cohorts?</li> <li>13. How do we prepare our class for the trauma of breaking the community and moving into different groups?</li> <li>14. When will families hear about the schedule, their teacher and expectations?</li> <li>15. Will someone else be preparing asynchronous afternoon lessons for Science, Social Studies, Health, Art, etc..... And grading those assignments?</li> <li>16. What PPE will be available and in place in the classrooms?</li> <li>17. If we have a number of colleagues that become COVID positive, or simply need to quarantine or isolate due to exposure, do we have the staffing and resources to cover classrooms?</li> <li>18. How do I keep kids in their current classes for report card purposes while simultaneously scheduling them into their (potential) new classes, especially if we do start hybrid on February 1st?</li> <li>19. What happens if we absolutely get no response from a family about whether they choose hybrid or remote? Will remote be the default option?</li> <li>20. How will behavior problems in the classroom be handled without overexposing the school administration to contact with many different cohorts of students?</li> <li>21. How will we handle recess, lunch, movement throughout the building, and bathroom breaks?</li> <li>22. When will we know who will be remote teachers and who will be hybrid teachers?</li> <li>23. Are families going to be able to choose AM or PM?</li> <li>24. Can staff choose AM/PM for their child?</li> <li>25. Can a student follow the teacher either remotely or hybrid so they don't have to change teachers?</li> <li>26. Can teacher's children stay in the parent's classroom if care cannot be coordinated by the time we start hybrid?</li> <li>27. Can staff work remotely on Wednesdays or do we need to be on site?</li> <li>28. What is the protocol when a student or family tests positive? Do both cohorts have to quarantine? Does teacher teach remotely to the class during this time?</li> <li>29. How are teachers expected to plan for both in-person learning and the asynchronous (Health,SS, science, Art) half of the day?</li> <li>30. How will we teach math, reading and SEL in 2 hours?</li> </ol> <p>This shift will be detrimental to learning and learning time. The timing of students returning with such short notice is disrespectful to teachers. The week before that start date is our much needed mid-winter break. Teachers will be spending break preparing for students. What will be provided for teachers to use to support students through the traumatic event of losing a teacher who has helped them get through this year?</p> <p>Where are the staff survey results that show 65-75% of teachers want to return to in person learning that was cited by the district?</p>
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<p>Stevi Boskovich Weir</p>	<p>Parent/Guardian, Community Member</p>	<p>Superintendent Minor and the Shoreline School District School Board,</p> <p>I want to start by thanking you for all your hard work in trying to find a solution for the district, teachers, staff and students. I can't imagine the pressure you are under to come up with and enact a plan that is perfect for all students and staff.</p> <p>I am wondering if you considered allowing another option for families in your survey that would allow students to follow their current teacher whether remote or in-person. As a parent of both a 3rd grade student with a 504 plan and a kindergartner new to public school it is most important that my kids remain with their current teacher, whether in-person or remote. Changing teachers will negatively affect the elementary school students class community and the consistency the teachers have spent so much time building. The change in a teacher will not only disrupt, and possibly delay, their current lesson plans but also disrupt the student's predictable classroom rhythm and the safety they feel because they know what to expect each day.</p> <p>During the pandemic I have found that my children thrive on consistency and knowing what they can and cannot expect. With a year full of unknowns and so many changes, having them know that every day they will be met with a familiar face in school has been reassuring and has helped them through these new and scary times.</p> <p>I appreciate the time and effort given to reading all the feedback from families, staff and students.</p>
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Breanna Clouse	Parent/Guardian, Community Member	<p>School Board Members and Superintendent Miner:</p> <p>First of all, thank you for all you do for us. We appreciate all of you.</p> <p>I firmly believe schools should be kept closed except for the possibility of some special education students coming for in-person services. I feel this is too rushed and not well planned out. As of yet there has been little to no communication with parents. I do not understand why we aren't following Edmonds or Seattle's lead? They both have much later dates to start to bring in Kinder – 2nd graders. We need to start with small groups of students first like special education students, for several weeks at a time. This would give us more time to plan and communicate.</p> <p>People on both sides of the open/close schools debate can each produce their own "data" on what is safe or not safe to prove their point. Regardless of that, there is still risk and someone will die, have long-haul covid symptoms, have long term damage, etc. As teaching can be done remotely, I firmly believe it should be done remotely until all teachers/staff that want to be vaccinated, are vaccinated. I was highly disappointed that Jay Inslee did not prioritize teachers for the vaccine.</p> <p>I believe several things need to occur before you open kindergarten – 2nd:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Clearly communicate with parents/staff about all questions they have (teacher changes, schedules, safety, covid practices, ventilation, recess, can a different path be chosen at any time, who cleans the classrooms between groups of students, buses, etc). Without all of these people's buy-in you will not have people adhering to covid protocols which means issues with safety.</li> <li>2) Watch how openings and processes go in other larger districts and learn from that.</li> <li>3) Support all teachers/staff that want/need to stay remote until they have been vaccinated or they choose to be in-person. Do not force.</li> <li>4) Re-Survey staff so you have a current list of who wants to teach in person and who wants to stay remote. Your last staff survey list is too old and not applicable anymore.</li> <li>5) Continue to push the governor to prioritize (higher than where they currently are) teachers for the vaccine. Many other school district have already sent Gov. Inslee notes about this. Please send one too.</li> <li>6) Wait until covid infection rates are much lower than where they are currently.</li> <li>7) After all of this, re-survey parents and staff. The parent survey should have three options: stay with remote, move to hybrid, or keep the same teacher and do what that teacher chooses to do.</li> </ol> <p>I will remind you, teachers/staff still are months away before they are vaccinated. Teaching CAN be done remotely (although not what any of us want, it can be done remotely). I am not ok with forcing ANYONE into in-person learning if they are not ok with it (this includes staff and students).</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>
Courtney Gravett	Parent/Guardian	<p>I'm seeking clarification on how the school district will react as Covid case numbers go above 350 per 100K (currently at 352). Is this a hard cut off for in person hybrid learning? How reactive will the school district be as the epidemiology of the pandemic changes? I'm trying to balance consistency with scheduling and my student's expectations with the benefits of a return to some in person instruction.</p>
Sara Yao	Parent/Guardian	<p>Please do what you can to push the state to prioritize vaccinating teachers asap! Also, please consider bringing high schoolers back to hybrid learning...even if it's for 4-6 weeks. Having some connection to the school (even for a short time) would significantly shift both of my high schooler's experience and feeling about school.</p>

Elizabeth Chighizola	Parent/Guardian	After getting more information regarding my students possibly returning on Feb 1 and Feb 22, I regret the answers I previously submitted. Knowing what I know now, information that WAS NOT given prior to the survey, I WILL NOT be sending my children back for hybrid learning. I support my teachers, their safety, and their interests. Please consider the desires and opinions of those IN THE CLASSROOMS.
Heather Song	Parent/Guardian	Hello - I have a 1st grader and a 4th grader and am really uncertain about this push to have schools open by Feb 1. I, like many parents, would like to confidentially say that I would like my children to attend a hybrid school situation. However, there are a number of concerns that have me on the fence. First, I really feel strongly that all teachers should have the opportunity to be vaccinated before they are sent back into the building, and they should not be forced to use their own sick leave to stay home and keep their families safe until the vaccine is available to them. Second, as with any school year, but especially with this school year, it takes time at the beginning, for students to figure out routines, for teachers to get to know their class, etc. I feel like we have just FINALLY gotten into the swing of things. There are less meltdowns at my house, my kids are following the zoom schedule, they have adapted. If we have to switch to in-person on Feb 1 or even if we decide to stay home but are assigned a whole new teacher and class (which sounds very likely), we will be set back and have to start that process all over again. If this is about book learning, not a lot of book learning is done during that long transitional period. Third, and to my last point. If the kids are in person for 3 hours - how much of that time will be actual instruction and how much will be routine building, rule teaching and enforcement, hand washing, etc.? Also, if the teachers cannot get up close with the students, how will learning happen? Will students be lectured to during the in person class time, and then must do all their work at home? That does not seem like a very helpful model for learning for the K-5 grades. That sounds more like a HS or College model. Fourth, if families cannot be guaranteed to be placed in the same cohort schedule (morning vs. afternoon), how is that keeping the exposure level down? For example, if my 1st grader is exposed in his group, he comes home and exposes his brother, then they both go back to school the next day - his brother is now exposing his cohort. This seems counterproductive. Fifth, the lack of information given to teachers and families prior to expecting a response on a survey, especially a survey that seemed binding in response, gives me real pause and caution. It feels to me that this move for hybrid does not, in fact, have the students and teachers' best interests in mind. I do not argue the fact that there are many many students out there who need to get back into the classroom. But this feels like a hasty push to meet some sort of deadline rather than a thoughtful plan to safely get everyone back in the buildings. The teachers want nothing more than to be able to see their students and teach them in person. There is no question in my mind that they want what is best for the students - but they have to also keep their own safety in mind. I don't really know how to support a model that isn't supported by the teacher's union. Finally, I realize this is an impossible situation. I do not envy the position you are in. But the amount of response I've seen publicly indicates to me that there is not an overwhelmingly high percentage of families and teachers excited to go back. There are, however, a high percentage of people like me, who feel underinformed, cautious, and wish so very much to go back, but want to make sure it's done properly. I feel if we go back too soon and underprepared, we will find ourselves reliving the same experience we did last spring, except this time, instead of trying to figure out how to remote learn, we are going to be trying to figure how to hybrid learn. Thank you for your time. Heather Song

Alicia Wilson	Staff Member	<p>Dear Deputy Superintendent Miller, Superintendent Miner, and School Board members, I wanted to share a quote that I read recently about reopening schools. It says, "This is essential for us all before schools reopen: vaccination for educators and at risk families. School is a place for strengthening communities, not infecting them." Many of the comments that you received at the Board Meeting on Monday, January 11th were pleading with you to WAIT until all teachers and staff are vaccinated before reopening schools.</p> <p>You mentioned that the growth in learning for the children in our district is your responsibility; not the SEA's. Thus, driving your push to reopen schools. Respectfully, I would take that caveat of "growth in learning" to a broader and more complex level.</p> <p>Student academic learning during COVID has definitely not been ideal for families. As educators, we are working doggedly and tirelessly to make remote learning worthwhile as a means of significant academic and social emotional growth. The Educational System is NOT normal; and indeed should not be compared to normal times since we have obvious limitations and parameters that cannot be ignored during this pandemic. If our greater directive is to strengthen communities and support our children and families, then we need to WAIT until we reopen our schools.</p> <p>Based upon the information shared on the 11th:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Do families understand that their child may or may not have the same teacher from even the same school when returning to school in a hybrid model?</li> <li>* Do parents understand that the return to school may be emotionally detrimental to their child if that child has to adjust to another teacher (possibly from another school); and possibly sitting in a class with students from another class?</li> <li>* Are families aware that the questions on the staff survey did NOT ask if a staff member desired to return to onsite learning? And that the survey only asked IF a staff member was able to return to the building? The differential of staff being able to come versus being willing to come is very wide; especially when looking at the representation of staff comments from the Jan. 11th meeting.</li> </ul> <p>It is of utmost importance to make sure that ALL staff members are vaccinated and ALL buildings have the infrastructure to overcome the risks of having students and staff together in one space. Is it a certainty that when staff and students come back to our buildings that we will be safe with the extensive cleaning, the correct PPE and air filtration that will guarantee our health?</p> <p>It was very disappointing to discover that families of color have not had an adequate voice in the decision for reopening schools. It is the district's responsibility to find a way to make that communication happen in an environment where many cultures have not traditionally been heard and may not see the point in trying to be heard through an electronic survey. Many students of color live in multigenerational homes. It is not reasonable to put those families at increased risk for COVID when students return home. COVID is already preying more upon families of color. Why do we want to give this deadly virus more license to invade more households?</p> <p>We are in the most dangerous stages since the onslaught of the Coronavirus pandemic. Cases and deaths are spiking across the nation and in King County. New strains are being discovered which raises more questions than answers about the efficacy of the vaccine. Still, the vaccine's shots in arms are in sight. By the time all staff members are vaccinated, we will be too close to the end of the school year to reopen for hybrid learning. Why not</p>
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Karen Nicholson	Staff Member, Community Member	<p>Please stop the rush to return to the classroom for elementary students. If the plan had been to return self-contained Special Education services first, wouldn't it make sense to get that underway and learn from the process before returning K-2 weeks later, and then once that is running smoothly (and no spreader events) 3rd - 5th. Perhaps that would allow time for you to successfully advocate that school staff should be vaccinated ASAP. We need time to prepare and be trained. Buildings need to be checked for adequate ventilation. Some schools may be new and have ventilation, but you are asking some of us to be in buildings that were last remodeled more than 25 years ago. I have been in the building and haven't seen anyone improving things for our air flow! Please keep your students and staff safe with immediate vaccinations and a thoughtful, well-planned roll out. Numbers are on the rise, new variants being discovered and we hear daily of families whose activities will put us at risk. Read the letters from the last board meeting and talk with teachers. You have a devoted staff but we are scared, haven't been communicated with, and don't want to get sick doing our jobs. Please keep your students and staff safe.</p>
Mary Lauch	Staff Member, Community Member	<p>Dear School Board Members,</p> <p>I am writing to ask you to please delay opening any form of in person school until all staff has the opportunity to be vaccinated. The governor's guidelines are just that-guidelines. Just because we "can" reopen doesn't mean we "should". It makes me very nervous to have students return to in person learning, when Covid cases are so high in our community and there now exists a new variant of Covid that appears to spread even more rapidly. I love our students and miss them terribly, but I do not want to risk my health and the health of my coworkers by having them come back to school.</p> <p>The hybrid model also will impact our students, staff, and families in negative ways. We have worked very hard to create the learning communities within our schools. Teachers have formed relationships with their classes and their families, and much of that will be taken away. Classes will be broken apart and re-formed. I would guess that a child's relationship with his/her teacher is what keeps him/her motivated to keep doing online school during this difficult time. Now we are being told that they may not have their same teacher, and will start all over with a new teacher and new classroom peers. It will be like starting the school year all over again.</p> <p>Honestly, I would prefer school to be all in-person, or all online. I realize that is not an option, but it's how I feel. The hybrid model will be a disruption all around.</p> <p>Please at the very least, postpone any in-person model until all staff can be vaccinated.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>

