

Name	Written Comments
Item #2 - ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING	
Abby Brown	<p>The School Board agenda proposes changing meeting times to mornings when working families, students, teachers, and school staff members would be unable to participate in meetings. This cuts out public participation and prevents those of us who are attentive to School Board practices from attending or watching meetings that are supposed to be available to the public. How would this work for student school board members since they would have classes during those morning times?</p> <p>Additionally, the agenda includes proposed changes to how School Board meetings are conducted. During the tremendous challenges the world and our community currently face, now is not the time to be making substantial changes to School Board procedures. As a teacher I would never dramatically change how my class is structured in the midst of the most challenging topics.</p>
Ann Cerny	<p>I object to the attempt to alter the time of board meetings. Having 9am meetings precludes participation by our Student Representatives and is an obvious attempt to stifle the voice of teachers and many other working parents in our district. It is an attempt to make board proceedings more opaque when transparency is most needed. Any board member voting to support these meeting times is complicit in doing so.</p>
Adam Fischer	<p>I am a parent and want to make 2 points regarding Item 2</p> <p>1)On Item 2d. School Board Meeting Dates: Shifting some meeting to the mornings will have the effect of excluding many members of the community, particularly students, many working parents, and teachers. Student board members in particular may have a particularly challenging conflict with mornings, as it will require them to miss class or miss the meetings. Therefore, please keep all meetings in the afternoons or evenings so as to not exclude these important voices in the community. I think we can all agree we want to be as inclusive as possible.</p> <p>2)On Item 2e. Consideration of Rosenberg's Rules of Order: While there are undoubtedly some pros and cons to a different way to conduct board meetings, especially now with all the issues before us, it may not be the best time to make any change, and instead having some stability in this regard and remaining with the current procedures is likely the most prudent course of action</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
anonymous	<p>Before voting to change to Rosenberg's Rules of Order. I would like to share potential problems that: 1.Under Rosenberg, the chair has discretion in several matters which Robert's leaves to the board --this is more democratic. 2.Since Rosenberg allows for more control from the Chair, the Chair must be well versed in the rules of procedure. This is the first time the public has known that the Rules of Order change was being considered. 3.Rosenberg gives too much importance and latitude to "substitute motions." This could be very confusing to the rest of the Board, especially since the experienced members have now retired or were quieted. This could allow the Chair to allow another board member to run through legislation. A minority could then confuse or sway the majority before they know what they have voted for. Rosenberg allows for the widespread use of substitute motions. It is considered best practice to defeat the motion in question rather than to propose a new one. 4.Rosenberg approves of the common usage of "friendly amendment." This goes against the principle that a motion, once made, seconded, and stated by the chair, belongs to the body as a whole. The member who proposes and the seconder should not have the right to accept an amendment during discussion. Again, this allows for agenda to be rushed through without reasoned consideration by the entire Board. 5.Rosenberg allows members of the Board to interrupt debate and withdraw a motion unilaterally. This is too disruptive and undemocratic. 6.Lastly, why? Listening to the most recent Board meetings, inefficient application of Robert's Rule of Order has not been the cause of fractious and acrimonious meetings. It has been poor compliance of those rules.</p> <p>I ask that Agenda Item 2e not be adopted and tabled for further study and comment.</p>
Erin Graff Zivin	<p>I would like to strongly request that board meetings remain scheduled for 5pm in order to allow working parents and teachers to attend. This is the most democratic choice. In addition, Robert's Rules of Order should be maintained. A newly elected board member who barely won the election should not be upturning democratic norms in the very first meeting!</p>
Evan Sorem	<p>For many years, the SDUHSD Board has held their meetings starting at 5pm on weekdays. The purpose holding meetings at 5pm is to allow students, teachers, working parents and all interested parties to attend and to speak to the Board. In essence, for maximal public input. Suddenly, and for reasons that remain a complete mystery, the Board is considering changing half of the meetings to start at 9am. I cannot attend meetings at 9am. Our son, Noah, cannot attend meetings at 9am. Noah's teachers cannot attend meetings at 9am. And most certainly, the student board members seated cannot attend meetings at 9am — they are in class. Keep the meetings at 5pm or the Board is making a change that appears clearly intended to reduce the amount of public input received by the Board. Not a good look.</p>
Anonymous	<p>For many years, the SDUHSD Board has held their meetings starting at 5pm on weekdays. The purpose holding meetings at 5pm is to allow students, teachers, working parents and all interested parties to attend and to speak to the Board. In essence, for maximal public input. Suddenly, and for reasons that remain a complete mystery, the Board is considering changing half of the meetings to start at 9am. I cannot attend meetings at 9am. Our son, Noah, cannot attend meetings at 9am. Noah's teachers cannot attend meetings at 9am. And most certainly, the student board members seated cannot attend meetings at 9am — they are in class. Keep the meetings at 5pm or the Board is making a change that appears clearly intended to reduce the amount of public input received by the Board. Not a good look.</p>
Anonymous	<p>The community needs the opportunity to attend the Board Meetings. A shift to meetings during the school day would not allow stakeholders to participate in the meetings in a meaningful way.</p>
Jayme Zage	<p>I believe that the consideration to shift to every other meeting occurring at 9am should be suspended until comments from the community can be heard. Teachers and the majority of working parents would have a significantly harder time attending meeting that happen during the normal work day. This would reduce live community and stakeholder participation which is a much needed component for a successfully run school district.</p>
Jen Charat	<p>Regarding the suggested schedule change—moving half of the regular board meetings to Thursday mornings—please do not approve this change. This will make it nearly impossible for working parents to participate. And it will be certainly impossible for teachers, students, and most importantly, student board members to attend complete meetings. It will limit those board members' participation considerably. While late night meetings are definitely a challenge, it is far more democratic to hold meetings when most working and studying stakeholders can participate. Please keep all regular board meetings in the evenings. This board says it works on behalf of students; don't hold your meetings when students cannot attend.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Dear Superintendent Haley and Board Members,</p> <p>Please add a specific time for the start of open session for regular meetings on the 2021 calendar. Most, if not all, other school boards in our region publish a specific start time, including San Diego Unified and Carlsbad Unified. By not publishing a start time for open session, the Board essentially inhibits public participation and therefore acts at odds with the spirit of the Brown Act. Legalities aside, it would make it much easier for community members who wish to attend and formally adopt what seems to be the informal practice of the Board based on past meetings.</p> <p>Please also consider taking this opportunity to vote to continue making these meetings available virtually to any member of the community that wishes to attend. Kudos to the IT staff that has done such a great job during this time of Covid. Thank you, Jen Goswami</p>
Anonymous	<p>How can the Board in all good conscience move meetings to 9:00 am? This is a ridiculous suggestion that doesn't take into account scheduling conflicts of students, teachers, and working parents. What a terrible message this sends about the importance of student, teacher, and parent voices needing to be heard. Student representatives would be unable to attend meetings unless they missed their classes. Working parents would not be able to comment. Teachers would not be able to attend or comment. No good reason to do this. The suggestion is cause for great concern... what's the hidden agenda of the reason behind this proposal?</p>
Julie M Bronstein	<p>Item 2C- I understand that the board is concerned about transparency and accessibility to the community. Having every other board meeting changed to 9 am would be counterproductive to transparency and accessibility since shifting meetings to the mornings will exclude students, teachers, and working parents from attending or speaking. Student board members will have a particularly challenging issue with this shift as it will require them to either miss class or miss the board meeting putting these student leaders in an awkward and unnecessary position. Further, if students are unable to attend the board meeting, their important voices and opinions will not be represented for the boards' decision making process.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I notice with disappointment that the proposed changes to the Board's meetings will have a silencing effect on the community. Scheduling Board meetings for 9:00am will prevent many of the working parents, student and teachers from participating. Additionally, adopting Rosenberg's Rules of Order will prevent discussion or comment from those who are not in agreement with a majority viewpoint. In both cases, the opportunity for robust discussion, full representation and healthy debate will be diminished or eliminated. You are elected officials, please act responsibly to represent and not silence the community. Do schedule your meetings to discourage participation and do not change your rules to prevent discussion.</p>
Anonymous	<p>What is the rationale for having meetings at 9am? This prohibits/blocks many community members and all of our district staff members from "attending" and speaking at the meetings. These same people will also not be able to view the meetings live. I would like to see all of the meetings held after school hours to ensure that a wider population can view and have input at these meetings.</p>
Clare Lemon	<p>Please do not hold board meetings in the morning when students, teachers, and working parents cannot attend and participate.</p>
Anonymous	<p>A lot of our student populations and parents cannot participate in voicing their concerns if you hold meetings at 9:00 AM in the morning? If our school is truly a democracy, we should be listening to all concerns and from various perspectives. Also, please consider the voices of our EL student learners who may need more time to learn about local school issues. They need additional time to hear the situation at hand by asking questions to various people in the community so that they make informed choices.</p>
mary ann rall	<p>Public school board meetings should not be held at 9:00 am. Elected student representatives, SDUHSD staff, and other working parents and community members will not be able to equitably access school board meetings if they are held at 9:00 am.</p> <p>Please hold all public school board meetings at 5:00 pm so as to allow for the equitable inclusion of all stakeholders as we all work together to make transparent decisions for the future of SDUHSD.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Please consider NOT adopting Rosenberg's Rules of Order for the Board meeting format. Rosenberg's rules unfairly limit the speech of the minority, while stifling collaboration. As an alternative, may I suggest Robert's Rules of Order. Additionally, please consider keeping all meetings after working hours. Moving every other meeting to 9:00 AM if unfair to parents and SDUHSD's own staff. Working parents should be able to attend after working hours. It will also ensure that no SDUHSD staff get to participate. This is unfair to both parents and staff. Please keep SDUHSD board meetings in the evening so that parents, students, and your own staff can attend. Thank you!</p>