Mary Lauch	Staff Member, Community Member	<p>Dear School Board Members,</p> <p>I am writing to ask you to please delay opening any form of in person school until all staff has the opportunity to be vaccinated. The governor's guidelines are just that-guidelines. Just because we "can" reopen doesn't mean we "should". It makes me very nervous to have students return to in person learning, when Covid cases are so high in our community and there now exists a new variant of Covid that appears to spread even more rapidly. I love our students and miss them terribly, but I do not want to risk my health and the health of my coworkers by having them come back to school.</p> <p>The hybrid model also will impact our students, staff, and families in negative ways. We have worked very hard to create the learning communities within our schools. Teachers have formed relationships with their classes and their families, and much of that will be taken away. Classes will be broken apart and re-formed. I would guess that a child's relationship with his/her teacher is what keeps him/her motivated to keep doing online school during this difficult time. Now we are being told that they may not have their same teacher, and will start all over with a new teacher and new classroom peers. It will be like starting the school year all over again.</p> <p>Honestly, I would prefer school to be all in-person, or all online. I realize that is not an option, but it's how I feel. The hybrid model will be a disruption all around.</p> <p>Please at the very least, postpone any in-person model until all staff can be vaccinated.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
Mary Lauch	Staff Member, Community Member	<p>Dear School Board Members,</p> <p>I am writing to ask you to please delay opening any form of in person school until all staff has the opportunity to be vaccinated. The governor's guidelines are just that-guidelines. Just because we "can" reopen doesn't mean we "should". It makes me very nervous to have students return to in person learning, when Covid cases are so high in our community and there now exists a new variant of Covid that appears to spread even more rapidly. I love our students and miss them terribly, but I do not want to risk my health and the health of my coworkers by having them come back to school.</p> <p>The hybrid model also will impact our students, staff, and families in negative ways. We have worked very hard to create the learning communities within our schools. Teachers have formed relationships with their classes and their families, and much of that will be taken away. Classes will be broken apart and re-formed. I would guess that a child's relationship with his/her teacher is what keeps him/her motivated to keep doing online school during this difficult time. Now we are being told that they may not have their same teacher, and will start all over with a new teacher and new classroom peers. It will be like starting the school year all over again.</p> <p>Honestly, I would prefer school to be all in-person, or all online. I realize that is not an option, but it's how I feel. The hybrid model will be a disruption all around.</p> <p>Please at the very least, postpone any in-person model until all staff can be vaccinated.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
Dedra Town	Parent/Guardian	<p>Opening schools would put the lives of your community in unnecessary danger. I understand serving our most vulnerable but opening it up to everyone is dangerous and disrespectful to your staff. Please rethink your push to reopen.</p>
Kathleen Coffee	Community Member	<p>Well, guess I will try again. It appears that you did not listen to the comments before since there were way more against going back to classrooms. The points made were so well said but your deaf ears are apparently going to stay that way? Please say you will truly consider not leaving remote learning until it is truly safe. If anyone gets ill has long term effects or dies it will be on your heads. I suggested that you must also be willing to be in the classrooms if you made the staff and teachers be there but I don't see that in your plan.</p> <p>And to the students- your re going to make it even harder for them to learn but changing the schedules daily, have different teachers for them in the week. Kids need more than that. Do you truly not care? I did resign in protest and for my own safety and will not be inside a school again until it is safe.</p> <p>Again, I. implore you to make a better decision. Kate Coffee</p>

Claire Hammill	Staff Member	I was so disappointed to hear Marla Miller give the perception at the board meeting on Monday, that the majority of staff are comfortable going back. Of course we WANT to be back, but if you see the survey taken by teachers, you will see that the majority in fact are NOT comfortable going back. Furthermore, the survey shows that the majority of teachers know that Hybrid will be a major disruptor to learning. Asking teachers to make this transition while also trying to get report cards done, and teaching, is unfair. Teachers need more time, and a more solid plan. I think the reason so many teachers don't feel comfortable going back is that we don't trust that the district actually has a plan to keep everyone safe.
Claire Crouch	Parent/Guardian	While I have selected the in-person option for my 3rd grader in the recent survey, I feel that it is critical that all staff have the opportunity for vaccination before returning to teaching. I know that there are movements at the state level to move up teacher priority in the state vaccination plan, and I wholeheartedly agree with these efforts. Kids have been out of school for MONTHS. It is worth waiting a few more weeks to protect school staff from COVID transmission.
Rhonda Okazaki	Staff Member	Thank you for continuing the discussion and consideration surrounding this incredibly complex decision. I listened to every word and was flummoxed by what was being shared as fact: students aren't making gains (yes my students are engaged and learning and I have data to prove it) , outbreaks in schools 10-12 at a time, aren't that many (any staff/student case due to unnecessary reopening is unconscionable), buildings are prepared (no they aren't- PPE, no protocols in place ready to go , filters not installed to name a few) . Vaccines are so close, numbers as of today are 353 per 100k and rising, and the district is very unprepared. There has been no communication with staff or parents on details that I would feel safe returning in person. 60% of staff is not eager and willing to return in person... we aren't being given a choice other than to take leave which is meant to be used when I'm actually sick, not fearful of getting sick. I have worked hard and many long hours, along with the Instruction department (Maria is amazing), TOSAs, coaches, colleagues to make remote learning the best we can make it. My classroom is a community built on trust that took time to create. My students are happy, learning (they all have mastered multiplication and their writing is amazing already) and are helping me and each other master the technology. They are helpful, patient, kind and hard working. To disrupt us now by the uncertainty of hybrid would be devastating. I work with them approximately 1000 minutes each week. Hybrid I would work with them for 600 minutes. How will that help them? My colleagues and I wrote a letter after the meeting Monday with our concerns. Our principals are trying to answer ALL our questions on a google sheet with 100+ and counting concerns. Please consider what is the best and right decision that will benefit my students and their learning for the next 5 months. Please let me continue teaching my students the best I can remotely- I've gotten really good at it as evidenced in their learning and my parent support. That is my paramount duty as their teacher.

Jaclyn Cox	Staff Member	<p>There are still SO many questions and no answers to these from the district or the board. Please consider these questions and find answers as soon as possible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What's the plan for if a teacher or student is exposed? Gets sick? Does the teacher quarantine for two weeks? Does the student? Are teachers expected to teach from home? Do they have to use their own sick days for that time? What about subs? How are we going to have enough subs? We already have a sub shortage. What if subs are exposed or catch Covid? Do they get 2 weeks of pay since the school is the reason they are out of work?</li> <li>- Let's discuss PPE. Last board meeting, Marla Miller said that classroom teachers are considered "low to negligible" risk when we know that is not true (in NY city, elementary teachers got Covid more than twice the rate of the general population). She did NOT answer your question about PPE. She said classroom teachers "might" get paper surgical masks. The thin disposable paper masks are supposed to protect me from Covid? Why can't we get N95 masks? Face shields? Gloves? Scrubs? And no talk at all about barriers like acrylic dividers, nothing like that? I can't afford to buy my own stash of N95 masks to use every day. I'm already preparing to buy my own clorox wipes and lysol... How much of my own money will I need to spend? \$500? \$1,000?</li> <li>- Please do not make us teach "group A", "group B," and the "100% remote" group at the same time. That is impossible. I've heard from tons of teachers across the country that doing all three groups at the same time is impossible.</li> <li>- Marla Miller made it sound like we couldn't push back the hybrid date or else our IEP kids will have to go to summer school. This is not true. Pushing it back 2-3 weeks won't make them have to do summer school. That's ridiculous. Where did that even come from? Everyone is behind. 2 weeks won't put us out of compliance with IEPs.</li> <li>- Please talk about middle school. Many of my middle school kids are struggling socially and emotionally. I have multiple students I've only seen once or twice since school started. The ones that do show up are losing motivation, not doing any work, giving attitude, feeling lost and overwhelmed... this is critical. When I told my students "the district has no plan and no timeline for middle school students coming back," their shoulders slumped. At least give them some hope. Say, "we will look at the numbers in March," or "we'll start building the schedule in February." Give them something to hold on to.</li> <li>- The district needs to make a plan and stick with the plan. Create a schedule, create classes, give teachers time to prepare. It won't be perfect, but give us SOMETHING. You're throwing your teachers to the wolves, letting them fend for themselves.</li> </ul>
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Jan Ward	Staff Member, Community Member	<p>The timing of going back to in-person classroom instruction Feb.1st is of major concern. According to county and state data we could very well be on the cusp if not in the midst of a "post-holiday surge" of infections. And yet again there is a good chance for another possible surge after "Winter Break" at the end of February.</p> <p>As for timing, all education staff ages 50 and over are scheduled by the state to receive their vaccinations in February. This population is most likely a considerable portion of the district employees. I know personally in my special need's class it represents three out of five of our staff. Doesn't it make sense to wait a month until this population is vaccinated so they may return safely to the classroom and aid in a less-disruptive, rushed start and more seamless, successful transition to in-person learning? And it will give the district time to implement important facility safety measures in place. (Our school student, staff and self-contained classroom bathrooms do not meet the state COVI-19 requirements regarding flush barriers for aerosol spray and splash flow.) This is an enormous responsibility as well as ensuring all required staff are prepared and have completed the "Safe Schools" COVID-19 classes. It would seem we would want to be as prepared as we possibly can be for the care of all our students' health as well as our own during this global health crisis. I just don't see how that can possibly happen in less than two weeks time given all educators will be in the classroom still teaching online.</p> <p>Having said all that, I would really think the most ideal and next step before returning to in-person learning would be to listen to our state education leaders and push for vaccines for all educators before they return to in-person learning. As of this week State Superintendent Reykdal has requested of Governor Inslee and the state DOH that ALL school employees no matter their age have access to both doses of the COVID-19 vaccine before returning to in-person classroom instruction. Also, the WEA Board of Directors passed a resolution as well to include all educators working with students and rejected the state DOH recommendation that age should be a determining factor for when educators should receive the vaccine. WEA also stresses the need for workplace health and safety requirements be implemented per state requirements for staff and students participating in-person classroom instruction. This would definitely mitigate a lot of the health, safety and liability issues for all involved as well as put us on a path to delivering prime in-person instruction.</p>
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<p>Frank Kleyn</p>	<p>Staff Member, Parent/ Guardian</p>	<p>Dear Shoreline School Board,</p> <p>I am writing to strongly recommend that the Shoreline School Board refrain from opening elementary schools in the hybrid model until all staff members have received both doses of the COVID-19 vaccine.</p> <p>Our students and families have successfully adjusted to the demand and routines of remote learning. Disrupting these routines with the hope that the hybrid model will be successful and long-lasting could prove to be damaging to our students academically and emotionally. Staff, families, and students will feel safer in the school environment if they know that staff have been vaccinated.</p> <p>There are staff members who may not be classified as having underlying conditions that may cause complications to COVID-19 yet they have conditions such as neutropenia and recurrent bronchitis that could lead to severe illness or death. Just because a staff member does not have underlying conditions does not mean that they are safe from COVID-19. There may be staff members who are not yet aware that they have underlying conditions.</p> <p>There are many nearly insurmountable challenges to teaching elementary students in an environment where they need to wear a mask and can't move freely or move close to other students or staff. These challenges will be the sole focus of students and staff for weeks as they adjust to the hybrid model and their current academic learning momentum will be lost.</p> <p>On Thursday, January 7th, over 4,000 Americans died due to COVID-19. The following day, over 3,800 Americans died. We are at the height of this pandemic and there are new variant strains of the virus that are taking root in our country.</p> <p>If there is a spike in staff members contracting the virus, we may not have enough qualified substitute teachers available. In addition, the current group of substitute teachers are already struggling using the technology to teach. The technology challenges are going to increase in the hybrid model and it is likely that many of our substitute teachers will struggle to teach the students in this environment. Support personnel in the building will also be stretched and will not be able to interact closely with the substitute teachers to help them with their computer problems.</p> <p>A staff member may survive the virus but have lifelong health complications. It is nearly impossible for students to line up outside the school before school starts and stand still with a mask on and remain 6 feet away from other students. The same applies to recess and in reality, the same applies to the classroom.</p> <p>Our staff members have worked tirelessly to construct the remote learning program in place. They deserve the respect to continue using this model while they wait for the vaccination so that they can safely return to the classroom. It is inconceivable why our district would decide to ask teachers to accept the stress and danger of working without the vaccine in close proximity with a rotating group of students who are going home to their families each night.</p> <p>We can't rely on our families to reliably follow prevention procedures and we can't rely on our families to reliably report when someone in their home has the virus.</p> <p>As a teacher and a parent of a Shoreline Schools student, I am deeply concerned that the decision to moving to a hybrid model is taking place at the height of the pandemic. It is clear from looking at the statistics across the country that Governor Inslee did not make the right decision to encourage schools to start opening. I hope that you consider the points above and also consider our local hospitals that could potentially be overloaded if we open schools and there is a spike of cases on top of the already high numbers.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Frank Kleyn</p>
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Megan Nandi	Staff Member	<p>To School Board Members,</p> <p>My name is Megan Nandi and I teach 2nd grade at Brookside Elementary. This is my 18th year teaching in Shoreline. I am a National Board Certified Teacher and frankly put, I rock at my job. This hybrid scenario feels like a nightmare. However, if I put all the worries aside about contracting COVID without a vaccine etc. I'm in a tough situation with childcare.</p> <p>My 3rd grader is currently not enrolled in Shoreline. While teaching remotely, I am also homeschooling like many parents that are teachers. Her proposed hybrid schedule and my purposed hybrid schedule do not align. If I volunteer or am forced to do hybrid, I need to be able to bring her to my classroom to do remote learning while I teach (Maybe for 2 days as the schedule looks right now?).</p> <p>I multi task this every day and am vary capable of meeting the needs of a class of 2nd graders and my own child. We are the same family unit so what I bring home to her every night as far as germs go she will be exposed to in the classroom one way or another. I'm not willing to sacrifice her education with YMCA or a care center since I see first hand the attention she would receive there everyday while in Zoom with my own class.</p> <p>My principal wants me to enroll her at BKS, however that is not her community and really the only benefit to hybrid so far based on the LWSD schedule (two 1/2 days a week) is so she can see peers again. Also 3rd graders will not be in person initially in Shoreline so I'm not sure that really solves my problem, though he seems happy to take her if she's enrolled. If she is not enrolled, she is considered a "community member" and not allowed to enter the building.</p> <p>I'm extremely worried about the choice I will have to make soon. I love my students and if it is safe for me to return to them, I will. But not at the expense of my daughter's education. If I'm put into a remote setting with a different grade level and different students and a different team of educators, it would take too much time away from my daughter for me to do that job well and also help her with school. I'd be forced to look into leave options as I'm sure many amazing teachers are considering.</p> <p>I hope that whatever is negotiated, allows me to be present for my 2nd grade students as well as my family.</p> <p>Thank you for reading this and advocating for all of us... children, staff and all families, Megan Nandi</p>
Allan M. Rand	Students, Staff Member, Parent/Guardian, Community Member	<p>Please stop the rush to return to the classroom for elementary students. The US is averaging nearly 250,000 new cases of COVID per day! The pandemic is raging. Its deadliest and most dangerous days are RIGHT NOW! Day to day vigilance is fading. We are absolutely not prepared to return to the classroom. Please do not make a bad decision based upon pressure or the poor choices being made by surrounding districts. The numbers are significantly worse than this past spring, when we were in lock down! We need time to prepare. There are significant staffing concerns. Buildings need to be checked for adequate ventilation. Some schools may be new and have ventilation, but you are asking some of us to be in buildings that were last remodeled more than 25 years ago. I have been in the building and haven't seen anyone improving things for our air flow! Please keep your students and staff safe until vaccinations are administered and a thoughtful, well-planned roll out is in place. New variants are being discovered and we hear daily of families whose activities will put us at risk. Read the letters from the last board meeting and talk with teachers. You have a devoted staff but we are scared, haven't been communicated with, and don't want to get sick (die) doing our jobs. Rushing to return is not the right decision for our community. Returning to the classrooms in February is not prudent!</p>

Cindy Ebisu	Staff Member	<p>In light of the updated push by the state legislature to have educators moved up in the vaccine eligibility criteria, and in light of the new administration releasing more vaccine doses, and in light of the WEA statement that K-12 staff should unilaterally be vaccinated before going back to school in person, I ask the board to postpone the timeline of the hybrid program until such time as all K-5 staff have been immunized against Covid-19. The most pressing concern is that there is a new Covid variant that is highly transmissible and it is projected to peak in Washington by early March. The district has said all buildings have air filters with HEPA in place but in Briarcrest, this is not the case. It is one of the oldest buildings in Shoreline and has not been remodeled in 40 years. The heating system is antiquated and inadequate to provide a safe filtration for staff or students.</p> <p>The number of positive cases in Washington is at an all-time high. This is not the time to return to a hybrid model.</p>
Michelle Ramey	Staff Member	<p>I appreciated the comments and questions the school board had on Monday. I'm still concerned about going back so soon when many of us cannot get vaccinated.</p> <p>I also know that a disruption of changing teachers and students at the start of a new semester isn't helpful either. I'm also still very anxious about being at risk and not sure if I'll be able to stay remote. Which means I'll have to take leave.</p> <p>Our state union is advocating for all education staff to be vaccinated before going back and getting those that are back already first priority of the vaccine.</p> <p>Everett, Edmonds, and Mukilteo's superintendents all signed on a letter to push for vaccinations for staff before sending more staff back. Why can't we have that for our staff!</p> <p>I know there are over 100 questions between LFP and BKS staff on logistics of how we will do hybrid on a google spreadsheet our admin started. We are all concerned and know that without adequate answers to these questions and staff not able to get vaccinated there shouldn't be a rush to open k-2 by February.</p> <p>Please make sure that as a district staff and families know the details prior to going back.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
Brent Holland	Staff Member, Parent/ Guardian	<p>How can we even think of sending kids in groups back to school as the situation with this pandemic is worsening? There will be continued spread of the virus, there will be staff members who get sick and people will die. You cannot ask teachers to go back into their classrooms without a vaccine.</p>
Trisha Massot	Staff Member	<p>I'm writing on behalf of the elementary teachers and staff and for when this conversation eventually moves to MS and HS. I'm quite surprised at the push from the school board to return to in-person learning prior to all staff members receiving the vaccination. While I agree that in-person learning is the most ideal situation when there's not a pandemic, that is not where we are right now. The teachers in Shoreline have worked incredibly hard to making remote learning work for our students. To disrupt this now, when it will only take 1 case to shut a school back down, doesn't make sense. There are also a number of considerations in addition to the vaccination timeline: how carefully families are following Covid safety protocols, the ability to keep masks on students, the ability for classrooms and other parts of the schools to be fully sanitized multiple times per day, and the lack of PPE being provided to teachers and staff. I urge you to close the conversation about a hybrid model, or any other reopening, for the 2020-21 school year. Let's all return in the fall when we have the assurances needed to reopen safely for everyone.</p>

Kayla Welch	Students	<p>Please keep safety of staff and students as a priority.</p> <p>We just got into the swing of remote learning, and plan to continue until all teachers are vaccinated.</p> <p>I would like to ask that if my kids teachers stay remote, and my kids stay remote, that they be kept in their teachers class.</p>
Megan Nandi	Staff Member	<p>I listened to the last board meeting and the number that still resonates through my head is 60%. 60% of teachers will return to the classroom. I caution the Board to take this number lightly. Like with any data, you must ask questions.</p> <p>As a teacher, my colleagues and I felt manipulated with this survey from the first week in December. Questions 8 and 9 were tricky questions. Question 8 stated that “the district may not be able to offer you a choice of working on site or off site. However, if you had a choice what would your current preference be.” I want to stress “current.” This survey was from the first week of December. COVID numbers have risen exponentially since this data point. Also a vaccine is now within our reach, and I can speak for my colleagues that we want that in our arms before we enter the classroom.</p> <p>Question 9 states the Proclamation defined for High-Risk Employees defined by the CDC and then asks if “I” have any of these preexisting conditions. This is the question I worry your data is manipulated from. Many of my colleagues do not fall under “High-Risk Employees” as defined by the CDC, and were forced to answer yes or no.</p> <p>I captured a screen shot of these questions at the time because I was so appalled at how misrepresented I felt and that was back in December. I fear that the Board is basing a decision on the outdated, manipulated number of 60%. Please look into what 60% actually means.</p> <p>Is it 60% of the work force does not fall under the CDC High Risk section? If a person is not “high risk” that does not mean they are “ready to return” as stated in the meeting. It does not mean they are “ready” to expose themselves to 30 different sets of families a day. It does not mean they are “ready” to expose themselves to their adult colleagues who work in the building each day. Is the 60% contrived from question 8 from the first week in December when COVID number were well below where they are today and a vaccine was still out of reach?</p> <p>Data can easily be manipulated to support any argument. Please make sure you ask questions so that you are completely informed when making this critically decision for all of our lives and the health of all of our families.</p>

Naomi Barnes	Staff Member	<p>Dear Shoreline School board,</p> <p>As a staff member in the Shoreline school district I would like to express that I am full of anxiety about the upcoming move to in person learning. I am anxious for my students, the families, my colleagues, and administrators. Classroom teachers spend so much time building rapport and lessons to fit the students in their classroom. It takes LOTS of time. I worry that the plan the district has set up will not inform teachers of their assignment or what students they are going to teach until a few days before the first day of instruction. My current role is as a MLL teacher. I worry for our students and families that speak multiple languages. I worry that these families do not have enough opportunity to speak their thoughts and worries of this change in learning. I worry that my students will be lost in the shuffle of in person, asynchronous learning, and remote learning. Some of my students would benefit going back into the classroom. Others are thriving in remote learning. I think we need more time to make this shift successful. Please reconsider the timing of this in person shift to when we have a more concrete plans in mind for staff and students. Thank you for considering and reading my comments.</p>
Amy Pitts	Staff Member	<p>Putting teachers at risk by going back to the classrooms with Covid numbers as high as they are is ridiculous. Please reconsider until the majority of staff members have had the vaccine. We have read far too many reports of teachers and staff across the United States, dying from Covid. Shoreline can do better.</p>
Aime Palmer	Staff Member	<p>I recently wrote a letter to the board expressing my concern about returning to in person learning by February 1. I also sent my concerns to Superintendent Miner.</p> <p>I am a school bus driver for the Shoreline School District and it is my belief that returning to in person school and transporting students on buses is not in either the students or my best interest. I read through the guidance sent to me by Superintendent Miner but I felt the section that dealt with transporting by bus was inadequate. For 1 example, the guidelines said, "clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces." Bus drivers would have to do this after every load. This takes a lot of time to clean, disinfect and then let the product dry. I think this could be difficult, at the least, to do between routes, especially with the potential of more routes because because fewer children are allowed to ride at any one time. Then there is the problem of younger children putting their mouths on the seats or licking the windows. Is the residue from these products safe? The guidelines spoke of having windows open for ventilation. In the PNW, especially in the winter months, this is not practical. So these are just a few of the complications I found with the guidelines but the other point I am especially frustrated with is WHY, with the availability of a vaccination so close, would we return to an in person learning environment, BEFORE everyone has an opportunity to get fully vaccinated. Every staff member and student will be put at risk. I understand that we ALL want our students back in the classroom. I understand the ramifications of prolonged absence from the in person setting.</p> <p>I don't understand WHY, when Shoreline has exhibited caution throughout this whole pandemic, Shoreline is entertaining the idea of a February 1 return, when in only 2-3 months, everyone could be vaccinated, and the risk factor would plunge.</p> <p>Please, I beg you, to wait, wait until people get their vaccines and both students and staff can return to the classroom safely without having to jeopardize their health and possibly life.</p>
Toby	Staff Member	<p>As a teacher living in a multigenerational home, I just want to say that I do not feel safe returning to school until the most at-risk members of our community are protected and/or before teachers a provided a vaccine upon return to school.</p> <p>For those reasons and many others, a March reopening date makes a lot more sense to me. Thank you.</p>

Stacey Neble	Staff Member	I have taught in Shoreline for 31 years and am 61 years old. I feel, and my students' parents would attest, that my on-line teaching has been very successful. I am unwilling to return to the classroom until all teachers are vaccinated. My 5th grade students are engaged, challenged, and bonded to me and each other. Moving to a hybrid model with a different teacher and classroom configurations would be detrimental to their learning. I would be happy to provide parents for you to interview to get a sense of how this year is going for us.
Melissa Cook	Staff Member	I do not feel safe moving to hybrid instruction in February. Case numbers are high and increasing, and in the past weeks there have been reports of variants emerging that have a much higher transmission rate among all age groups, including children. We do not know if these variants will spread to King County, or what effect they will have on transmission rates. The current situation is very volatile. The WEA has announced a resolution that school employees should be vaccinated before they are asked to work in classrooms with groups of children. Please abide by their recommendation.
Janine Fader	Community Member	<p>I am quite concerned with the decision to reopen schools. It makes no sense to close schools - and keep them closed - during these long dangerous months of the pandemic, only to wait until the pandemic has reached its highest numbers of infection and death and THEN reopen schools. In addition, the new virus strain (50-70% more contagious than COVID-19) has been acknowledged to affect children more aggressively than COVID-19. Many countries in the EU are closing schools (which have stayed open during the pandemic), while we are opening? The United States has not done well beating down this virus, and I can only think this is yet another mistake; a potentially deadly mistake.</p> <p>Our children, their families and teachers have worked hard to adapt to online learning. The teachers of my grandsons are brilliant! Relationships have been formed. Trust between the teachers and students has been forged. Friendships with class members have been created. These children are feeling safe in a chaotic year. To disrupt their cocoon of safety by switching teachers, classes and friends, in addition to putting them and their families at heightened risk of illness or death, is unconscionable. It is reckless, harsh and uncaring.</p> <p>Why aren't teachers and school staff being vaccinated prior to opening schools? We are on the cusp of seeing everyone receiving life-saving vaccinations. We must be patient. We must continue to hold the line. We are so close to the finish. Please do not fall down now. Stay the course with courage, wisdom and fortitude. "First, do no harm." Thank you.</p> <p>Janine Fader</p>
Jaime Anderson	Parent/Guardian	<p>Hello, first and foremost I want to thank you all for all of your hard work. I know that no matter what happens with your decisions everyone will not be happy. I just wanted to express my concerns for opening up schools this year. I do know how important it is to have in class learning, remote learning is hard and not ideal for kids. However with cases on the rise and now a new mutation spreading I don't feel that it is the right time to switch everything up and invite kids back to school. Cases of young kids are on the rise as well, I know that masks will be required, but these are young kids and trying to get them to keep their masks on as well as socially distancing them will be hard. Only having 2-3 hours of actual teaching while trying to keep all of this from happening will only result in less actual learning time for these kids. Not only that, but they will now have to get used to not only a new teacher, but new kids all around them right when they were getting used to it. I encourage you all to really listen to what teachers, kids and parents are saying during these times and hope that you all make the best decision. Thank you again.</p> <p>Jaime Anderson</p>