Anonymous	<p>It is inappropriate to move the Board Meetings to 9:00 am on a weekday. Meeting during the school day would serve the fully exclude any student or teacher who does not decide to miss school to participate in the board meetings. How could a board that puts students first create a situation where student representatives have to skip class in order to provide their reports to the board? This proposed time puts students last. It is inappropriate for the board to meet during school hours. Also, meeting before 5:00 pm will make it hard for many parents who work during the day to participate. If the Board truly values communication and hearing from its stakeholders it should meet when its stakeholder - students, teachers, administrators, and parents - are available. This means selecting a time that they are not in school and that is not during the workday. Otherwise, the Board is sending a strong message that it does not value participation by stakeholders. Please keep the 5:00 pm meeting time for meetings.</p>
anonymous	<p>The Robert's Rule of Order is working quite well in SDUHSD. Board meetings are easy to observe and all trustees are given the opportunity to listen and engage in conversation about the items on the agenda. The Rosenberg's Rules of Order will have a dramatic change to how your meetings are run and give entirely too much control and power to the Board President. There is no need to change the process in which you conduct meetings at the behest of a newly elected trustee. Please do not vote on this change in how you operate your meetings.</p>
Anonymous	<p>A switch to a 9 am meeting every other month will prove difficult for involvement from parents working daytime hours. In addition, it will be more difficult for student representatives to the board to miss class in order to attend/participate. This switch will also preclude the involvement of teachers in the board meetings. I am concerned about the proposed switch to 9 am every other month.</p>
Jocelyn Peck	<p>As a resident of Encinitas, I'm concerned that half of these board meetings occur at 9am, when many community members are unable to participate and provide the public comment we have a right to provide. These board meetings need to be held at a time that all stakeholders (including students) can participate if they so choose - so if school is in session at 9:00am, board meetings should not be overlapping with that time as to avoid negatively impacting/distraction our students and the teachers residing in the district who have a right to comment and be heard by those they've elected.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Melisse Mossy is the ideal choice for Board Secretary. She replies to emails in a prompt, professional manner and is willing to listen. This is an important role at a time when you are trying to restore public trust.</p> <p>Please do not shift any board meetings to a 9 AM start. Working parents would struggle to attend, and the 9 AM time automatically excludes participation from students and teachers as well. I believe that the board is moving toward greater transparency, and maintaining the 5 PM meeting enables the highest level of public participation.</p>
Anonymous	<p>The proposed calendar is an obvious move to silence parents and staff. Having meetings at 9 am; during work, will keep the people who elected you to this job and the people who you represent from being able to fully engage in the meetings. Continue to have these meetings in the evening when the majority of the community will be able to be present.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I would request that the board select Ms. Melisse Mossy for the position of Board Secretary. Ms. Mossy is an experienced board member and is always professional, respectful and willing to receive input. She is inclusive and endeavors to be fair, and replies promptly and graciously to email communications. We need someone with her skill set to be in this position, when board communication has been an issue.</p>
I do not wish to speak. P	<p>I'm sure many of us have heard Mr. Allman's frankly alarming response to the teachers' statement. We believe his actions are not representative of neither the district nor the community and demand his resignation. It's disheartening to watch as the district ignored the pleas of teachers' unions and putting everyone at risk (especially the teachers but also students and families) after listening only to the vocal minority of parents. We beg you to listen to science and the fact that there will be a massive surge in cases and deaths after the long December break. Schools have been proven to be breeding grounds for the virus and the district is blatantly ignoring this. For the sake of our students, all the families, AND our teachers, please make the right decision and trust science over politics.</p>

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Heather Nesbitt	Please do not switch away from Robert's Rule of Order. Switching from Robert's Rules of Order and replacing it with a new Order is dictatorial. Robert's Rules of Order protects the right for all voices to be heard. This New order allows the majority to silence the minority during discussions, as well as limiting discussions. The rules for governing debate and discussions should be fair and consistent. Do not allow this change.
Anonymous	<p>Please do not switch to the Rosenberg's Rules of Order. There are problems with, and will undermine the voice of the minority, curtail discussion and grant too much power to the chair person of the board. Below is a brief set of issues with the proposed rules, for a more detailed comparison of rules of order please refer to:</p> <p>https://jurassicparliament.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Problems-with-Rosenbergs-Rules.pdf</p> <p>PROBLEMS WITH ROSENBERG'S RULES</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Under Rosenberg, the chair has discretion in several matters which Robert leaves to the body as a whole, which is more democratic. 2. Rosenberg gives too much importance and latitude to "substitute motions." This could be very confusing for the body. Jurassic Parliament recommends against the widespread use of substitute motions. Better to defeat a motion and then propose a new one. 3. Rosenberg approves the common usage of "friendly amendment." This goes against the principle that a motion, once made, seconded and stated by the chair, belongs to the body as a whole. The maker and seconder should not have the right to accept an amendment during discussion. 4. Rosenberg allows members of the body to interrupt debate and withdraw a motion unilaterally. This is disruptive and undemocratic. 5. In Rosenberg, only three motions may be on the floor at the same time. This greatly restricts the number of actions a body may take. <p>Do not change the way the SDUHSD Board conducts its business to the Rosenberg's rules of order.</p>
Anonymous	Civic duty is an important lesson for all of us regardless of age and making meetings accessible to students and those who work business hours shows your constituents that you value their opinions as well as their time. For school board meetings, I believe setting up a schedule is important. Evening and late afternoon meetings are flexible for working parents and even students to attend and weigh in. If parent and student voices are valued, I would hope that you schedule meetings when the vast majority of them have time. Thank you for keeping meetings at times that make it possible for maximum participation.
Justin Davis	My name is Justin Davis, a junior at Canyon Crest Academy. Student input is very important in any board meeting. As a student myself, I feel like it is very important for us to have a say in what's going on. A democracy can't stand without the input of its civilians, in this case the students. Even more importantly, the teachers won't be able to attend either, and especially COVID-wise, the teachers will be affected more than the students. Having a meeting where neither students or teachers can provide input further increases the totalitarian agenda pushed by certain board members. This is almost like gerrymandering, but against students and teachers; it's an attempt to suppress our voices and make us unheard, something that shouldn't exist. The idea of a democratic body is to make sure that everyone speaks and everyone is heard, but if by the very people who the decisions will affect the most don't have a say in what is going to happen to them, the whole idea of having a school board is inherently flawed. There is no reason to move the board meeting to such an early hour when people are work and students/teachers are at school when the current time is the way to ensure that everyone's voices are heard.
Item #8 - Public Comment / NON-AGENDA Items	
Anonymous	As a math teacher in SDUHSD I just wanted to provide insight about the positives right now! I mainly have freshman who were concerned about starting their high school experience online. However, I get at least one positive email every week from parents and students about how thankful they are that their child is engaged, enjoying the class, and learning. I have had several messages from students specifically saying that "I've never really liked math, but this year you are actually making it fun and it's now one of my favorite classes." Kids are becoming flexible, independent learners and I think that is truly a blessing from this upside down distance learning format we were given. It is working for many, many students. I do also have some students who struggle emotionally or academically with learning online. However, even those students have reported that they feel more connected to their teachers because they now are comfortable reaching out to their teacher through emails or messages, instead of having to approach their teachers in person during traditional school. Another positive that I would like to share is how supported we teachers have felt from our site administration. Our principal and AP's have worked endlessly. From helping us set up our technology in our rooms, to personally delivering devices and hotspots to our students in need, to finding funds to support online teaching tools and make the learning engaging. Despite negative comments you may hear from some community members, I am here to say that that students are engaged, learning, and happy. I am here to say that the site administration is doing their absolute best to support every teacher and every student. We love our profession and our passion can still be felt behind the screen.
Ann Cerny	While we all gear up for what I'm sure will be a contentious meeting, and a tumultuous next few months, I'd like to fast-forward to the next school-year 2021-22 which is set to implement a radical change in the calendar to finish the first semester before winter break. I request the board to potentially rethink or at least postpone this change. I am sure the vast majority of our families are unaware of this upcoming shift. This change shortens the summer by a week. As families may be planning summer, they may not be aware that students would head back to school on August 17 instead of the expected August 24. Even more of a shock, as many families are forgoing seeing family this holiday season, many will be angered to realize students will still be in school AND taking semester finals in class on Dec 23. Significantly, this calendar creates an imbalance of curriculum time: 1st semester will be shortened to 86 days, compared with 94 days for 2nd semester, which is particularly significant for the Academics. The argument for this change, said to allow teachers & students a "real break" over the holidays, is not only a non-problem but also creates worse problems in its practical applications. After 25+ yrs teaching & 8 years with daughters as students, our break is always fine - in fact, a nice breather to take care of any loose ends before ending the semester. Creating a break that causes stress for students in the already busy pre-holiday season. Many families will take their kids out of school for those days before Christmas, which would cause students and teachers extra stress to administer finals early. Also, teachers will inevitably need to use their break to prepare for closing down one semester and preparing for the next (to think teachers only need those two in-service days provided, much of which is taken up by staff meetings and other PD, is a fantasy). This community needs a BREAK! While I'd urge you to rethink the change generally as an unnecessary solution to a non-problem, at the very LEAST postpone it.