Bryan Hart	Parent/Guardian	In previous sessions you've introduced draft plans for in-person/hybrid learning for students in self contained and general education classrooms. An additional student segment not yet addressed are those on IEPs that are supported through Resource Rooms. Before we are parents can make an informed decision on in-person/hybrid vs. virtual we need to understand how this segment will be support in a hybrid and/or in-person model.
Janet Shin	Staff Member	I am writing as a concerned staff member. I watched the school board meeting on Monday. It seems to me that the district is rushing to put students back in classrooms even though many things have not been figured out and planned for a safe return of the youngest and most high need students. It feels as though our safety is not being valued with the vaccine so close to being administered to teachers so they can return safely. The Washington Education Association and the Washington Legislature also agree that educators should be prioritized to receive the vaccine as soon as possible before returning to in-class instruction. Another very big concern of mine is the highly transmissible covid-19 variant and watching how that is effecting schools in the UK. I love teaching and helping my students grow but I urge you to put everyone's safety first and delay the start of hybrid instruction until educators are vaccinated. Thank you for your time.
Ron Mirabueno	Parent/Guardian	I am a parent of 3 students. 2 at Einstein and 1 a Meridian Park. I do not want my students to return to in-class instruction to the detriment of the educators in the district. We love Shoreline Schools and it is because of the educators that work in the schools that it is a top notch district. We do not want to risk their safety, health, and well being in a rush to return to hybrid instruction. We urge the district to wait until educators are vaccinated before returning to in-person instruction. We do not want to put anyone at un-needed risk during this unprecedented time.
Cindy Ebisu	Staff Member	In light of the updated push by the state legislature to have educators moved up in the vaccine eligibility criteria, and in light of the new administration releasing more vaccine doses, and in light of the WEA statement that K-12 staff should unilaterally be vaccinated before going back to school in person, I ask the board to postpone the timeline of the hybrid program until such time as all K-5 staff have been immunized against Covid-19. The most pressing concern is that there is a new Covid variant that is highly transmissible and it is projected to peak in Washington by early March. The district has said all buildings have air filters with HEPA in place but in Briarcrest, this is not the case. It is one of the oldest buildings in Shoreline and has not been remodeled in 40 years. The heating system is antiquated and inadequate to provide a safe filtration for staff or students. The number of positive cases in Washington is at an all-time high. This is not the time to return to a hybrid model.
Allen Gay	Parent/Guardian	How is a hybrid model justifiable, given the high daily infection rates in Washington state?
Holly Wakefield	Staff Member	All the documents I have seen specify that 6 feet of physical distancing is a requirement of returning to in-person instruction. As a physical therapist in the district, my job requirement and the needs of the students I work with does not allow for 6 feet of physical distancing. While I have heard this reality acknowledged verbally in meetings, I think it is necessary to also have it acknowledged in writing that with our special education population, the staff and students are not able to maintain the recommended 6 feet of physical distancing. I would like to see it acknowledged in writing that to complete my basic job requirements, I am required to be within 6 feet of other staff members and students, sometimes for prolonged periods of time during my work day. In addition to having this documented, I would like confirmation in writing that the L&I requirements for PPE will be followed for all of us who must get within 6 feet of students. Secondly, I would ask the board to advocate to the governor and DOH to move up the vaccine rollout to all of us who must get within 6 feet of students so that we can meet the needs of our fragile students with disabilities while protecting our crucial staff.

Sarah	Community Member	<p>Thank you so much for your revised plan and new timeline for bringing kids back to hybrid learning. The timeline feels more feasible but there are still many unanswered questions.</p> <p>I still do not understand how you are going to put many teachers and staff at risk by bringing them back without giving them time to get a vaccination. What is the plan to get all teachers vaccinated before having them return to in-person learning? There are studies now that says it takes at least two weeks for the vaccination to be effective so that the body can produce the anti-bodies needed. Are you ready to take responsibility of covid-related deaths in the beloved staff? Are you ready to address the trauma and harm on children of them losing their teacher? Bringing the entire school back in ONE day is so unbelievable irresponsible. How is this a good idea? This alone makes me want to change my decision. Please consider one to two grade levels at a time to ensure systems and routines work to give time to schools to adjust before introducing a new set of germs into the areas. This is all new territory.</p> <p>I would also like you to consider building classroom communities. It took months to get used to the new normal of remote learning - getting to know new routines, systems, classmates, and teachers. I do not think it is ok for any student to be thrown into new classess. They are not asking for THAT change. Please don't ask students, especially our most vulnerable, marginalized and youngest, to change and adjust to settings and routines that they did not ask for. They are NOT asking for new teachers. I think the biggest detriment to this plan is that there was no student voice involved. Did you consider what elementary students would want? Did you ask them how they would feel if they got a new teacher? Making decisions on behalf of kids without their input is oppressive - point blank. Forcing kids into situations that they can not control is inequitable. This, I believe, is against the school boards policy of equity. And if you don't think it does, then the board needs to do more work in your understanding of equity and the impact on students of color. Think about your favorite elementary school teacher. Now think about if you were forced out of his/her classroom mid-year without any say but your other peers got to stay. How would you feel?</p> <p>COVID is unrelenting. Vaccinations are essential for safety. On January 11th, Marla Miller stated that BIPOC staff are primary are custodial and food services staff and that they are eager to come back. They have been furloughed - of course they want to come back to get back to a normal paycheck so that they can survive. I think Marla's comment was insensitive to the fact that they might not have any other choice. Their survivance, I believe, is being misconstrued as eagerness. To speak so insensitively about BIPOC staff and dismiss that COVID hasn't affected communities of color disproportionately is disappointing. I expect better especially when it comes to decisions about our BIPOC community. As a BIPOC person myself, I was offended that more wasn't done or considered on our behalf. Stop just talking the talk. Prove that we matter to you. Because your decisions make it seem like you just want to get kids in the door because that is what other districts are doing. Is that it? Are we just trying to be like everyone else? Hasty decisions feel irresponsible and inconsiderate of families, students, and especially school staff.</p> <p>Please give more consideration into these plans. I am begging for a gradual integration of students and assuring that staff get vaccinated before having them around 30 different households in one day. They have people to go home to and take care of. Teachers will always do what is best for kids and they will ultimately sacrifice their health to teach. We see it every year but this year has higher stakes. If anything, consider hybrid next school year. Let kids finish their crazy school year with teachers that they have already bonded with. This year has had too many negative moments - don't let another one emotionally tramautize kids and teachers.</p> <p>Thank you for taking time to read this comment.</p>
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Pam Stever	Staff Member, Community Member	Please submit this into public comment. Please reconsider sending staff and students back to school until school staff have received the vaccine. Some of us have been very cautious the past 10 months and being sent back to schools before the lifeline is complete, seems to be negating all that we have sacrificed both in our jobs and personal lives since the change to online learning. In the big picture, it's a minor amount of time to wait until we are vaccinated against the virus, but it's a huge safety factor to us and our community along with an overall benefit to our students since we will have more confidence and less anxiety about working with them..
Judy Namkung	Staff Member	<p>A few comments and questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Teachers shared concerns about the safety protocols not being realistic to carry out at a larger scale.</li> <li>- Disruption of virtual routines and time needed to will lead to establish new in-person routines will lead to more learning loss</li> <li>- Potential re-organization of classes (based on teachers and students that need or opt to continue remotely) will break up established learning communities and disrupt learning</li> <li>- Impossibility of enacting many normal “best practices” with healthy and safety protocols (no materials sharing, partner work, mini-lessons on carpet, circle on rug etc.) Is this any different than remote learning? It'll just be bodies in person</li> <li>- Worry that the environment will be unhealthy and traumatizing, particularly for kinders who may never have been away from home (not being able to play together with others, receive comfort etc.) despite district’s expressed value of SEL</li> <li>- Possibility of increased trauma for students should teachers or family members get sick and die</li> <li>- Worry that parents don’t really know “what they’re signing up for”. A more detailed plan should be given out before having families make decisions. What will a typical day look like? What will the classroom look like? What are the safety measures in place?</li> <li>- Concern about lack of subs (and plan). What happens if a teacher is out sick and there are no subs?</li> </ul> <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will staff have time (without teaching responsibilities) to set up classrooms before returning in-person? Just like in August, teachers spend hours, days and even weeks setting up classrooms and understanding school-wide procedures. (Where to line up, how to dismiss, desk configuration, name tags, routes in the hallways, etc.) Having enough and sufficient time to design and plan how we'll teach these routines is important to keep all safety measures in place. Please consider this ask as it will be imperative to plan thoughtfully and safely with our grade level teams and with all staff members.</li> </ul>
Annie Bach	Staff Member, Parent/ Guardian, Community Member	The March 8th start date makes so much more sense than the original Feb 1st proposal. Thank you for listening to input and adjusting this date. It will help ensure that this is a SAFE and SUCCESSFUL transition for SSD students, families and staff members.

Kirsten B Bannister	Parent/Guardian, Community Member	<p>Superintendent Miner and School Board Directors, Thank you for the opportunity to write formal comments in regards to re-opening plans.</p> <p>I almost always attend school board meetings and my motivation is in regards to the Special Education students. I am thankful for the countless hours that teachers and district staff have spent in planning for reopening our schools to students farthest away from Educational Justice including Special Education. This being said, I must tell you how disappointed I am that high needs Special Education students are not being served in person in our schools. As Director Jernigan stated, we are one of only 10 districts in the state to not welcome students in our buildings. One of reasons proposed as to why this has not happened is that highly impacted Special Education students needed to go back at the same time as Gen Ed students so they would not feel different- that an equity lense was being used. My question to the board and district would be- have you asked that question to families and students? Did you ask them all along the way how they felt September through January- not just some families (like families able to participate in forums in the fall), but all families affected? As stated in the presentation Monday night, a survey was sent to self contained families in December about their intentions to return to in person school and 65-70% of families said yes. Please listen to these families and return children that can't learn any other way than in a classroom to the classroom, even if Gen Ed has not returned.</p> <p>I am thankful the district is, at this time, discussing the self contained classroom in the board meeting on Monday, but what about the hundreds of families with Special Education children that use resource room services or have an IEPs /504s that have not received any information or direction from our Student Serviced department. I assume that these children are being discussed and planned for, please communicate with families about what those plans are. These families are anxious and many of them feel discouraged about the lack of information given at these meetings.</p> <p>Please also, when making this decision don't make it about the fact that the district would have to pay for compensatory services (as stated in Monday's meeting), possibly during the summer if you wait any longer, please bring these kids back because it is the right thing to do.</p>
Pam Stever	Staff Member, Community Member	<p>Please submit this to public comment. Please reconsider sending staff back to in-person learning of any kind until we are able to get the vaccine, The vaccine is a safety net for all of us. Without it, it's like being encouraged to jump off a cliff while knowing the safety net is just around the corner. Some might get hurt and some might not, but why should we be encouraged to take the risk? Thank you!</p>
Hannah Willcox	Community Member	<p>Please read the article below. There is a fundamental difference in how the conversation is had around communities of color and the health risk to them, on every systemic level: a desire/need to earn an income for staff is not the same as actually being eager to come back. I urge you: PLEASE engage with your BIPOC staff and families who have far less of a 'choice' in returning. If you decide to proceed, please at least acknowledge this verbally as a district, that you've discussed this, considered it, and have asked those impacted, from the most junior-ranking to the senior-most BIPOC.</p> <p><a href="https://www.scarymommy.com/movement-reopen-schools-racist/">https://www.scarymommy.com/movement-reopen-schools-racist/</a></p>

Deborah Shin	Staff Member	I'd like to request that the board and district delay the start of the hybrid model until teachers and staff who will be in contact with students have been immunized against Covid-19. I am eager to return to the classroom but want to do so in a safe manner. It seems imprudent to rush to a hybrid model before teachers and staff are immunized, especially in light of the new variant of Covid-19 that is highly transmissible. We have worked hard to maintain the health and safety of our school community and it seems unnecessarily risky to rush into a hybrid model when we are so close to being able to return to schools with a much higher degree of safety. Please delay the start of hybrid instruction until teachers and staff are immunized. Thank you for your careful deliberation.
Karen Nicholson	Staff Member, Community Member	After reading the agenda for your meeting, and seeing the switch to a March 8th opening date for all K-5 classrooms I would reiterate some concerns and have new ones: 1. Please make sure all staff is vaccinated prior to an in-person return for the safety of staff, students, and all of their family members. 2. Why not stagger the start to allow buildings to troubleshoot unforeseen problems, as previously proposed? Why not a grade level band on March 8th, and another two weeks later? 3. Why are we holding conferences when the families we will be meeting with will likely not be our own past that date? 4. Will families know if their current teacher is teaching hybrid or online before being assigned? It could change their plans if they were given this information. 5. When will staff be informed of their assignment and will be time be given to be trained, prepare for the teaching assignment/new class? With the hybrid model, will the district have laptops available for students to use in classrooms and at home, or will students be carrying them back and forth? They will need them in class at desks, as well as home for asynchronous lessons. 6. We are spending time on SEL lessons and on forming classroom communities and bonds. Will we be given tools to help our students through the social-emotional pain of losing their teacher and community on top of all the other losses they have experienced since last March? 7. Please continue to look at the equity of this situation. I would think there will be a difference in which schools, and which students are impacted with the change. Thank you for listening to our thoughts and concerns.

Highland Terrace Staff (SEA and SESPA)	Staff Member	<p>After Monday's board meeting, the Highland Terrace staff met to discuss the district's proposed hybrid model. We are all eager to SAFELY return to school. We respectfully ask that the board consider these key ideas as the review the district's hybrid model:</p> <p>Displaced staff should have a right to return to their home school for the 2021-22 school year.</p> <p>Teachers will need some time to pivot to in-person classes. This will be like the first day of school. We'll have new classes, potentially need to learn a new grade, students, and building. We would like non-student time to prepare (not Jan. 29th which we will need for report cards). Currently we can only come in during specified times. If it is safe enough to teach, it should be safe enough to enter the building.</p> <p>All rooms being used need to have windows that can be opened. All buildings need to have ventilation updated to new COVID standards before we return. This is currently not the case at Highland Terrace. Please ask if schools have updated ventilation or if it has been ordered.</p> <p>PPE needs to be made available for "related" services (OT, PT, SLP, Resource Room, LAP, Dean, MLL, and itinerate paraprofessionals). If PE, music, library specialists serve students they will also need PPE provided.</p> <p>If staff tests positive for COVID after exposure at school, the district needs to cover the sub costs (not teacher sick days).</p> <p>There needs to be a plan for where staff go while their room is being sanitized. We want to see the schedule for HOW our custodial staff will be able to sanitize the entire school between students. We would like a definition of "sanitizing" and Actual time for cleaning.</p> <p>Please ask if these things will be adhered to: (PER State WSDOH Covid-19 Guidelines from the Indoor Air Quality and School Environmental Health and Safety Program Manager)  Classroom testing and monitoring of clean air delivery rate, what is that process and time schedule, hourly, every two hours?  Define process for classroom occupancy utilization and airing out of rooms prior to the next class, given the A/B student model.  How is the district addressing concerns of the standards for restroom exhaust fans and toilet flushing safety measures?  For self-contained classroom restrooms, do they meet safety and health standards such as exhaust fans and drain pipe water flow? And protocol for disinfecting between student visits?</p> <p>Per kindergarten MOU, kindergarten teachers were guaranteed a Kindergarten spot. Will they be assured a Kindergarten spot in hybrid?</p> <p>Changing staff and classroom communities will be very disruptive, especially for students farthest from academic justice. Can we bargain for keeping our students, even if this makes our class numbers smaller? We would like clarity on the online teacher. Will this at least be a teacher and student cohort from their home school?</p> <p>Teachers and staff have worked hard to cultivate emotional safety to facilitate a productive learning environment in an already complicated online environment in the midst of a pandemic that is causing additional trauma for many. How will our students with trauma be prioritized in this model?</p> <p>Will students be at a desk all day? Carpet time? Sharing supplies?</p> <p>Staff should have the option to say that they will NOT be coming back to the classroom because they don't feel safe. The survey did not provide this option.</p>
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Jacob Tice	Staff Member	<p>As a high impact 1:1, I know the importance of in-person instruction. I also know the importance of consistency and avoiding sudden changes in routine. I believe 01 February is too soon, especially since the vaccine will not be available to ALL teachers and staff by then and there is currently no plan to vaccinate us before then.</p> <p>Telling parents that we want to come back based on the survey is just not true. Your survey only asked us if we were in the CDC high-risk category rather than if we felt safe. There many more concerns than being high-risk or not. Ventilation systems that are actually installed, not just on backorder, is one. Another is those staff members who are part of multi-generational households, caring for their elderly relatives. This poses a risk to them. I cannot overstate that this will not be "back to school" as usual and will be an abrupt change for kids just as they are hitting their stride with remote learning. School will look different. We will be dressed in PPE, which can be traumatizing for those with special needs.</p> <p>Schools are directly correlated with the spread of any illness. A much more contagious strain of the virus is set to become the dominant strain within two months (per the Washington Post). Without a vaccine, I am absolutely not comfortable working in the building. As you may know, living on the wage paras make alone is difficult. I work a second job in food service to make ends meet and not live in austerity. Returning to work without everyone vaccinated poses a risk to those I serve in my other job and may affect my ability to work there at all. For the safety and emotional well-being of the kids, for our commitment to racial and social equity, for our collective safety as a school community, I do not feel safe returning to the building on 01 Feb.</p>
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Anne Dame	Staff Member	<p>Dear Superintendent Miner and Members of the Board -</p> <p>Thank you for your dedication to education, to our community, and to the health and safety of all involved, especially where these matters come together.</p> <p>As you think about those things and about bringing students back into the school buildings, I hope you will keep the following in mind:</p> <p>The Covid-19 case numbers in King county are still extremely high. People of color have been disproportionately affected. We are currently at an almost 15% positivity rate.</p> <p>In addition, there is a new fast-spreading variant strain of Covid-19 now affecting the population. Dr. Gupta of the University of Washington has warned "this new strain that is more transmissible, across more age groups" is likely here in Washington.</p> <p>The vaccine is on it's way. Let the staff get vaccinated before putting them back in schools. Push the department of health and the governor to make availability of vaccines for teachers a priority. It was one thing to consider asking staff and students to come back when there was no vaccine. Now that there is one and it is so close, why risk people's health and safety by asking them to come back without it?</p> <p>Schools in New York have had to open and close, open and close due to exposures when they attempted to bring students back too soon - and that's when case numbers were not as high as they are now and without the variant strain thrown into the mix. <a href="https://www.uft.org/your-rights/safety-health/coronavirus/school-covid-response-database">https://www.uft.org/your-rights/safety-health/coronavirus/school-covid-response-database</a></p> <p>It was said that the staff is comfortable going back to school - but survey data suggests that is not accurate:  Do you feel it is safe to return in person:  63% No  13% Yes</p> <p>Hybrid Impacts on Learning:  37% Good  62% Disruptive</p> <p>Where do you feel comfortable working?  38% on site  53%+ home</p> <p>Also, as you can see from the survey results, many staff feel that hybrid learning would be disruptive. This would be especially true if we had to close and re-open, close and re-open due to exposures. In addition, hybrid learning puts a much greater workload burden on staff if they are expected to teach in a dual modality.</p> <p>Finally, it has been said that the students will get further behind if we do not bring them back into the school buildings. Students all across the nation are facing the same learning situation this year. In addition, this notion of student achievement and benchmarks is an artificial one that we have created. We simply need to realize that this year is about doing the best we can, supporting students' social-emotional needs, and providing as much support, structure, and rigor right now as we can. This is actually quite a lot. Our staff are dedicated professionals. Our students have proven that they are learners and scholars. Our families have risen to the multitude of challenges thrown in their paths. Next year we can meet our students where they are at, wherever that may be. We can reassess what achievements and benchmarks and standards need to look like as we begin again.</p> <p>Thank you for considering these points as well as the many others that I am</p>
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Mary Perin	Staff Member	<p>Please stop the rush to return elementary students to classrooms! Even with the new start date of March 8th this is still too soon. Teachers overwhelmingly do not think this is a good idea or approve of this timeline. Yes, we want to be back with our students, but not now, when infections are only rising and even with the new timeline most of us will not be vaccinated for months to come.</p> <p>The survey we took regarding our "preferences" were focused on whether or not we have risk factors according to the CDC. Many of us said that although we do not fall into any of the high risk categories our preference is to not return to in person until we are fully vaccinated with a solid plan in place. The district is presenting this as teachers WANTING to come back now, that is not the case. There are no answers to any of the questions we are asking. No communication at all. Many buildings are also old with poor ventilation. Even with new filters, our systems break constantly and/or do not work properly. WEA is advocating for vaccinations as just one step in getting students back into school. The new guidelines Inslee put out on 12/16 are just that, guidelines. There is no reason to force us back when everything is getting so much worse.</p> <p>Although they say that schools do not appear to be super spreaders, they are a reflection of the community. So the higher the infection rate in the community, the higher the rate in the school. King county and Shoreline rates are rising rapidly. Along with the significant rise in cases there are also several new variants that are said to be spreading quickly, much more contagious and more easily spread by children. Even countries who have previously been able to keep their schools open are shutting them now. Now is not the time to force us into the classrooms. We are making remote work and ripping our classes apart now will be devastating to both students and teachers.</p> <p>Also, with the new March 8th timeline, that is the week after parent teacher conferences which are incredibly time consuming. There is no way that we will be able to gather information on our old class, prepare our classrooms with the still unknown safety guidelines, and prepare for a new class and new students in person all in the same time frame. This is an impossible workload for teachers with even more added stress of rising infections.</p> <p>We implore you, do not force us back into the classroom before we are fully vaccinated. Again, we want nothing more than to be back in our classrooms with our students, but we are scared, no one has communicated anything to us, and we don't want to get sick and possibly die doing our jobs. We don't want our students and their families to get sick and possibly die. Please, talk to teachers, push back this timeline until we can all be fully vaccinated, keep your students and staff safe.</p>
Rachel Poetzi	Staff Member, Parent/ Guardian	<p>People are saying they want to support teachers by keeping us remote. I need these "supportive" people to know that many, many teachers want to get back to in person immediately. We want to put kids first. We became teachers for kids. We want to give our time and sweat and love to kids. We didn't become teachers for the time off or the pay raises. Those things are lovely, but they are a result, not the meaning or purpose of what we do. Experts, pediatricians, many parents and many teachers believe we are harming kids by keeping them on screens, isolated and sedentary every day. I don't believe in what I'm doing every day. I want to have hope it will be over. The union, some parents, and some teachers are trying to take away that hope. Please, if you want to stay home, please do. Please stop blocking the way of those that want to return and believe it is essential for the mental health and development of our students. That is my polite first grade teacher voice. If that doesn't make an impact, then I'll try this. Get out of our way.</p>
Diana Antunes	Staff Member, Parent/ Guardian, Community Member	<p>I opted for my child to participate in the hybrid model and I plan to go back on-site when the kids go back. However, if my own child needs to be picked-up/dropped-off midday how could I possibly be at school all day, having no other support/option for childcare?</p>

Christy Gallotte	Staff Member	I believe it is in our student's best interests to launch hybrid in 2 separate, smaller groups as per the plan presented on 1.11.2020. It will be an enormous logistical task to work through attestations, transportation, entry of students, dismissal of students, meals, etc. Non-teaching staff will be managing this work. To be able to do this work with a smaller group of students would be extremely helpful. I would love to see the first group be K-1 so that all staff can focus on our youngest students and help them transition smoothly into hybrid learning. I believe this smaller group would especially benefit our kindergarten students who have never even been inside the building. Grades 2-5 could transition in the next week and that time of working out wrinkles in the logistics would enable us to give this larger group a smooth transition as well.
Brian Van Abbema	Parent/Guardian	Any work you can do to clearly plan out a rapid-as-possible return to in person schooling for elementary students would be greatly appreciated. Even if this has to be in a hybrid format, our students are suffering greater consequences of the lack of social connection and it is getting worse everyday. Please do not drag your feet on this and continue to "study, study, study" we need you to use the information you have available and please be decisive.