Adam Fischer	<p>As we discuss a number of important issues before us today, it is important to keep in mind some key facts about the current pandemic situation:</p> <p>Infection, hospitalization, and death rates are skyrocketing nationally as well as locally. The most recent case rate as of Dec. 8 is 27.0, almost 4 times the 7.0 threshold for being in the purple tier.</p> <p>As of Dec. 12, in San Diego in the last month:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The average daily new cases has quadrupled from 528 to 2070. -The number of hospitalizations has tripled from 337 to 995, and is well over double the summer peak. -The number of people who have died from COVID-19 in the preceding week has gone up 7 times, from 14 to 96. <p>Hospital ICUs are full or getting full – there is just 4.2% ICU capacity in Southern CA and falling. San Diego is on track to run out of ICU capacity this week and overall hospital capacity by Christmas, according to Dr. Natasha Martin from UCSD.</p> <p>And it's getting a lot worse, not better - Dr. Fauci says it's entirely conceivable January will be the height of the outbreaks.</p> <p>Plus, there is now significant evidence that the virus spreads in schools. San Diego county has seen 11 confirmed outbreaks in schools, and that is with only 6% of students in-person. Middle and high schools are nothing like elementary schools - kids at that age are not organized in stable groups but rather mix together via different classes. A large study in Austria last month concluded that while children may show no symptoms, they are quite efficient at spreading the virus to others</p> <p>And even if the death rate is relatively low, who wants to take that chance? Not to mention the 10% of more of infected people that have long-term, possibly permanent health damage.</p> <p>The good news is that help is right around the corner – very effective vaccines are coming in just a few months. We should just make sure we don't endanger the entire community in the meantime.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
Anonymous	Our teachers have been working tirelessly and deserve much more credit than they are being given. It seems right now that the board thinks that our valuable teachers are just bodies that can be replaced by people like parents. As a student at Torrey Pines, this reflects to me that the board is more focused on saving their own skin than maintaining any reasonable school board goal: to provide a high level of education to students from well educated teachers. Because of my wonderful teachers here at Torrey Pines, I've learned that science is of utmost importance. Science reflects that opening schools in January would be disastrous for everyone, harming teachers, medical workers, and students. Ignoring that would not only be a big mistake, but it would also reflect the true nature of our school board to all of SDUHSD. Of course right now a lot of students are struggling with online school; it's a big change for all of us. But opening schools when it is completely unreasonable will make for a greater consequence than just staying at home for a little longer.
Anonymous	Health of students, staff, and their families is above education. It is inhumane to reopen schools earlier than expected as it unnecessarily risks lives of everyone in the district.
Anonymous SDUHSD HD	As a high school student in the SDUHSD district and a child of teachers (in other north county districts who are handling this much better), I am absolutely horrified at the suggestions made by SDUHSD and the SDUHSD board regarding the return to live instruction. There are indeed benefits to opening schools for live instruction, but for many there are serious potential health consequences. I assure you, teachers are often willing to give so much for their students but forcing them to risk their health/exposure to COVID is inappropriate and unacceptable. Telling them their only option is unpaid leave is insane, especially when there are large groups of students who wish to remain totally online/in distance learning for the remainder of the school year. I'm sure the teachers who cannot be in the classroom are capable and willing to continue to teach remotely (from the safety of their home) - why is this not an option? Substitutes can hardly get the job done in a "normal" environment, how can we possibly expect they will be suitable replacements for the teachers who cannot be in the classroom in our unprecedented COVID times?! And lowering the requirements and increasing pay to be a sub in order to combat the sub shortage is certainly not the answer. The education of thousands of my fellow students is at stake here! Do better San Dieguito. I look forward to the day we can all SAFELY be on campus again, but please do not rush just to satisfy the few loud opinions.
Anonymous	As a student at Torrey Pines, I have gotten to know my teachers quite well, and I believe they are what makes the school great. Their dedication to helping us learn by hosting extra office hours or offering one-on-one meetings exemplifies the fact that they are irreplaceable. Through this difficult distance learning time, our teachers have found creative ways to keep us engaged and educated. The idea that if SDUHSD returns back to in-person schooling, students would be taught by substitutes rotated every month suggests that the teachers working tirelessly now are unappreciated, which is the last thing that they should be. A reopening plan is what we all want, but we as students owe it to our teachers to find a reopening plan that keeps them safe and allows them to continue to teach us where they are comfortable.
Molly Schneider	In SDUHSD, my children have directly worked with over 150 amazing teachers and staff. The level of commitment and instruction has been excellent. The ability of my current student's teachers to pivot and maintain excellence in education, attention to needs, flexibility, compassion and engagement has been stellar. Our family truly appreciates the dedication of our district teachers and staff. Please support their efforts and well being. I hope the needs of existing teachers will be prioritized in decision making. The teacher is more important than the location. They are what puts the "wonderful" in our schools.
Anonymous	<p>"Jesus, did you just say that? Wow. Now there is no doubt, you should NOT be teaching our kids. Period."</p> <p>Michael Allman's email to a teacher he has never met and knows nothing about. Great leadership for our children. Very impressed.</p> <p>Mr. Allman, our district (which you prove to know nothing about) actually has a civility clause. Please read it.</p>
Bryn Farris	Covid has killed more than twice the number of Americans who died in WWII. 5x as many as in Vietnam. 100x as many as 9/11 terrorist attacks. ICU capacity is at 9% in the So. CA region. There's a Regional Stay at Home order that prohibits gatherings of any size with people from other households. How does it make sense that some people are advocating for their child to be in a room mixed with people from 40 other families? Some argue that teachers didn't return to an empty classroom when asked. Teaching in an empty classroom would compromise the quality of education I've been delivering since August. My own children would be left home all day to manage this experience alone, which would contribute greatly to a decline in their mental wellness. They're not arguing, but they're okay - it's a sacrifice they're willing to make to help keep people in our community alive. My son is part of the increase in D/Fs. We're supporting him, his teachers have been working relentlessly - they've also been compassionate while being clear about expectations. That's what I want for my children as they navigate this time and learn what sacrifice and resiliency look like. My colleagues are taking a leave come January 4th. They are heartbroken for their students. But they believe their lives are worth more than your child's next 3 weeks (or 3 more months) of education. Their students will have a sub. Some will meet in the gym with 5 other classes under the sup of 1 sub. 5 classes of potentially 40 kids from 200 different households in a gym during a pandemic that has killed 50,000 Americans in the past 4 weeks. Why are so many people fighting to have their child made vulnerable to a situation with a potentially devastating outcome? My heart aches for the students who are struggling with mental health issues. My heart aches for their parents. I am one of them. That some people are here attacking teachers who are trying to protect their students, their families, and themselves from a virus that has killed 1.61 million people in one year is heartbreaking. I cannot wait for this to be over.
Cindi Schildhouse	Please reevaluate the January 4th, 2021 return for students and evaluate the plan for second semester. Requiring all staff to return to campus and allowing students to return to campus is reckless and irresponsible. We hear our local and national health experts pleading for people to stay home to slow the spread and reduce the demand in a long stressed healthcare system. Are we going to disregard the options and requests of the health experts because we can? We are a district that has long prided itself in being the best, going above and beyond, and setting a high bar. Now in terms of student and staff safety we find the verge of noncompliance an acceptable standard?
Cynthia Edgerly	I am dismayed to hear that the Board has made the unsafe decision to meet in person, particularly in an indoor setting. This flouts the state stay-at-home orders and will potentially contribute to prolonging the period of our time our community remains in the purple tier. Very irresponsible.
Anonymous	Please consider our children and get kids back in school 5 days a week. So many kids are struggling mentally and academically. It's gotten political and our kids are in the middle.

Name	Written Comments
Duncan Brown	<p>While we may all not agree on our plans for reopening, we may agree on the ineffectiveness of our Superintendent.</p> <p>In a little over two years, Supt. Haley has driven this district from one of the most respected in the state to one on the brink of irreversible damage. The cornerstones of this district have been based on putting students first, delivering excellent instruction, maintaining strong community support, and engaging in deep collaborative relationships with its educators. Our last five superintendents have been able to effectively lead understanding that none of these cornerstones operate in conflict. Together, they strengthen the others, resulting in a strong foundation - a foundation to the envy of school districts everywhere.</p> <p>Under Supt. Haley's leadership that very foundation has deteriorated. He has not provided clear communication to lead this school board. His inability to guide with clarity and decisiveness has been substandard. His lack of transparency to our community has left a community divided. Time and again, he has shown an unwillingness or inability to collaborate in good faith. Manipulative and unfair bargaining practices have led to an all time low staff morale during an already very difficult time. Educators who once felt deep commitment, pride, and loyalty to our district now feel unappreciated, unsupported, and expendable.</p> <p>Last month, our members were asked to vote on whether they felt the Superintendent has the ability to lead this district. An overwhelming 98% voted that they did not have confidence in his leadership.</p> <p>With recent developments, never has it been more important to have a strong superintendent.</p> <p>In most circumstances, a vote of no confidence in the superintendent will at a minimum impel a school board to issue clear directives for changes in operating procedures. I have also submitted a more detailed letter to your district email. Board President, I wait for your written response to this vote of no confidence.</p>
Anonymous	<p>As a school district we should be spending more on teachers and students rather than parents. As the parents are the most far removed from the teaching compared to the teacher and students, which are often overlooked. Instead of looking to please parents the district should look to help the students as much as they can, as that is the point of schools. To do so we should be placing more emphasis on teachers, as the better environment the teacher has to teach, the better education the student has. Therefore the district should be listening to the teachers, who know more about how to teach their students than any other person. The district should listen to teachers, so that we have the best possible education for all of our students.</p> <p>In the same vein, I believe Michael Allamn should resign/be removed from his position due to his disregard for teachers, and students, and unprofessionalism when regarding teachers. The discussion shared between him and a SDUHSD teacher was disgusting, the teachers know better than anyone else on how to teach their students and should be prioritized during this time. It is clear that Michae Allman does not care for teachers nor students as he cares for parents. This is evident by his line "Wow. Now there is no doubt, you should NOT be teaching our kids. Period." when regarding a SDUHSD teacher, which is extremely unprofessional and very telling about him. He says "teaching our kids" instead of teaching our students, as he sees the students as the children of the parents rather than the people that the entire institution of schooling revolves around. While you may argue that his choice of words does not dictate his character it is evident that he does not care about the safety of student or teachers by stating "don't get within 6 feet of ANYONE for more than 15 minutes" as a loophole to avoid quarantining and puts the blame of safety on the teachers, completely backwards as he should be working with the teachers, not against them.</p>
Evan Sorem	<p>Our son, Noah Sorem, is a 10th Grade student at Canyon Crest Academy. Noah, like most CCA students, has four classes. All of his classes are taught by exceptionally talented teachers. Since the start of the 2020-2021 School Year, Noah's teachers have gone above and beyond the call. Classes are robust, his teachers are fully engaged and Noah is learning and performing well. We would much prefer that Noah be in a classroom at CCA. As would he. But — at present — CCA is not open to in-person instruction. The San Diego County Office of Education dashboard indicates that there are 13 students at CCA learning in a hybrid model. This means there are just 13 students on campus, learning on the distance learning model that all district students are learning under, but are receiving appropriate therapy or academic supports to help them. Under every non-fantastical interpretation of the California Department of Public Health Cohorting Guidance, CCA is in full compliance. As a result, under no circumstances is CCA "open to in-person instruction." No matter how loudly Superintendent Haley screams WE ARE OPEN — in ALL CAPS — CCA is not open. And if this Board proceeds down the stated path of calling all teachers to return to campus to teach to some students in their classrooms and to the majority of students who will continue online — while all the rest of us are moving to adjust to the second imposition of Stay-At-Home orders — it will be doing so in clear violation of law. So, to the members of this Board — I implore you to come back to reality — direct Superintendent Haley to reconvene regular meetings of the Expanded Reopening Committee, take stock of the interests of all of the stakeholders, and plan to re-open SDUHSD schools once our county has returned to the Red Tier and plans are in place to ensure the safety of our teachers, our administrators, our staff and our students.</p>
Robin Sorem	<p>Our son, Noah Sorem, is a 10th Grade student at Canyon Crest Academy. Noah, like most CCA students, has four classes. All of his classes are taught by exceptionally talented teachers. Since the start of the 2020-2021 School Year, Noah's teachers have gone above and beyond the call. Classes are robust, his teachers are fully engaged and Noah is learning and performing well. We would much prefer that Noah be in a classroom at CCA. As would he. But — at present — CCA is not open to in-person instruction. The San Diego County Office of Education dashboard indicates that there are 13 students at CCA learning in a hybrid model. This means there are just 13 students on campus, learning on the distance learning model that all district students are learning under, but are receiving appropriate therapy or academic supports to help them. Under every non-fantastical interpretation of the California Department of Public Health Cohorting Guidance, CCA is in full compliance. As a result, under no circumstances is CCA "open to in-person instruction." No matter how loudly Superintendent Haley screams WE ARE OPEN — in ALL CAPS — CCA is not open. And if this Board proceeds down the stated path of calling all teachers to return to campus to teach to some students in their classrooms and to the majority of students who will continue online — while all the rest of us are moving to adjust to the second imposition of Stay-At-Home orders — it will be doing so in clear violation of law. So, to the members of this Board — I implore you to come back to reality — direct Superintendent Haley to reconvene regular meetings of the Expanded Reopening Committee, take stock of the interests of all of the stakeholders, and plan to re-open SDUHSD schools once our county has returned to the Red Tier and plans are in place to ensure the safety of our teachers, our administrators, our staff and our students.</p>
Fiona Rose	<p>Hi, I am a student at CCA and all of my teachers have been amazing, despite claims that our teachers are not teaching or prioritizing the students. I can for certain say that my learning is not being "jeopardized" by distance learning. For example, in French, my teacher has come up with new projects and resources for us to use, and she also ensures that we are participating and understanding new concepts. In my AP math class we are doing new lessons and practice problems everyday, with extra videos and projects provided by the teachers to help us understand all of the new material. We have already covered chapters 1-6, and we are currently working on chapter 9. I'm actually enjoying English, my least favorite subject, thanks to my teacher who comes up with fun learning activities that keep us engaged while still learning. Even in Chemistry, where we don't get hands-on lab experience, we are able to learn about acids and chemical reactions and watch videos of labs and have that "Aha" moment. My teachers have hundreds of students, yet if you send them a panicked email about the content or a grade at midnight, you can count on a response. If you need extra help, you can attend office hours that are held before every test, or even every week. They are always checking in on our mental health, and always asking for feedback on how they can improve our distance learning experience. Not only do our teachers care about our learning, but they care about US. About our thoughts and our feelings. We are human beings to them, not just a part of the more important whole. So please, appreciate our amazing teachers as much as I do. Let them know that they matter to us as much as we matter to them.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I heard that teachers would not be getting paid if they do not return to school. The exemptions are very slim as well. My teacher has a lung problem. My other teacher is getting old. The list goes on. The district will say that teachers will not be able to teach at home (excluding the exemptions)? Would that teacher not be getting paid? We made progress since the last meeting as most of the reopening plan was in more detail. However, I don't think this is right. Is it correct that teachers are not getting paid for wanting to teach from home? No, I don't think so. It sucks that most of my year is gone, but I am more concerned about the safety and lowering death rates. I want to make sure teachers, staff and custodians are protected and secured, not overtly threatened.</p>
Anonymous	<p>The past 9 months have been difficult and challenging times. My husband and I both work full time as essential workers. We have two children in the district at Torrey Pines and Canyon Crest. Everyone knows how I feel when I say, we want to do everything we can for our kids, even if it means driving them to two different locations!</p> <p>My son, in particular, is on the autism spectrum disorder, and has ADHD. Most days I work from 5 or 6am to 2pm so that I can get home to help our extraordinary kid succeed. The other days when my husband is not at work, he is on deck. Despite our challenges, we have been navigating this distance learning with success with the help of some exceptional teachers.</p> <p>For us, it was a blessing in disguise because it gave my husband and I the opportunity to be a fly on the wall to see where our son was in terms of his schoolwork, organization, and comprehension. It also gave us the opportunity to set some routines. But I repeat, the teachers have been instrumental. If it weren't for the dual effort of the teachers and us, my son would probably be failing, because kids like him typically have a hard time in school.</p> <p>I am afraid that the current plan will leave a gap in our teacher workforce that is irreplaceable. I don't think a substitute is qualified to teach many of the high level courses. Most parents with high level degrees themselves have difficulty helping their own kids with homework. The tutors who might be qualified won't take these substitute positions because they can earn far more tutoring. The loss of teachers would deteriorate our award winning quality of education.</p> <p>I ask you to consider the teachers at high risk for alternative measures such as hiring tier two personnel to engage with the in-person kids while the teacher teaches from home.</p> <p>My daughter's AP Spanish teacher left the workforce because she has a high-risk spouse. It took over 2 weeks to replace that teacher with one who has difficulty navigating distance learning technology.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Thank you to all of the Teachers, Staff and Administrators who have been working tirelessly to make a hard situation better. I feel lucky to have my daughter at a school in this District, in a community that cares and contributes to her positive growth and development. I am looking forward to the School Board making decisions that support and follow in that same direction. Our Teachers, Students, Staff, Admin and Community deserve safety and effort from their Leadership. We need to feel like their are committed to their stated goals and they need to get the wellbeing of others first. Thank you to all the hard working Teachers and Staff who have made a difference in my child's life this year.</p>
Extremely Disappointed	<p>Accountability Systems and Processes:</p> <p>The Board's bylaws include, "The Board of Trustees is elected by the community to provide leadership and citizen oversight of the District's schools. The Board shall work with the Superintendent to fulfill its major roles, which include ... Ensuring accountability to the local community, including personnel ... and fiscal accountability and service as a judicial and appeals body as needed."</p> <p>We, parents, sent emails to request that the Board, the judicial and appeals body, act to resolve our issues. Among other things, we claimed the District failed to comply "with applicable state and federal laws" and that, before distance learning, our son was harmed and treated punitively because his medical conditions prevented him from attending his classes at Torrey Pines High School. And we claimed District employees including the superintendent and associate superintendent, failed to uphold their duties.</p> <p>However, the Board did not respond to our ten emails. Therefore, we request the next Board meeting agenda include discussions as to: (1) what accountability systems have been established to ensure that the District complies with the law; to monitor its use of public funds, including monies paid to lawyers; and to ensure that staff fulfill their responsibilities, including by acting to provide a safe school environment; (2) what measures are in place to ensure the District's accountability systems and policies are implemented and enforced; and (3) if SDUHSD employees fail to comply with its policies, state and/or federal laws or fail to fulfill their duties, what are the repercussions to their non-compliance and/or failures, including what actions are taken to remediate the harm, or consequences, to the student.</p>
Jen Charat	<p>Day after day, we learn about new successes in this pandemic. A vaccine is here. SDUHSD has brought small cohorts of priority groups on campus to provide support and interventions.</p> <p>There have also been failures. Federal agencies failed to protect Americans. Elected officials prioritized bars, gyms, salons over schools. Our children are the losers in these failures. Makes sense—they can't vote. Yet.</p> <p>My kids have been in local public schools since 2009. I've served on PTAs, PTSAs, advisory committees, youth sports leagues, youth science leagues. I've worked hard for our schools and their students. But I've been accused of wanting schools to remain closed. Of being on the other side. One of the trustees made these assumptions about me when he told me the private Facebook group he administers was not for me. Seeing schools closed like this is awful. I want them to be open SAFELY. That has been at the heart of every communication I've made to you.</p> <p>In August (I think) I came to this board asking you to reference the Harvard T. Chan School of Public Health Healthy Schools report on reopening. In September and October, many of us insisted that this is an aerosolized virus, and that you need expert advice from chemists, epidemiologists, infectious disease researchers. Many of us asked you to please follow UCSD's Return to Learn guidance, provided in a 65 page report to San Diego Unified. This has not happened.</p> <p>Please, a truly safe reopening plan would not alienate teachers and staff. It would actually prioritize the health and safety of stakeholders, as you claim to do. It would protect our community, which, despite claims of some to the contrary, is the job of all of us, school districts included. And it would help us maintain our top ranking in the state. Thank you.</p>
Anonymous	<p>This reopening is giving teachers at risk an ultimatum - Risk Covid-19 and their safety or lose their jobs. Although students can opt out to stay home and continue distance learning 5 days a week, teachers do not have the choice to do so. I am a student at CCA, and I know a teacher who always does their utmost to provide students with resources and takes time to make sure we're successful, but they have a number of medical conditions that would make it impossible for them to return to school during the pandemic. If the reopening goes as planned, they will have no choice but to go on unpaid leave with no health insurance protection.</p> <p>In addition, from the point of view of a student, I think distance learning is working, and many of my peers and teachers would agree. Although going back to school in real life five days a week after the pandemic is over would be the best option, reopening for one day a week will have a negligible effect compared to the potential risk for teachers and students. It is selfish and naive to believe that the reopening does not pose a danger, and by this I strongly encourage the board to reconsider their decision.</p>