Sarah Coe	Staff Member	<p>Hello, thank you for taking our comments into consideration.</p> <p>I would like to highlight some of the concerns I have about returning to in-person learning as a paraeducator in the self-contained classroom setting.</p> <p>Firstly, classified staff's availability to return to in-person learning was largely misrepresented. The district expressed classified (and certificated) responses as being excited/wanting to and available to come back. The survey given to us only asked if classified staff we are available to return based solely on if we qualify for any of the high-risk criteria. Extenuating circumstances, preference of work location, etc. was not at all taken into consideration. I feel that we were extremely misrepresented.</p> <p>Additionally, there was not an option to select "unable to return due to high-risk household members, or multi-generational household members." I believe this is an extremely important consideration to be made for staff.</p> <p>With a vaccine available on the horizon, I wonder how many families and or staff would change survey answers to convey a desire to hold off until that vaccine has been given. Will there be an option to change answers on the survey to reflect this? Many of my coworkers have shared that they do not feel comfortable returning to work until they have been vaccinated. Even if the vaccinations were administered today, it is weeks later that the second dose would be administered, and weeks after that to become immune.</p> <p>Further, I wonder how many families would change their survey answers if it was transparent that they would not be guaranteed the same teachers. For families with students with disabilities, how many of them would change their answers if it was clear what the school day looked like? It would appear that the information shared by the district to families prior to the survey sent out lacked transparency. I understand the deadline was extended for general ed families but was it clear if answers could be changed and can families with special needs change their answers? In the self-contained setting, staff will be required to wear gowns, gloves, masks, and possibly face shields. This can be traumatizing to students with disabilities, especially those who already have a fear of going to the doctor after having surgeries and such (and typically doctors don't usually have to wear full PPE). Students will not be able to have free play time with shared toys. Again in the self-contained setting, social playtime is a large part of the day, and our students are unable to focus on learning for 6 hours. They often learn on a schedule of "first do these three tasks, then take a break." To go back full day without access to things like shared sensory equipment (since we certainly do not have one swing, weighed vest, sensory chair etc. per child who requires such things per their IEP) it would make learning extremely difficult for students with disabilities. The extent to which school will look abnormal has not been made clear to families. Not to mention, familiarity and rapport are paramount for students with disabilities to be able to learn. Changing their teachers at this point in the year signifies that many will regress in the time it takes to become familiar with new teachers, and the reverse, it will take time for teachers to become familiar with new students with unique needs and IEPs.</p> <p>I am unclear what is intended during the time special-ed students are having lunch. Many of these students need assistance with feeding. When will staff get their lunches? Moreover, who will supervise their students during that time? Especially if students are required to stay in the classroom. If a student is assigned a paraeducator per their IEP, when that staff member takes lunch, will there be another available staff and a change of PPE available for that staff member? Where will staff be permitted to take lunch? Staffing during lunch and breaks has been a challenge prior, and COVID protocol will add a new layer to the challenge. I hope these things are being considered.</p> <p>Next, it has come to my attention that not all of the buildings have updated ventilation systems. Seeing as how approved filtration is backordered and hard to come by, I don't understand how the district plans to get everything up to the standard it needs to be prior to the return of special ed Feb. 1st. Not</p>
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Caroline Crow	Staff Member, Parent/ Guardian, Community Member	I know this decision comes with so many factors to consider, but I am feeling right now that my kids are doing well in their remote environments and I would love to maintain this status as long as possible. I understand that teachers will have to shift and I will be back at Highland Terrace in person myself, but I fear for my own kids that their education will be disrupted unnecessarily by trying to do part-time work in school with new teachers, new classmates, and all the inconveniences of Covid precautions such as masks, distancing, inability to share, etc. as well as the additional anxiety about getting sick. I know many people feel the complete opposite from me, but I would love to be able to keep this remote option as similar as possible to what we are doing now. All of that being said, I appreciate you all so much for doing your best to make this work for the most amount of people. Thank you!!!
Barbara K Streckenbach	Parent/Guardian, Community Member	The 1/2 day plan will be very difficult for working parents. I as a childcare provider it will be super hard for me as well. It makes more sense to do the 2 full days. The families have already had to pay for childcare they did not plan on paying for because of remote learning. This burden of cost will continue with the half day plan. If a working family has one child its about 900 month for full time care, double that if there is more than one child in the family. My 2 cents
Erin	Parent/Guardian, Community Member	I would like to know why you are not putting more effort into keeping students with their current teachers. This is completely disheartening that you have no compassion for the relationships that teachers have worked so hard to build with their students and students with their teachers. Kids are succeeding in school and are learning! Why put them through yet another stressful situation and make them build a new relationship and trust with a new teacher. You need to let parents know what their given teacher has chosen to do before asking parents to make a decision on hybrid vs full remote learning. Further it still has not yet been addresses as to why the protocol will be if a student or staff member tests positive or has been exposed to a person who has the virus. How will families be notified? Will the entire class then quarantine? The entire school? Just the one cohort? If you have more than one child at school will you be asked to keep both kids home? How will these kids continue learning? Finally, will the final survey results from families AND teachers/staff be available to public view before making decisions for our children?
concerned parent	Parent/Guardian, Community Member	While I completely understand the need for before and after care and support parents who need it I am concerned that by mixing kids in these programs with kids not in the programs completely disregards the cohorts you are attempting to create. It explodes it. Is there any consideration being put into creating separate cohorts for kids in the before/aftercare programs?
Caitlin McNulty	Staff Member	I would like to urge the board to wait to resume in person learning until all school staff who will be on site has the opportunity to receive both doses of the vaccine and wait the appropriate amount of days afterwards for it to become effective. I value the lives of all Shoreline staff and now that the tools are available to send staff back to school safely, we have a moral and ethical imperative to use them.

Jenna Walcott	Parent/Guardian	I'd like to state again that our family feels very strongly that we must open school ASAP. We now have 10 months of scientific and medical data and examples across the state and the country where low to no transmission rates have been achieved in day care centers, child care, private schools and even on job sites when the proper precautions are taken. We must spare no expense to make this our priority as our children have been deprived academic and social development far too long, a problem which will take years to address and even uncover the impact. I understand that some families believe they aren't ready or comfortable with sending their kids to an indoor shared environment and I support families having a choice, if that is equitable for the school system. But the challenges many families face with younger students unable to truly benefit from virtual learning, those with economic challenges (i.e. having to leave their jobs or risk losing their jobs due to no school in-person and balancing work and remote learning support), students with 504 plans that can't thrive, as well as those students who are from underserved environments that cannot benefit equitably without school services and teacher/admin support have taxed our district's families too long. Please prioritize our students returning to school. We must attempt normal once again.
Beth Greathouse	Staff Member	Thank you to the School Board, Superintendent, and Shoreline Schools for the gift of additional time for staff, students, and the community to prepare for the change to in-person hybrid teaching. Though the concern for vaccinations for educators is still a high safety priority for myself and others returning to the classroom, the additional time to plan and prepare our classrooms and materials for students is a blessing. Thank you for listening, reading, and considering our voices. Thank you for the countless hours you have put into this recommendation, working with our unions and community - I know everyone is under a lot of stress, and we all want what is best AND safe for our students, staff members, and our families.
Carrie Thompson	Staff Member	I am grateful for the more realistic timeline. I am still very concerned about staff having vaccinations before returning to school. The new virus mutations appear to be highly contagious, both to children and adults. Given the age of many of our buildings, vaccination seems very important. I don't think the ventilation systems will offer much protection. Also, we would appreciate more communication. We can make constructive contributions, but we have little opportunity. Please model the equity and inclusive practices you encourage in our classrooms. Our lives are on the line. We have a right to have input.
Annie Peddicord	Parent/Guardian	As I continue to watch my children, 4th and 1st grade, but especially my 1st grader, struggle valiantly to pay attention, connect with teachers and classmates, and learn, I see a losing battle. I see disengagement because of the endless hours on Zoom and I don't understand, with the body of research indicating that kids are not primary spreaders and recommendations from public health to get back to school, why we are not pulling out all the stops to get them back into the classroom as soon as possible. I can't even imagine what those who are less privileged than my family are suffering. I am absolutely willing as a parent to do whatever is needed from our end to support getting our kids back in school, please let us know what you need from us to help make this happen.
Amy Gourde	Staff Member	While I appreciate the new recommendations give us more time to strategize the staffing, class placement, logistics and protocols that are necessary to keep our community safe; I do not believe we should return to school until all staff (teachers, classified, bus drivers, etc.) are fully vaccinated. The risks are too high and the burden too heavy.

Jody Schlachter	Staff Member	<p>As there is continued talk about sending students back to school in the near future I find myself thinking about how quickly germs spread through a school building. Although younger students are not considered spreaders, there has been more and more information coming out about how this is changing. The number of children becoming critically ill with Covid is growing. Why on earth would be jeopardize the health and wellbeing of an entire school PRIOR to the majority of occupants being vaccinated? Particularly with the virus mutating to a much more contagious strain?? We have families living in multigenerational households and families with loved ones who have compromised immune systems; it just doesn't make any sense to me! Yes, kids and educators are struggling but we are talking life and death here. I implore you to figure out a way to vaccinate all staff members BEFORE bringing them back into the germ infested building we called school. The benefits just don't seem to out weigh the risks to me! We have come so far, why expose all of us when we are so close to the finish line, particularly since the advice we are still being given is-stay at least 6' away, if you have to visit, do so only outside, wear a mask, limit gatherings if outside of your household to 10. Yet, our classrooms would have 15 students and teachers would see that daily, times 2!!</p>
Linda Tsai	Parent/Guardian, Community Member	<p>Superintendent Miner, President Jernigan and Shoreline School Board directors:</p> <p>Thank you for scheduling a Board study session on 1/16/21 and for the updated proposal regarding the re-opening of Shoreline classrooms.</p> <p>Additional questions for you:</p> <p>1) The distribution of COVID-19 vaccinations across America is a high priority right now. Could the Shoreline School Board and district administration collectively advocate for a change in the vaccination schedule with Governor Inslee and local/state health officials so that all pre-K to 12 staff can have an opportunity to receive their vaccinations before returning to classrooms? Seattle, Edmonds, Mukilteo and Everett have made these requests so far.</p> <p>2) Please illustrate in detail how the student and teacher “in-person” experience will look in an elementary classroom with all of the safety protocols in place – from the moment that a child steps onto a bus and/or is dropped off by their guardian at the school - to when the afternoon sessions have ended, including a description of asynchronous/synchronous activities and the integration of custodial duties between the AM/PM sessions. The additional details can help families to determine if they should send their children into school buildings four times a week.</p> <p>3) Community engagement:</p> <p>a. When can we expect a live two-way virtual forum with interpreters and closed caption on this important topic?</p> <p>b. When available, we would appreciate specific data and transparency regarding the results of the staff and family re-opening surveys instead of general percentages.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration of community comments and for the complex work that you are all doing.</p> <p>Linda Tsai Parent/Community Member/Shoreline resident and taxpayer since 1995</p>

Ruth Hilborn	Staff Member, Community Member	After reviewing the possible new start dates that are to be presented, I appreciate that they are a bit delayed, however they still do not take into consideration the idea that all staff should have the option of vaccination before having to go back to in person learning. Please write to our Governor and Department of Health to request that all staff be moved up in the schedule of vaccinations. Other districts, such as Edmonds, Everett, Mukilteo and Seattle have done this and we should, too. Thank you for being considerate of the safety of staff in the reopening of schools.
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Kinsey Frick	Students, Parent/ Guardian	<p>While it has been stated that the board is not in a decision-making mode regarding the district's hybrid implementation plan, it can still push for clarity, communication, and timelines of implementation. Based on the presentation included with the agenda for the study session on 1/16/2021, I appreciate the additional information that has been provided regarding many details of the hybrid implementation plan, and adjustments to the rollout timeline to allow for communication and preparation. The previous rollout was lacking in detail and presented a seemingly impossible timeline. I was further disenfranchised by the District's argument for a Feb. 1 start being tied entirely to anticipated additional expense for compensatory learning in summer school for additional students failing to meet standards as a result of prolonged remote learning, when there is no guarantee that a delay of a few weeks at this juncture would impact those outcomes. To bring a highly complex situation with many arguments against such a quick start (like the possibility of teacher readiness and the imminent availability of a vaccine) down to a potential expense arguing for starting immediately showed a complete lack of empathy and awareness by the district. The new recommendation allows for some additional communication and preparation in light of these concerns.</p> <p>It seems there are additional details to work out or that have not been shared that are still critical (in addition to those noted as being finalized that will be announced soon). What percentage of the remote learning time in the hybrid model will be synchronous learning (I've now heard it will be similar to the current learning model but do not see how that can be possible with staffing limitations). How will students who need walk-to-math services to provide their basic math education be accommodated? What about students who see resource room specialists? Given long transit times on buses under normal operating conditions, how can the buses meet the teaching schedules at all and then add in the need to sanitize them between runs?</p> <p>The detail of this decision being for the remainder of the year with one opportunity for adjustment is an important one (though it is still unclear what happens if numbers come down enough to allow 100% in person learning for elementary). I understand the disruption that changes cause so it is logical, but is also a key element of informed decision-making. It seems that parents will have time to make this decision after additional details are revealed regarding daily schedules, which is much appreciated. Please consider adding the option for families to prioritize remaining with a current teacher regardless of the instructional model they are assigned to as a way of honoring the classroom community-building work that was prioritized early in the school year and the important connections that students have with teachers. Also please make clear in future communication how families can change their choice prior to an upcoming deadline if it has already been submitted.</p> <p>Many thanks for helping to balance an in-person learning implementation with a long-lasting yet ever-changing pandemic scenario. There are no perfect answers, but options are appreciated and comprehensive information guides individuals to their best compromise choices. Also, please advocate on behalf of the district staff for inclusion in an earlier phase of vaccine distribution, as other local districts have done. Vaccine distribution is another situation of difficult trade-offs, but the in-person school scenario really is a risky one due to people from multiple households and prolonged exposure, regardless of mitigation measures that are taken. In light of increasing coronavirus numbers and a more virulent variant, early vaccination for adults in public settings is even more critical and should be a priority.</p>
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Kylene Glasser	Staff Member	<p>First I would like to say thank you for listening to the concerns of our staff and community members on Monday night. I still urge the board to put a hold on switching over to any form of in person teaching until ALL staff who will be working in the buildings has the chance to get both rounds of the vaccine and wait the appropriate amount of time before it is effective. I also would like to request that staff members be surveyed again regarding their comfort levels on returning to in person teaching. Due to the recent changes in availability of the vaccine and knowledge of the new strains of the virus the old survey results are no longer valid with the recent information. I would like to point out that yes we all want our furloughed coworkers to get their jobs back as soon as it is safe, however it is not worth endangering the lives of all of our staff to rush into it without the vaccine.</p>
Jody Schlachter	Staff Member	<p>This is an addition to my previous submission-The Board isn't even meeting in person due to the virus but you want us to all go back to school?????</p>
Gloria Horne	Staff Member, Parent/Guardian, Community Member	<p>Thank you, Superintendent Miner and Board members</p> <p>We really appreciate you taking your extra time to host a follow up meeting with more details for the implementation of hybrid models for education. The numbers still place us in the high Covid activity rate for our state. I continue to ask for support and requesting earlier access for vaccines for those teachers and staff who are available to be in person with the students. I also again ask that ample time and support be given to the teachers who are most impacted by this change, whenever it occurs.</p> <p>I also was reminded by reading the comments and reflecting on the meeting Monday that it is my duty to try to center and lift the voices of our families of color. I do not have intimate knowledge of their concerns and I hope that you are honoring and listening to their thoughts as well.</p> <p>Thank you again for your time and support.</p>

Kelli Carlson	Staff Member	<p>Hello School Board Members,</p> <p>Firstly I want to thank you for listening to staff, families, and our community members about concerns over Hybrid instruction. A few concerns and questions that remain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I do not believe that many teachers will want to return to a hybrid schedule in Elementary until vaccinations are available. AND I believe the district does NOT have accurate data to determine how many will prefer to return. The last survey given to certified staff based them if they preferred remote or hybrid when the governors restrictions were at 75 cases per 100,000 and an assumption that a vaccine was soon going to be available. Since the restrictions and recommendations have DRASTICALLY changed and as we know the vaccine continues to be postponed for many teachers. My question about this concern is what will happen if there are not enough teachers to fill hybrid quota needed? Will teachers have to switch schools in some cases? Will they be forced to choose their between their health and a pay check? I hope you can find out the answers to these questions from our district before we commit to reopening.</li> <li>2. I am concerned with the amount of learning that will be happening in hybrid. It seems very optimistic to think that teachers would be able to teach at the depth we are right now with our current remote schedule. I wonder if parents understand this and the impacts it may have on their child's progress.</li> <li>3. What about remote learning class sizes? If teachers are having to teach remotely what will the district do about those class sizes? Do they plan to keep class sizes developmentally appropriate?</li> <li>4. Cleaning- when the district is sanitizing the classrooms where will the teachers or staff members go? Is it truly safe to be breathing in the chemicals as they are sprayed or dried? Will we be provided the proper PPE to protect us from the chemicals if we need to be in our classrooms when this is being preformed (which I assume to be true since there won't be other places for us to go as we won't be congregating in common areas).</li> </ol> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Kelli Carlson 3rd Grade Teacher</p>
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Mary Ann Hayden	Community Member	<p>Dear Shoreline School Board,          Shoreline School District has a reputation for high quality education, staff, and facilities. This reputation has been made possible by good decisions made by the school board over the years.</p> <p>You are being asked now, and expected, to make a life and/or death decision. Until the Public Health data confirms the Covid - 19 virus, and the variants, to not be circulating in our community and until all staff and students have had an opportunity to achieve immunity by being vaccinated, it is irresponsible and unconscionable to open schools for in-person learning. Our school district has done an awesome job making online learning equitable and accessible for every student by providing Chrome Books, hot spots, text books, school supplies, and weekly meal kits to all students in their home.</p> <p>Families have accepted the challenge to accomodate school at home by establishing schedules, securing childcare, dedicating work/learning space, and providing support for their children during school sessions.</p> <p>If you interrupt this successful and high functioning remote learning modcl in place and go to the hybrid in person model, and it fails for any reason, parents, grandparents, staff and students will be frustrated and angry with the Shoreline School District and Board. This will negatively impact future support for school Levies and Bond issues which will be necessary in the near future due to the rapid population growth in Shoreline.</p> <p>I've been a homeowner, taxpayer, and voter in Shoreline for 54 years. My three children attended schools from 1968-1997. My daughter is now a teacher at Ridgecrest. I was a PTA president at several school and a PTSA Council Executive Board member for 29 years.</p> <p>Now, my youngest grandchild is a 3rd Grader at Ridgecrest. I've witnessed the social emotional and educational benefits of remote learning as I've helped her everyday in her Zoom classroom. Her outstanding teacher, Mrs. Laviola, motivates, stimulates and makes everyday fun and challenging online.</p> <p>I'm very willing to discuss my experiences.          Thank you.          Mary Ann (Mitzi) Hayden          (206)406-7208</p>
Julie Fredrickson	Staff Member	<p>Thank you so much for listening to Staff and families and slowing down the timeline for our return to the classroom!!</p>
Anonymous	Staff Member	<p>It is not right to ask teachers to return to school prior to being given the option of vaccination. I do not fall in the high-risk category, nor am I quite 50 years old, but that certainly does not mean I should be forced to return to a potentially unsafe work environment that could seriously impact me or those I live with. A new, highly contagious strand of covid is expected to be widespread in the US by March. We have come this far doing remote, I certainly think waiting until we have been vaccinated should be expected, since that is not too far off.</p>
Andrea Petrusky	Staff Member, Parent/ Guardian	<p>I've heard from staff at Auburn, South Whidbey, Tahoma, and other school districts that families were offered a 3rd option of staying with their teacher. Is this an option we can offer to Shoreline families? I think it would be incredibly helpful to kids who need that stability.</p>

Vanessa Mark	Staff Member, Parent/ Guardian, Community Member	I appreciate that the anticipated hybrid start date has been pushed back. This creates more reasonable time to plan and allows for current elementary teachers to conference with current families. While I understand that following guidance from the WA Dept. of Health is important, I ask that common sense is also used in making decisions regarding the health of our students, families, staff, and community. Given the drastic change in school building opening guidelines in December, the development of vaccines, the sharp rise of infection and death, the originally proposed rushed opening date of Feb 1st, and the lack of planning and implementation detail available at this point, I am hesitant to support any opening. I am, however, hopeful that the extra time will be used for purposeful planning of the safest options for our students, staff, and community. I am glad to see remote learning continue to be an option for students and families and think that is a protection for our entire community. I also like to see that there is a clear chance to change that choice embedded in the plan. I feel that any staff being asked to return to in-person work be given the option of being vaccinated first.
Missy Liu	Parent/Guardian, Community Member	<p>Dear President Jernigan, Superintendent Miner and members of the board,</p> <p>Thank you for hard work and dedication at this time in history. While I'm grateful for this additional study session, I would like to make a few suggestions for future meetings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Despite the overwhelming amount of comments for the 1/11/21 school board meeting from the community, staff and parents who are not in favor of reopening schools, the presentation from the Deputy Superintendent continued as if the schools would reopen. This was confusing as it felt like the comments from the community were ignored by this presentation. And it was a disappointing witness--especially during a pandemic with deadly consequences! This is a public school district so please listen (and respond) to the public.</li> <li>2. The survey data from the classified and certificated staff and parents seemed to have strongly influenced the decision to open schools. Yet the percentage of staff and parents who completed the survey nor a demographic breakdown of this data was not reported. In addition, this survey data was from last year (when there was no vaccine and COVID cases and deaths were in record numbers). The current public opinion that was submitted by comments from the community were overwhelmingly not in favor of reopening. I hope that in today's meeting as well as in the future, more current metrics will be used for making such critical decisions.</li> </ol> <p>Finally, I would like to suggest the board and district consider hosting public community forums to increase accessibility for families, enable more transparency and promote stronger communication and public trust. I propose a town hall style meeting where questions are asked in advance or in the chat with interpreters and closed captioning available. Please give the public more chances to receive answers to stay informed.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration, Missy Liu</p>

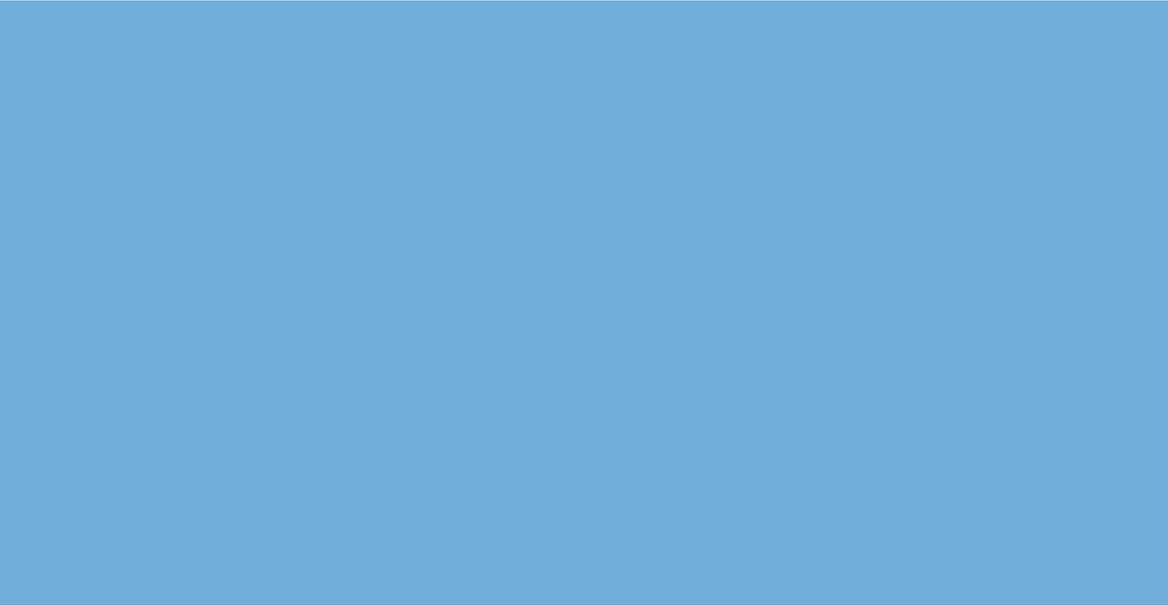
Elizabeth Norberg	Staff Member	<p>A few questions from me and my colleagues...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. WHY NOW before we are vaccinated and numbers are still climbing?</li> <li>2. What is the timeline for the teaching assignments for all classroom teachers (online, in-person, grade level, building change....) and who will be making those decisions?</li> <li>3. Is seniority considered in any decisions?</li> <li>4. What is the plan for classroom/school quarantine for exposures?</li> <li>5. Is the district going to do anything to advocate for speed of vaccines?</li> <li>6. Will there be training/time to learn what the safety protocols are, expectations for learning?</li> <li>7. What happens when we have students who are non-compliant with masks or behaviors?</li> <li>8. Who is forming the new classroom configurations?</li> <li>9. Are we looking at balance in placements?</li> <li>10. Where is district equity, when it appears (at least in my community) that the more educated, informed families indicate they will stay online?</li> <li>11. Can we stay with the bulk of our class?</li> <li>12. Where will teachers be during the classroom cleaning between cohorts?</li> <li>13. How do we prepare our class for the trauma of breaking the community and moving into different groups?</li> <li>14. When will families hear about the schedule, their teacher and expectations?</li> <li>15. Will someone else be preparing asynchronous afternoon lessons for Science, Social Studies, Health, Art, etc..... And grading those assignments?</li> <li>16. What PPE will be available and in place in the classrooms?</li> <li>17. If we have a number of colleagues that become COVID positive, or simply need to quarantine or isolate due to exposure, do we have the staffing and resources to cover classrooms?</li> <li>18. How do I keep kids in their current classes for report card purposes while simultaneously scheduling them into their (potential) new classes, especially if we do start hybrid on February 1st?</li> <li>19. What happens if we absolutely get no response from a family about whether they choose hybrid or remote? Will remote be the default option?</li> <li>20. How will behavior problems in the classroom be handled without overexposing the school administration to contact with many different cohorts of students?</li> <li>21. How will we handle recess, lunch, movement throughout the building, and bathroom breaks?</li> <li>22. When will we know who will be remote teachers and who will be hybrid teachers?</li> <li>23. Are families going to be able to choose AM or PM?</li> <li>24. Can staff choose AM/PM for their child?</li> <li>25. Can a student follow the teacher either remotely or hybrid so they don't have to change teachers?</li> <li>26. Can teacher's children stay in the parent's classroom if care cannot be coordinated by the time we start hybrid?</li> <li>27. Can staff work remotely on Wednesdays or do we need to be on site?</li> <li>28. What is the protocol when a student or family tests positive? Do both cohorts have to quarantine? Does teacher teach remotely to the class during this time?</li> <li>29. How are teachers expected to plan for both in-person learning and the asynchronous (Health,SS, science, Art) half of the day?</li> <li>30. How will we teach math, reading and SEL in 2 hours?</li> </ol> <p>This shift will be detrimental to teaching and learning time and to relationships that have been formed over the past 5 months.</p> <p>The timing of students returning with such short notice is disrespectful to teachers.</p> <p>What will be provided for teachers to use to support students through the traumatic event of losing a teacher who has helped them get through this year?</p>
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Susan Goldman	Staff Member, Parent/ Guardian	<p>I think serious consideration should be given to not returning to school this school year. The DOH metrics are guidance and only one of many factors to consider. As the numbers of positive cases begin to rise steeply in our area this number is much higher than at the time it was decided to begin the year with remote learning. Vaccine administration for all is near. Why put anyone in jeopardy with a return to school when we are close to taking a step that would increase safety? Financial/economic and political reasons to return are not a humane approach in my opinion. As many members of our community have stated before me, remote learning does not serve all perfectly but neither does in person. Some of the students who are having the biggest struggle right now with remote were struggling regardless of the pandemic and would likely struggle with a return to the building. Any consistency that was established so far this year will be altered for all involved.</p> <p>Another huge issue is the lack of information being communicated to staff and families from the district about how hybrid learning and safety measures will look. Staff should not be wondering IF they will get PPE. Appropriate PPE is required! the district is working on this, I know, but not all know this. There is also a program that must be in place to use N95 respirator masks. This takes time to implement. When will the district communicate to buildings about creating safety teams in buildings and how to manage the complexities of meeting the safety requirements? When will training be given to staff regarding the PPE they will get and possibly new roles they might need to fill in the buildings? Up until now it appears that much of the district's time has been spent managing remote learning. Now adding on the significant logistical planning of returning to a model that many families will not want to or be able to access seems to be a huge mistake. Overall, I see less damage continuing with remote learning through this year and looking to fall to restart. This is a unique situation. Some learning, etc will be lost but please question the stress on the educators and how learning will be affected with a fragmented remote and hybrid switchover now. The colleges have announced their plan to stay remote through Spring. We are not the same but I do think we should consider the same. Thank you for your time.</p>
Liz Bentley	Staff Member	Thank you for considering staff, parent and board feedback related to the hybrid model start date.
Evans Wilson	Staff Member	<p>School has been remote for nearly 10 months. Choosing to go on site in March, at the height of the pandemic and within months of being able to vaccinate staff and vulnerable family members who live with students and staff, is at best callous and at worst criminally negligent. How many people are you willing to sacrifice to do 3 disruptive months of 1/2 time in person learning? Students will be disrupted by having new teachers for 3 months. Students will be disrupted by having a new routine that will take all 3 months to work out the bugs. Students will be disrupted by seeing their teacher, but without the ability to have actual personal contact. People will contract the virus. Some people will die. The last school board meeting was dishonest. Results were given from student surveys and classified surveys, but not teacher surveys, ostensibly due to privacy concerns. The same privacy concerns exist for all 3 groups. You withheld information from the group that was not favorable to what you want to do. There was no chat for people to make comments. Almost everyone I know wanted to do so once they heard what you were proposing. Even the wording on the survey was flawed and skewed to get the responses you wanted. I am actually a staff spouse. I have chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension and pulmonary fibrosis, 2 life threatening heart and lung diseases. My wife knows she will likely kill me if she brings home the virus, not to mention that she herself functions at only 60% lung capacity. Please do the right thing and postpone any changes to the current teaching mode until all those who need or want to vaccinated can be. How about spending some of your School Board time lobbying the governor and Health Department officials on opening up vaccination to teachers immediately?</p>