Anonymous	<p>The teachers and site administrators at Oak Crest have been incredible! They are abolutely committed to the education of our children and have gone above and beyond in every way to ensure stability in these wildly uncertain times. We are so grateful for each of them.</p>

Name	Written Comments
Anonymous	<p>I am writing as a SDUHSD parent of a CCA tenth grader. Although I see the social-emotional and academic benefits of returning to in-person school, for our daughter and for all students, I also consider the exposure risk to COVID to be too high while in the purple tier, whether the return is one day a week or more. Viruses don't care about how many days a student is in school -- they can infect in minutes.</p> <p>Still, we gave our daughter the option about what to do January 4 without interfering in her decision process. She was interested in returning in person, until she learned from peers and website info that it was (1) only one day a week, (2) still computer-based class learning sessions, (3) having to start before the end of the quarter, which she wanted to finish online, and (4) lacking the CDC recommended amount of social distancing she would be comfortable with. "Not worth it," she said.</p> <p>She also knows her peers: "They cough on each other for fun," she has told us. Last year, well before COVID, she asked a classmate during winter cold season if they could please cover their cough. The classmate retaliated by coughing ON her, intentionally, and our daughter of course got sick. Kids are no different now. No matter what protocols are in place, there are still too many variables.</p> <p>Although we have had struggles with motivation and engagement in online learning this year, every one of us in our family agrees that the risk of return is still too high, particularly with the current purple tier. Being behind or underperforming in school is better than being dead.</p> <p>Our daughter is open to reconsidering for 4th quarter, as are we. She really appreciates her teachers and their understanding during this challenging time.</p> <p>But I request SDUHSD wait until San Diego County is off the purple or red tier before entertaining a full return to in-person school, no matter how many days a week. The risks are still just too high for too many.</p>
Lisa Tellers	<p>I have my students reflect on their learning often. Students are reflecting more on their note taking skills and are being honest about their study skills. They are using Cornell note taking and realizing where their faults are on their own regarding their own learning styles. They think me for teaching them on their own. They write sweet comments in their reflections stating that they can see how hard I am working and that they appreciate the effort that I put into the comments and feedback that I give them. A few students stated that they started talking to their parents about history, current events and have started watching the news more. Many have also stated that they have slept more and are taking care of their emotional and social well being more distance learning at home. Some even mentioned that it was nice to be able to eat three meals, exercise and spend more time with family. If the students are procrastinating, they are mentioning that they trying to work and figure out better time management. They are conscious of the fact that their phone distracts them during class and some are putting restrictions on themselves to focus better. Students have also discussed their concern for the community and want to return when they feel it is safe to do so. They have started mastering many various forms of technology. I taught them to send scheduled emails and also taught them hyperlinks. I love seeing students advocate on their own and having them step out of their comfort zone to schedule an office hour or to send me an email of apology because they slept through a morning class accidentally. The honesty that they have shows me that they are accepting of their mistakes and that they are growing.</p> <p>When we are in person to person learning, sometimes we get the "fall tales" "I am seeing a lot of students grow and mature as they go with the ebbs and flows of distance learning. Hearing stories of students learning to sew masks, or seeing students find creative ways to help the community are teaching. Our students are resilient.</p>
Lucia Franke	<p>I am a teacher in the district. I frequently ask students via surveys (Google Forms) how they are doing, what isn't working, what they need and what I can change to make things better. A great number of them report on some of the "silver linings" of Distance Learning. They enjoy the flexibility of the DL schedule and structure. They appreciate the kindness and concern of their teachers. The number of D's and F's in my classes (as well as the numbers of A's and other grades) has remained notably consistent with non-pandemic/on-DL times. In addition, many of my students have noted that they benefit from the options that DL makes it easier to offer. Here is one example: in a typical classroom, if students miss a portion of an instructional video, they miss it. In DL, they can watch at their own pace, pausing it and even replaying portions as needed. Furthermore, during asynchronous time, they can talk to the teacher, one-on-one without the potential social stigma of walking over to the teacher to whisper a question in the non-DL classroom. I love teaching! I WANT to be in the actual classroom with my students as soon as it is truly safe to do so. But until then, Distance Learning IS working well for MANY students.</p>
Lynn Leahy	<p>I am a teacher at TPHS. I teach a course called Teaching and Learning. In a normal year, my students would volunteer in our community elementary schools. My students work with one teacher and a class the whole year. Obviously, this year changed. My students have learned about the effects of illiteracy during the pandemic. Sadly, this has hit lower socioeconomic children and children with special needs the most. I have taught my students about how schools are funded, the many reasons why kids fall behind, and how literacy is a strong indicator of academic success in the future. They have created a website where all 82 of my students recorded videos reading children's stories. They use strategies to teach reading, bring stories to life, and brilliantly engage young kids into a love of reading. We are releasing our website later this week, and partnering with a parent that has offered to organize a book donation to children that don't have adequate access to books in the pandemic. I started the year not knowing how I would handle this situation, and I am finishing first semester knowing my students have gained so much. The biggest surprise of all this year has been the ability to create relationships and bonds in every class, just like when we are in a building. Distance learning is not ideal, but it has kept us safe, engaged, and productive. I have 100% attendance, every assignment completed, and higher engagement than ever in my 25 years as a teacher. I implore you to look at how well we (teachers and students) have handled this immense shift in education and have risen to the challenge.</p>
Anonymous	<p>About 10% to 20% teachers are going to take unpaid leave due to health concerns to themselves or their families. With so many teacher absent, our students can't get good education. Now, there are more than 2000 covid-19 cases each day. Please allow teachers teach from home until situation improves.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I teach at Torrey Pines HS where currently only 88 students and staff are on sight each week. Opening the school to more teachers and students Jan. 4 is not logical or safe. The most conservative approach should be considered at this time as we deal with the highest rates of infections we've seen in our community to date.</p> <p>The public should know that last week I received 3 official email notifications from the district office (signed by Tina Peterson) informing me that we had multiple covid cases on campus. I also just got another new notification this morning at 10:01 am. The two notifications dated 12/11 stated that two different staff members had tested positive and had been on campus earlier that week between the dates of 12/7-9 and 12/7-8. Another official email notification was dated 12/11 and stated that a student had tested positive and had been on campus between the dates of 12/7-8. This morning's notification (12/14) stated that another staff member had tested positive and had been on campus last week on the dates of 12/10-11.</p> <p>We look to you, our school board and superintendent, for direction and guidance. Our staff and students should be your primary agenda item on Tuesday. DO NOT let other agenda items sideline this important and potentially life/death decision that each of you will make for us tonight.</p> <p>Do not lose sight of the goals and values of SDUHSD. Teachers, on-sight school staff, and coaches are the reason for our district's successes and reputations. We are the ones who know our students PERSONALLY and have struggled right alongside each of them throughout this difficult year. We want everything to be back to normal too, but please think of an alternate solution or compromise. Now is not the right time to be opening our schools to larger numbers of students and staff. Please keep us and our students safe and respect our abilities to do our jobs professionally, passionately, and empathically during this very challenging time. I invite each of the board members to join me as I teach my online classes, email me to schedule a date/time.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I am concerned about board members who are not trying to represent the whole community in making decisions in the best interest of all students. We all know there is a wide variety of opinion right now on what is safe and what is needed for kids. It's challenging. Our board members should be working to represent all of us and the many different needs and views of the community.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Please consider the adoption of an equity based social science text or course. Textbooks are in need of replacement and should reflect a more diverse historical narrative. Courses should be updated to include an ethnic studies or equity based educational program. Thank you!</p>
Anonymous	<p>My teachers have been doing some excellent work with the resources they have. In my French 1 class my teacher has been ramping up the participation; 98% of us have our cameras on and are being active in class. Our teacher encourages us to talk over the meal and to speak in our homes when we are working. I personally have seen improvement in my peers as she builds our confidence in speaking in class. I expect that continuing distance learning (with a little bit of hybrid) will continue to build confidence in my peers who (in normal times) are nervous about speaking in class. The teacher of my drawing and design class has all sorts of resources to demonstrate techniques in his home, and I can confirm that his teaching is still very effective. He also starts the class by talking with us about our news and his news, it really makes you think about the things that are going your way, and that is, quite a lot. These teachers both have things in common: they are still effective teachers, and they (and the vulnerable people around them) will be put in danger if they are teaching students in person. All of my teachers will not be able to teach as effectively if they really makes you in the classroom as well as online.</p>
Maria Lewis	<p>My family and I moved here 5 years ago specifically because of the level of education our districts provide. Our district has a well-earned reputation. What makes us so great? There's so much, but especially amazing students, for sure... that are taught, guided and mentored by top-notch teachers, administrators, counselors, etc. Our highly qualified teachers also sponsor clubs, reach out to struggling students, and even become a shoulder to lean on, when needed. Yet, the District's reopening plan provides no alternative for teachers with high risk to teach from home. Why?? Do you honestly believe years of experience, special accreditations, and established relationships with our students don't make a difference in quality of education? Please consider providing an option for teachers to teach from home, if needed. An aid can help and supervise students in the classroom of a teacher that has to teach from home. Aids are a lot easier to find and pay than certified teachers. Our kids will need quality teachers even more next year to catch up. Our juniors will need them even more as they prepare for college admissions and AP tests. School clubs and after school organizations will need teacher sponsors as we get back to normal. Let's not be shortsighted and risk permanently losing highly trained, experienced, and dearly loved teachers.</p>