Lucretia Jensen	Staff Member, Parent/ Guardian	<p>In planning to reopen for in-person learning in a hybrid model, I think the following things should be considered:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Focusing on the thresholds for safely returning to indoor spaces rather than dates when planning to reopen</li> <li>2. Have many of the details worked out in advance of making announcements for reopening dates</li> <li>3. Share data about teacher's willingness to return to in-person teaching - and collect new up-to-date data to give the public and the board a better picture of how teachers are feeling right now</li> </ol> <p>1. In the presentation about plans to shift to a hybrid learning model at Monday, January 11th's board meeting, our district was characterized as being so far behind other districts in re-opening schools for in-person learning. In fact, there is some missing data. In looking at the data across our state, we are indeed in a small group of districts not offering in-person teaching of any kind. However, it is misleading to give that as a reason to return. A great deal of districts are only serving 1-10% of their students in person, and several districts are listed as not reporting this data, including some of our very large neighbors - Northshore, Bellevue, and Issaquah School Districts. Specifically, nearly all of our neighboring districts are only offering in-person instruction to small groups. And one of these districts in particular, Issaquah, is sticking with the threshold of 5% positivity rate in order to reopen schools. The governor's revised guidelines are just that, guidelines. (<a href="https://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/covid">https://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/covid</a>) As a district, we are allowed to determine the thresholds that are most appropriate for our district. So, again, we would not be alone in delaying reopening in our region, beyond just serving small groups of the highest need students. I recommend following the lead of Issaquah and holding a higher standard for the sake of our teachers, families, and staff.</p> <p>2. I am hearing from my representatives and leaders of SEA, our teacher's union, that there are many details that remain to be worked out. And, as I was researching about how other districts are planning for potential return to in-person learning and hybrid models, many of their sites have extensive FAQs for families, so that they can understand how it will all work, and what to expect. Our parents and families have very little information, and it does not instill confidence to have so many unanswered questions. It would be much more reassuring to have the details worked out before setting out dates.</p> <p>3. As a teacher, I feel that the willingness of teachers to return to in-person teaching was misrepresented at the 1/11/21 board meeting. I also feel that it was conflated with information about other staff besides teachers. The bottom line is — and this was asked by a board member — will there be enough teachers to meet the demand of parent interest in a hybrid model? Yes, support staff are very important, critical I agree. However, you cannot place students in classrooms without enough teachers to serve them.</p> <p>In the fall of 2020, both SEA and the district conducted teacher surveys. At Monday's board meeting, none of this data was presented, yet it was stated that a majority of teachers are willing and available to return to in-person teaching. From what I have heard from SEA, this does not match up with what their survey results demonstrated. I do not believe that a majority of teachers are willing to return to teaching in-person. The statements made at Monday's board meeting must be backed up with clear data, and they were not.</p> <p>The district's survey results about teacher interest <b>MUST BE</b> shared to clarify the Deputy Superintendent's statements. I hope this will be remedied for the presentation to the board planned for Saturday, January 16th.</p> <p>AND, new surveys should be given again, immediately, for even more up-to-date information about how teachers are feeling. Both surveys — from the district and SEA — were given before vaccine schedules were on the very</p>
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Sarah Soroos	Staff Member	<p>Dear Members of the school board,</p> <p>I am writing you to encourage you to keep the well-being of our students, staff, families, and community in mind. While I appreciate that decisions were made based on guidance from our governor as well as surveys given, I question whether a majority of teachers would want to return prior to vaccination now that the metrics for returning have changed, more information has come out regarding more contagious strains, and more studies have shown COVID spreading in schools putting teachers and families at risk.</p> <p>Please continue to be cautious with the health and well-being of students, staff, families, and our community and delay opening until after staff can be vaccinated.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
Sara Stanley	Students	<p>Please reconsider the full-day in-school option for our young children. They will benefit greatly from not being shuffled to and fro school and having to do asynchronous learning outside of school. I can tell you it is INCREDIBLY DIFFICULT to get my 1st grader to do work once the "school day" is over, even though there is still an expectation for them to do more work. They need to have time to run around at recess a few times to burn off steam and will not have the time to do this on a 2-hr school day. Online learning has been such a challenge because they don't have any truly active FUN. My daughter has been enrolled in gymnastics and it is no problem for her to wear a mask the whole time. This option would also reduce time needed to air out rooms and do the daily deep cleaning for the 2nd cohort.</p> <p>I also have HUGE concerns about the prospects of my 1st grader not having the same teacher. The Flagship newsletter main theme for this quarter is about relationship building and how INTEGRAL it is for their learning. Our children MUST have the same teacher! Our teacher has created a community within her classroom and is someone who knows how to manage my daughter's big emotions. Thank you for all of your hard work and for considering the 2-full day model for in-school instruction.</p>
Steve Treseler	Parent/Guardian	<p>We aren't yet within the CDC range for safe school reopenings, so I strongly urge the board to hold off on reopening schools. Teachers and staff need access to vaccines before returning to the classroom, period. And we may only be a few months away that.</p> <p>My daughter is in 3rd grade and has settled into the routine of her classroom. Remote school isn't ideal, but lots of learning is happening. Disrupting their routines and scrambling classrooms doesn't make sense--especially when an outbreak will send them back 100% remote with new teachers and new routines. Our daughter was devastated to hear she may not finish out the year with her teacher. Let's keep the remote learning going, for the safety of our staff and the wellbeing of our kids.</p>

Erin Wilson	Parent/Guardian, Community Member	<p>I am writing again today to reiterate my deep concerns regarding the proposed plans for Shoreline School District's return to in-person instruction. I value all of the hard work being done to try to devise plans to best serve our district's families and do not envy the impossible situation you are in to try to balance varying needs and concerns and acknowledge that there is no scenario that will work well for everyone. I fully appreciate that following this week's School Board meeting and the outpouring of apprehension expressed in commentary from concerned parties, that the district has already revised and adapted the originally recommended plans, but I urge you to go further in your revisions, as the newly proposed model for a return to schools still does not do enough to answer important questions about the logistics of these plans and still does not adequately prioritize the health and safety of all students and staff.</p> <p>I attended Monday's Board meeting and listened carefully to all that was presented and discussed, but left frustrated and disappointed, with at least as many questions still unanswered as had been addressed. I have since read all of the public comments that were submitted for public consideration for that meeting and feel certain that I am not alone in my continued frustration and concern, as many others posed issues that were also ignored or glossed over at Monday's meeting. As you prepare to meet again tomorrow to discuss the district's revised proposal for a return to hybrid instruction, I implore you to push for more detailed answers on many lingering questions:</p> <p>Why are we asking teachers and school staff members to return to in-person instruction before they can be fully vaccinated, especially since that possibility is just on the horizon? While I am glad to see that the new model pushes a return to school back a few weeks, which will certainly allow time for more of the details to be worked out, under the current state schedule for Covid vaccinations, the new district model still falls short of allowing for any school staff to be fully protected against contracting the virus. Currently, the first of our teachers still cannot begin to be vaccinated until at least February and will have to wait weeks to receive their second dose and then a period beyond that to develop the full benefit of immunity provided by a vaccine, which means that none of our teachers can conceivably be protected until mid-March at the earliest. Even more disturbingly, many of our teachers are currently slated to have to wait until April to begin being vaccinated, leaving them without protection until at least mid-May. Your new plan, however, has teachers returning as early as February 22nd (just after returning from mid-winter break and facing potential spikes from vacation travels), with the bulk returning on March 8th. It is unacceptable, especially with the promise of available vaccination coming so soon, to suggest any staff member should be forced to return to work before they are fully protected to do so. If you make no other changes to the newly proposed plans, please at least again adjust the timeframe of a proposed return to allow for all district staff members to be fully vaccinated and for those vaccines to become fully effective, and if waiting until mid-May under the current schedule does not sound feasible, please do everything possible to join other voices in our state advocating for all district staff members to be moved up on the state vaccine schedule and wait to set a date for a scheduled return until it is clear when this can be accomplished.</p> <p>What is truly driving the rush to return kids to school before it is clearly safe for anyone to be there? I understand that the state recently rolled out new guidelines for reopening schools that drastically altered the metrics by which districts were to make plans for returning students and teachers to classrooms, but it is clear in carefully reading these guidelines and comparing them to current restrictions everywhere else in the state, they make no sense. Cases are exponentially higher now than at any previous point in the pandemic when the district chose wisely to keep everyone safe and learning remotely. We continue to set new infection and death rates almost daily. Hospitals across the country are overwhelmed. New, more contagious strains of the virus are emerging worldwide. And yet, now is the moment you are choosing to send everyone back. I cannot begin to see how the argument can be made that now is a safe time to send our students and</p>
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# Updated Recommendation Implementation of Hybrid Instruction

Shoreline School District No. 412  
Board of Directors' Study Session – January 16, 2021

# Hybrid Implementation Recommendation (1/11/2021)

## TIMELINES (consistent with guidance from WA Department of Health)

- February 1: Special Education Preschool, K-12 Self-Contained Special Education Classes, and General Education Grades K - 2
- February 22: Grades 3 - 5
- Monitor public health data and keep Grades 6 – 12 remote for now

## INSTRUCTIONAL MODELS

- AM/PM Preschool and Grades K-5
- Full day, if possible, K-12 Self-Contained Special Education Classes
- Remote only Early Release Wednesdays, all models

## Hybrid Implementation Plan (1/16/2021): (after review of staff, parent, and board feedback)

### TIMELINES (consistent with guidance from WA Department of Health)

- February 22: Preschool and K-12 Self-Contained Special Education
- March 8: Grades K – 5
- Monitor public health data and keep Grades 6 – 12 remote for now

### INSTRUCTIONAL MODELS (unchanged)

- AM/PM Preschool and Grades K-5
- Full day, if possible, K-12 Self-Contained Special Education Classes
- Remote only Early Release Wednesdays, all models

## Please note:

- 1) A 100% remote option will continue to be available P-12.
- 2) Daily schedules are being finalized and will be announced soon.
- 3) Parents/guardians will have an additional opportunity to choose instructional model after daily schedules are announced
- 4) Students may not be assigned to their current teacher:
  - a) Schools must balance classes based on student choices and staff availability
  - b) To the extent possible, students will be assigned to current teacher

## Please note (continued):

- 1) Parents/guardians may change their choice of model one time, effective at the beginning of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter (April 12)
  - changes in class assignments cause significant disruption to students, teachers, and specialists
  - exceptions may be made by IEP teams or due to special needs
  
- 2) Once a student is assigned to a class, absences will be made up in that class
  - a) students in hybrid model will make up missed work in their hybrid classroom
  - b) students in 100% remote will make up missed work in their remote classroom

## Additional notes:

- Elementary conferences will be held the week of March 1<sup>st</sup>, as previously scheduled
- All public health guidance for students and staff will be followed
- Transportation will be available
  - Buses will be disinfected between each cohort of students
  - Windows will be open to increase exchange of fresh air
  - Students will be assigned to seats to ensure physical distancing
- Meals will be available (service model will be finalized once student choices are finalized)
- Building ventilation will meet or exceed health guidelines

# Board Discussion/Questions