Marianne Grosner	<p>Dear Superintendent and Board of trustees,</p> <p>I've spoken at several board meetings since June of this year asking about transparency regarding the use of attorney fees in special education matters. Most recently, on August 27th during the regular board meeting, I inquired about the comparison spreadsheet of legal rates for special education law firms which the board, on June 5th, had stated they would work on. As of today, December 15th I still have not heard anything from the District regarding this so I was wondering if the board was going to obtain and provide this information to the public anytime soon?</p> <p>And I'd like to ask the district again if they can be more transparent by providing the public with a breakdown of special education spending at a future board meeting to include items like the costs associated with Settlements, Legal fees spent annually on Special Ed matters, number of Due Process cases/Mediations, etc. I've brought this up for several months and I know others have made similar comments as well. Thank you for your time.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Please open our schools to allow all students to return to in person learning. It is imperative to their social and emotional well being for them to be allowed to return to campus and experience some normality in an already difficult time. The children of this district have been forced to spend hours everyday for months on zoom call after zoom call. They have done everything that has been asked of them and now it is beyond time for us to put them first! It was frustrating that the recent survey was poorly designed and found parents questioning whether it was worth sending their children to school one day a week. Any amount of in person learning is invaluable at this point and any parents I speak with on this topic all express a strong desire for their children to return to full time in person learning as soon as possible.</p>
Oliver	<p>Despite all the talk about how distance-learning impedes students ability to learn, I have found that there are many advantages that come with it and I would like to share one instance of when distance-learning helped me learn. One of the primary focuses of my business class is preparing us for the working-world, allowing us to develop skills that we can then use in our jobs and in our adult lives. To supplement the development of these skills, my teacher has routinely invited guest speakers to share their experiences and job-specific knowledge with our class, a fun and informative way to learn more about areas of interest we share. For example, one guest my teacher invited was a lawyer, who talked to us about the variety of a career in law, as well as specifics such as constitutional law and his experiences working with the Obama administration. This discussion was very helpful to me, as I consider pursuing a law degree, and one that would not have been possible if not for the strong distance learning model we as a school developed and adopted (since the speaker lives in San Francisco). I feel that while distance-learning does present its challenges, as an learning model would, it also presents a variety of benefits that teachers have discovered and used to make class engaging and fun, and capitalizing on the opportunity we have been given. Before we quickly target the inconsistencies and problems of distance-learning, I hope we acknowledge and build upon the benefits, as that is how education improves and that is how we as students gain the knowledge necessary to succeed both now and in the future. To put it plainly, distance learning works and if teachers and students are given the time to continue exploring the model, we can learn new ways of learning, while also staying safe.</p>
Phoebe Lemon	<p>I am a junior at CCA and I believe that returning to in person learning starting January 4th is a terrible idea. Coronavirus cases are spiking and there will be an even larger surge after the holidays. The covid cases resulting from the re opening of our district would only add to the strain on the healthcare system. Of course I would love to return to in person learning but only when the vaccine has been distributed to everyone. This way students and staff will be safe from the virus and no one is putting themselves at risk returning to campus too early. By making the decision to stay home, I am putting the needs of others before mine. Even though being separated from my peers is extremely difficult, I know that this situation is temporary and I am willing to make this sacrifice to help save lives. Teachers should not be forced to put themselves in danger by returning to school when they are doing fantastic jobs teaching remotely. Please do not re open schools until the vaccine has been distributed to all.</p>
Richard Moon	<p>WE ARE: parents w 2 children in district, 1@TP, 1@CCA, 1 of our children as ADHD & ASD</p> <p>THRIVING: Distance learning working VERY WELL for us. QUALITY of teaching vs. spring improved a lot. Our kids have gotten more rest, sleep. Ready & alert for class. Synchronous work requires shorter, consolidated periods of focus, that my kids ENJOY and PREFER, while asynchronous work still gives enough teaching and materials for them to work on during their own time, teaching them time management skills.</p> <p>STILL SOCIALLY CONNECTED: Tech options abound (Text, Social Media). My kids tell me they are still feeling very connected to their friends, throughout the day. While physical separation is noted, they tell me they have absolutely ZERO depression or anxiety in our home. We have grown much closer as a family!</p> <p>DISTANCE LEARNING TRULY WORKS!</p>
Suzanne von Thaden	<p>Dear SDUHSD Board, Thank you to the board members who responded to our committee's email last week requesting an Aquatics Sports Standing Committee. Our group will continue to pursue this goal, looking for a clear path forward working side by side with the district in 2021. Respectfully, The SDUHSD Aquatics Committee</p>
Anonymous	<p>Please do not reopen SDUHSD schools while in this extremely dangerous health context of California's purple tier widespread COVID designation.</p> <p>The CDC says any 14-day/100,000 case rate above 200 considered the HIGHEST risk category, and San Diego County's is 708.</p> <p>Over the last week, San Diego County's average new cases increased 37%, another one of CDC's indicators.</p> <p>Please continue serving the students with the most need in the current cohort learning pod model on campus and POSTPONE ANY PLANS TO EXPAND THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS ON CAMPUS until we are at least back in the red tier with only substantial spread.</p> <p>Please keep our students, teachers, and community healthy and safe by maintaining the status quo until we are out of the purple tier.</p>
Sebastian C.	<p>My name is Sebastian and I am a 7th grader at Pacific Trails Middle School. First, I want to thank all my teachers who have worked so hard to teach us online. I think distance learning has worked really well for me. Having to keep track of my classes and assignments has given me a new level of responsibility. It can also be fun. We just did a science lab with graham crackers acting like tectonic plates. I biked to school with my brother to pick up the supplies and had fun working with my classmates in a breakout room. I think when you see how people work today distance learning is showing me a lot about the real world and what I will be doing when I am an adult. I think if I were in a classroom every day I would always be worried if I was too close to someone else because of Covid, if a person sneezes or coughs or looks sick. I think it would be hard to learn like that because I would always be worried. Please keep the distance learning model. Thank you. And thank you again to my teachers.</p>

Name	Written Comments
Shannon Kearns	I would like to ask the Board to create a committee to see what the best options are for either improving the current district office or building a new one that doesn't have a negative impact on our students. Last year, the Board surprised our community with its intent to build a 20,000 square foot district office on one of two of Earl Warren's sports fields, taking away the previous baseball and soccer fields and tennis courts. At the February meeting, one of the Board members asked whether and to what extent other alternative sites had been considered. It appeared that other options hadn't been weighed but the Board indicated that it would look into it. And then the pandemic hit and things have changed. The need for sports fields and for outside space in general throughout our district has grown exponentially. Questions about school bond funding and what it can and should fund are now more than ever critical to address and explain to parents and taxpayers. And, the school board has not done its due diligence in terms of identifying other locations that may be available, especially now when most people are working from home and that may forever be changed. Finally, at the last meeting Ms. Muir also raised an intriguing idea during the discussion regarding the district's dire need for a swimming pool for our aquatic athletes. She indicated that perhaps the field at EW could provide the space. I think that is an idea that should be considered...imagine creating something that would benefit a majority of our district rather than a select few administrators. With all of these outstanding issues I would urge the Board to create a committee to help figure out what is best for our students when deciding whether to renovate or build a new District Office. Thank you.
Tara Curley	I wanted to express my gratitude for all the work SDA administration and faculty have done this year in distance learning. They accomplished a major pivot in the way they teach, and while we all miss pre-covid school days for our children, I believe there are many skills they have all been thrust into learning that will serve them in the future. I peek in on my kids throughout the day and I can hear their teachers engaging with them through their lessons and smaller breakout groups where I also hear student to student interaction and learning. I have had 1:1 video conferencing with teachers when there have been issues, and they have been quick to respond and work out solutions. The SDA administration has been doing an excellent job with their communications to parents and virtual meetings and most importantly prioritizing bringing small cohorts of students to campus for learning and clubs. My daughters now go to campus once a week for SDA dance, and have made new friends through the club. Teaching the students to all be adapting at the google suite will benefit their education as well as future careers. The world is changing and becoming more digitally collaborative- through the online schooling they have been doing I can see that my kids are more ready than ever for the future. Bravo.
Anonymous	Thank you for giving families flexibility and allowing many priority students to return on campus. Please offer the same flexibility to teachers with legitimate reasons to instruct remotely. Thank you!
School should continue o	School should continue online schooling after Jan
Ying Yang	I'm very concerned about the consequences of losing teachers if they are required to work onsite on January 4th. I am a parent of a CCA 12th grader and CVMS 7th grader. My older child is in the middle of college application. All UC and CSU campuses are test blind this year, and the main elements to distinguish our students in their college application process are GPA and AP exam scores. If we lose teachers, I do not think even talented and responsible substitute teachers will be able to quickly climb the learning curve to teach both onsite and remote students effectively. My husband has a PhD. He admits that he will not be able to sub for any of our AP science classes because he does not know how to prepare students for AP exams, neither is he good at instructing high school students or using the latest technology to teach remote students. There is a national shortage of substitute teachers. A good friend of mine would have qualified to sub yet she will not do it because she has a son who had pneumonia and she hasn't even gone grocery shopping since March. What can you do if there are NO teachers instructing our students? How do you expect our principals recruit multiple substitutes in less than 3 instructional days? Do you think our assistant principals may clone themselves to teach all subjects such as dance, art, lab science, sign language, calculus, and coding at once. In fact, I'm less concerned about my 12th grader because he will be done for college application soon. I'm tremendously worrying about our 10th and 11th grade students. They will be FAILED by this board if you are not willing to offer flexibility for teachers with legitimate reasons to instruct remotely.
Anonymous	Thank the board for giving families flexibility and allowing many priority students to return to school. CCA already invited 100+ students to return on campus yet many families did not take the option for safety concerns. Yet many teachers also struggles at this moment. Please extend the same compassion and flexibility to your employees. My family is strongly against bringing students back to campus even just one day a week during the record-high daily covid infection. Vaccine is on the horizon, one more quarter stay home gives the stability of the learning environment, health of the students and teachers, and their family. Low quality sub is already creating problems in several classes (some are even AP classes). Our district can not afford to lose more great teachers, who are so well respected and well connected with students. We are very satisfied with the online teaching offered by the district. Please do NOT force teachers to teach on campus. How will they manage classroom and online students at the same time, without compromise the quality of teaching? Many teachers are already very very exhausted, why put more burden on them? Please do NOT create unnecessary interruption to the students' learning environment. As far as I know, CCA only has about 20% students want to go back to campus for one day. To satisfy such small group at the expense of the 80% students, and forcing teachers 100% back on campus. This is such a terrible move. Please wait another quarter, put safety and healthy of our precious teachers to the first priority. Protect teachers is first priority.
Anonymous	Please seriously consider giving our teachers flexibility to teach either in-person (at school/in classroom) or remotely for reopening in January. We all know from school district's decision, the reopening starting from Jan 2021 will still be distance learning model, even for those students who sit in classrooms. For the remote learning model, teacher can definitely fulfill their tasks either remotely or in person. If for any reason school district forces teachers to present in person, we would lose a lot qualified teachers who can't commit to come in — then all students would have to have substitute teachers (who might not have enough qualifications) or no teachers (there is a national teacher shortage as of now), and this would have significant negative impacts to all of our students, which is NOT acceptable. So please take teacher qualification and teaching quality seriously as they are critical to ALL students no matter they choose to be in-person or remote learning, and please give teachers flexibility to choose their preferred teaching location.
Item #9 - CONSENT AGENDA	
Evan Sorem	In advance of this meeting, request was made for members of the SDUHSD Board of Trustees to provide necessary information for the Board and members of the public to ensure that all decisions made by each Board member are made in the best interest of SDUHSD and the public, and are not affected by any financial, familial, or other personal interest or consideration, as required by Board Bylaws, BB 9270, titled "Conflict of Interest." As of the time of this comment, only Trustee Mossy has responded to this request. While her response is not complete — she took the time and effort to attempt to respond. No other Trustee has done so. Without the information requested in the message (available at https://bit.ly/2lRhmja), the members of the Board nor the public are able to evaluate whether there are any conflicts of interest which would make it so that items on the consent agenda should not be voted upon by certain members of the Board or make it such that any of the contracts voted upon will be voidable. This information must be provided as soon as possible to prevent any conflicts of interest from tainting the efforts of the Board.
Anonymous	In advance of this meeting, request was made for members of the SDUHSD Board of Trustees to provide necessary information for the Board and members of the public to ensure that all decisions made by each Board member are made in the best interest of SDUHSD and the public, and are not affected by any financial, familial, or other personal interest or consideration, as required by Board Bylaws, BB 9270, titled "Conflict of Interest." As of the time of this comment, only Trustee Mossy has responded to this request. While her response is not complete — she took the time and effort to attempt to respond. No other Trustee has done so. Without the information requested in the message (available at https://bit.ly/2lRhmja), the members of the Board nor the public are able to evaluate whether there are any conflicts of interest which would make it so that items on the consent agenda should not be voted upon by certain members of the Board or make it such that any of the contracts voted upon will be voidable. This information must be provided as soon as possible to prevent any conflicts of interest from tainting the efforts of the Board.
Marianne Grosner	I just have a question concerning Consent Agenda 9.a.4. I wonder if Tina Douglas or perhaps Superintendent Haley can elaborate on the \$41,000 Warrant for an Election Expense payable to the County of San Diego. I am just trying to understand what this election expense entails. Thank you.
Item #10a - CONSIDERATION OF A LETTER OF ENGAGEMENT WITH PROCOPIO, CORY, HARGREAVES & SAVITCH LLP (SUBMITTED BY TRUSTEE-ELECT ALLMAN)	
Ann Cerny	I encourage a pause in any designation of a this law firm to represent the district at this time. While Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch is a respected San Diego firm, the work of the lawyer designated as primary contact within the firm, John Lemmo seems to have a history of defending charter and private schools as a primary portion of his education work. Moreover, Mr. Allman does not have the trust of many in our community and the optics of proposing a particular law firm and lawyer upon his first board meeting, without any context of our districts legal needs or history is more than suspect. Perception matters. This one seems shady. I would ask at least that a deeper assessment is made of Mr. Lemmo's past work with PUBLIC school districts, and research references of previous public school clients of his. I would also review cases where he opposed public school districts, analyzing any of his legal positions & opinions that may run counter to the needs of our district.
Anonymous	Do not approve this. Hiring a charter school advocate as legal counsel is absolutely a conflict of interest for this public school district. Do not take away funds from our school. Do not cater to the personal agenda of Allman. Do not let this go unnoticed. Lemmo from Procopio is a charter school speaker, advocate, proponent - and he does not have the district's best interest in mind. He has Allman's charter school agenda in mind.
0	Procopio law firm has represented the neighbors that blocked the construction of the Cardiff School District. They FOUGHT AGAINST CARDIFF SCHOOL DISTRICT AND KIDS, and they LOST. They are currently in a case AGAINST DEL MAR UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT, again blocking education and progress for kids. Why does our board need to hire litigators to represent ONLY the board? Parents, you should be very, very concerned.
Anonymous	With how little information we were given regarding the relationship with this law firm, as well as their clear advocacy of the Charter School movement, I have no rationale clue why we would be engaging with this law firm, unless there is some sort of backroom deal happening with the Board.
Erika Fugit	Dear Board, This comment is to express my profound disappointment and bafflement in hearing that you wish to engage Procopio,Cory,Hargreaves &Savitch for legal services despite their role in attempting to block the Cardiff Elementary School build. It seems like there is an inherent conflict of interest in doing business with a company who does not have the public education of the kids of Cardiff in mind. I hope the board reconsiders this engagement and is able to retain another law firm who does not already have a reputation for creating discord in our community. Regards, Erika Fugit
Erin Charnow	I am concerned with the adoption of the law firm Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves, and Savitch LLP. My concerns come forth that there has been no process put forth by the district to engage in a process to find a new law firm, to compare Procopio to other law firms that may be able to serve the district. No reasoning has been given to abandon our current law firm. No comparison of our current law firm to Procopio or others. Nothing has been on any public agendas prior to this for public comment. I can find pricing for the law firm (\$2,500 immediately, \$350 per hour, added on fees and expenses for photocopying, mileage, computer research, clerical services, electronically stored information processing), but I see nothing that shows why THIS law firm and how they compare to other firms. I am left wondering why do we have this sudden need? What is the purpose and what type of service(s) will Procopio be performing for our district that our current law firm does not do? With two new board members and this not being on the agenda before clearly no board member could have had an open and honest opportunity to look into why we need a new law firm. If Procopio gets adopted tonight it is clear that there has not been an open and honest vetting process as to the need of this law firm or if they are the law firm that should represent our district. Without an adequate search and vetting process for a new law firm it puts in my mind that there may be personal connections and information that is not being presented open and honestly to the public. Thank You Erin Charnow LCC
Nick Goldberg	Procopio is the wrong choice for our community's legal needs. Regardless of your position on the cardinal elementary legal matter, it would be a horrible decision to engage the law firm responsible for 500k+ in losses for our sister school and students. These very students in only a few years will likely attend this school and it would be doing them a great disservice to hire the firm that conspired with a former partner to balk those very students the same community from educational opportunities. Please reconsider as there are many other qualified firms available. Thank you
Anonymous	Open ended service contracts such as those proposed for retention of Legal services can be a significant drain on financial resources. As such I believe it would be prudent to perform due diligence and establish an open bid approach to identify the best firm that provides the greatest value for the expected expense. I also believe it prudent to expand the required conflict of interest disclosures when a single board member proposes a services contract to include previous business dealings and campaign contributions. I find it concerning that a board member not yet installed appears to have negotiated services on behalf of the board and while intentions may be genuine I believe it in the best interest of the board to expand the search for legal services should there be determined a need for them.
Kenyon Woolley	I strongly object to the Board retaining Procopio for any services. As a lawyer, I understand the distinction between attorney and client, yet I also know that law firms choose which clients they wish to represent and Procopio has chosen to represent multiple entities who have gone after sister school districts, cost taxpayers millions of dollars in settlements and increased costs, and who have made the school environment less safe for children during a pandemic. Giving Procopio your business right now is the worst example of rewarding bad behavior, and will be viewed as a slap in the face to Cardiff students, parents, school administrators and taxpayers.
Anonymous	This lawsuit's website says they * If you view charter or private schools as opportunities to improve public education, we are aligned with you. We want to help you make a positive difference. Our attorneys have a genuine passion for charter and private schools and their approach to education * I am concerned that this law firm does not have the needs of public education at the forefront of its concerns. This does not seem to be in the best interest of our schools or students.
Anonymous	I am writing to express my disappointment and shock that SDUHSD would consider retaining Procopio, the same law firm that sued Cardiff Elementary on behalf of a few plaintiffs trying to block the voter-approved re-construction of a dilapidated elementary school. Procopio succeeded in taking over half a million dollars of Encinitas' taxpayer money in a settlement this spring. Their representation also denied Cardiff students a completed school, and resulted in elementary students attending school in a construction zone without much outdoor space, all in the middle of a pandemic. And they are currently representing plaintiffs suing Del Mar Heights, challenging their school's rebuild. This is clearly not a law firm that has the best interests of students, or schools, at heart. There are plenty of reputable firms in San Diego and SDUHSD should retain one that not only advocates for students' interests, but also has not just lined its own pockets by suing a sister school district. Do not give Procopio any more taxpayer money.
No Name	Why does Mr. Allman seem to want so much power in our district? As a new board member and someone whose children did not attend any of our schools, what is his motive? Why is he now trying to get the district to hire a law firm and what is he trying to hide and protect? This law firm has a backing in charter and private schools. What is Mr. Allman trying to do to our district?
Anonymous	Please do NOT consider hiring Procopio. Procopio has already taken part in suing the Cardiff School District. I do not believe they have the school's best interest in mind.
Anonymous	Why is it necessary for trustee-elect Allman to engage his own handpicked legal counsel at the expense of the district? I am fearful for what kind of fight we are bracing ourselves for if we need cherry-picked lawyers to be at the ready. I can think of more productive ways to achieve collaborative progress and am highly suspicious of engaging a firm that has been hand picked by a board member with an obvious agenda. Please proceed with extreme caution.

Name	Written Comments
Anonymous	<p>I oppose the contract to hire John C. Lemmo of Procopio.</p> <p>John C. Lemmo is a specialist in advocating for Charter Schools. One look at his online profile clearly indicates he is an active advocate for charter schools. He has been a presenter or co-presenter at no less than 30 seminars demonstrating his expertise in advocating for California Charter Schools. He is the personal selection of a new trustee to the board Allman. Mr. Allman has no experience in the administration of a public school system nor does he have any idea what the legal needs for a public school system are. I assert that Mr. Lemmo's interests in establishing charter schools and diverting public funds to them result in a conflict of interest. Legal counsel for public schools should be neutral parties and not advocates of charter schools over public schools. Are you going to hire a professional litigator whose focus is on taking funding away from public schools? I find this power grab to be even more appalling than Mr. Allman's public vilification of the SDUHSD's teachers.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Choosing legal counsel is a big decision. Legal representation is a big financial expense and impacts the quality of representation, meaning it affects whether the District has guidance needed to make legally sound decisions. Currently, our District's most urgent and apparent need is legal counsel who are skilled & experienced in union matters, including teacher's union negotiations and related litigation. The District has a fiduciary duty to act thoughtfully & responsibly regarding such an impactful decision as selection of new legal counsel. This proposal is brought by a new trustee at his first meeting and does not provide any other firms to compare with Procopio. Procopio's website emphasizes ample experience in charter school law, which is not relevant. There are many other options for legal representation that are more in line with our current legal needs for union negotiations. Please tell us what other law firms were considered? What is their comparative experience in working with public school districts (versus private/charter schools as emphasized on Procopio's website)? How much union experience do they have? As trustees responsible for protecting public money, have you done due diligence in comparing rates and services against other firms? Please wait to vote until you have considered multiple options and can make an informed choice.</p>
anonymous	<p>From what I understand, the school district has a law firm that they have been working with. What is the purpose of changing law firms? The agenda shows that the newly elected trustee is putting this item on the agenda, so why? Has our district requested a new law firm or is he just wanting to put his friends and/or like-minded individuals on our payroll? If our district is in need of new representation, why are you not going out for competitive bidding and review like all other contracts are negotiated? It looks like a newly elected trustee thinks that this school district is his company that he is in control. Once again, the public should be reminded that he chose to send his children to a local private school and has had never worked with our schools like the other board members have. Once again, Mr. Allman is trying to take control and push his personal agenda upon a school district that he only lives in, and NEVER been a member of. Once again, Mr. Allman should be reminded that he is one of five members of a publicly elected governing body and that he has never been a public servant, nor involved with ANY part of SDUHSD before, and should learn more about his new role and who he now works for. Please vote NO on this agenda item as it has not been properly reviewed through the proper channels.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Regarding the November 13, 2020 letter from the law firm Procopio, et al., to Mr. Allman, I am concerned that Michael Allman seems to have passed himself off as a member of SDUHSD school to the law firm when, in fact, he was not a member of the school board at that time. What else has Mr. Allman been lying about?</p> <p>In addition, the firm's website states: "If you view charter or private schools as opportunities to improve public education, we are aligned with you" and "Our attorneys have a genuine passion for charter and private schools..." (https://www.procopio.com/practice-areas/view/charter-schools-and-education).</p> <p>Why does Mr. Allman want this firm to represent a public school district? Does Mr. Allman champion charter and private schools, since his children attended private schools instead of our public schools, thus he and the law firm are aligned? If so, should he be making decisions for a public school district? Why would the board of a public school district want to retain a law firm that seems to hold anti-public school sentiment? I strongly encourage the board to reject Mr. Allman's proposal.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Interesting that Mr. Allman, in his first board meeting already has a contract drawn up and a lawyer selected with a big downtown law firm. This is the FIRST item he has chosen to represent his new reign on the board. Think about that if you are one of the 309 people who put him over the top in the recent election. How does this directly benefit students? Does this benefit transparency? Is this to protect him from the libelous, and odious language he engages in emails? Doesn't the district already have legal firms on retainer? Given Dr. Haley's past experience with exorbitant legal expenses in other districts, the last thing this district needs are more expensive lawyers. Why not a proposal of SDUHSD to vet relationships between Board members, administrative officials and vendors for potential conflicts of interest? Maybe a better agenda item to consider Mr. Allman is campaign finance limits for school board elections and real transparency.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I understand that the board is focused on providing greater transparency and communication. Before making a decision on engaging a new law firm, how about letting us know why? How about giving us a view into which firms were reviewed, and why this particular one was chosen? Please provide better visibility into this matter before proceeding with recommending a particular firm.</p>
anonymous	<p>When hiring a law firm to represent SDUHSD, please go through proper channels of stakeholder discussion of needs, vetting firms, as well as competitive bids. Please do not act irresponsibly and just accept one letter of engagement of an unvetted firm from a brand new trustee with no school board experience at face value.</p>
Anonymous	<p>If you do your due diligence, you will know immediately that Procopio does not put our children's best interest first, or anywhere at all. Please do not give any more money to a firm who sued your sister school district, kept Cardiff kids out of a voter-approved safe campus, and our community out of their tax dollars. They are also currently in the process of suing other local school. How can we hire a firm who takes away from our kids, for our kids? Please do the right thing and do not hire Procopio.</p>
<p>Item #10b - REPORT REGARDING THE 2020-21 ACADEMIC YEAR REOPENING OF SCHOOLS CONSISTENT WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH MANDATE/GUIDELINES AND THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER</p>	
Jason Todd Ipson, MD	<p>It is clear from these comments that the Union is trying to stack comments to imply that we should not be opening schools. All of the comments imply that parents do not want the kids back in school. This is ABSOLUTELY NOT TRUE. It is also in defiance of the science and recommendations of the CDC, WHO, and Pediatrics Association. The children are being hurt in unrecoverable ways. To me, it is embarrassing to see the Teachers Unions not supporting their students.</p> <p>Additionally, there is a growing movement in one culture in particular to keep kids out of schools because the grading is easier and this is seen as bolstering the chances of "getting into a better University." This is one of the most upsetting ideas I have ever heard of! Trash your children's High School experience so they can get into a better University? Enough is enough...</p> <p>The burden is on the board to lead. The children need in person classroom education. A plan that allows those that do not wish to return to stay online, but everyone else to return 5 days a week is not only fair - it is morally what you are obliged to do.</p> <p>I am a physician taking care of Covid patients regularly. Our grocery store employees are taking care of society. Why on earth are we allowing schools to remain closed? This is unethical.</p> <p>Do not continue to take politics over our children. Please put a plan in place too reopen now. Thank you.</p>
Aakash Mishra	<p>To all of the board members,</p>
Anonymous	<p>May I request something from all of you? I would like the board to think pragmatically and prudently. That is, I hope you contemplate the reopening plan realistically and keep in mind the possible outcomes of reopening when COVID-19 cases are sky high in our state. I am genuinely baffled by the idea of reopening schools on January 4th, as we are on an upward trend of COVID cases and it is obvious that reopening for in-person learning to any extent is not a safe option for families. Though I am aware that some of you may be new to the position of a board member, I nevertheless request you to consider the reopening decision not as a mere trustee, but as a delegate of the families at SDUHSD. We are asking you to reopen safely, not quickly. And what use is a democratic board if it doesn't support the beliefs of its constituents? I leave the rest of my time for any responses from the board members. Thank you.</p>
Adam Fischer	<p>The current reopening plan is very insufficient in many ways.</p>
Anonymous	<p>First, safety standards are woefully inadequate. Compared to expert recommendations from UCSD, who Superintendent Haley has referenced meeting with: 1)The recommendations state to not open unless community transmission is under 100 cases per 14 days per 100,000 people. San Diego is currently over 7 times that. Also there should be less than 7 outbreaks over a 7-day period. San Diego is at 51. 2)Ventilation and filtration is inadequate. Filters are not worthwhile unless they are MERV 13 – the district only goes to MERV 11. Air should be exchanged every 7-12 minutes – the district is only shooting for half that rate. The HEPA air purifiers are only rated for 360 square feet despite being used in classrooms almost 3 times bigger. 3)Regular testing has been demonstrated to be key by UCSD and adopted by San Diego Unified in planning to test all students 2 times per week. We are planning no regular testing of students. 4)And there are many more safety issues.</p> <p>And we hear a lot about offering students a choice. However, what about the teachers who have a medical condition or a family member with a medical condition or who just aren't in a position to put their lives in danger with this reckless plan? They are being given no such choice – it's either endanger themselves and their family or have to go out on leave. And then what happens to their students? 10-20% or more of teachers have said they will go on leave. Do we really want their students to have to have a substitute for many months? And that's if a substitute could even be found, given the shortage.</p> <p>A proper reopening plan would consist of the following: 1)Follow expert safety recommendations 2)Open when the county has been out of the purple tier for 14 days 3)Provide teachers the option to teach effectively from home 4)Ensure there is academic equity and all students are offered the same quality of education and attention from teachers, whether remote or in-person</p>
Adriana Sherman	<p>With all staff considered "Essential workers", a few teachers and a handful of students attending Torrey Pines High School, we have had 4 people test positive for Covid within the last 2 school days. It is hard to believe that you are willing to risk the lives of other people when students' attendance has been more than stellar from Distance Learning.</p>
Amber La-Haise	<p>Our son has been allowed to attend school on campus two days a week. One is spent sitting in an area with a few other kids on their own computers with headphones. He dreads these days as there is very minimal interaction with others. But on the other day he gets to be in a classroom with a real live person. He loves this day and comes alive. He enjoys school and is a much happier person, he feels like he is learning.</p> <p>There should be a choice for those of us that want to send our kids to school. I was given a choice when this started to either work or quit. As the schools didn't open and I had to remain home with my kids, I had to collect unemployment. There is no reason teachers should be given any other offer. They can make the choice of what works for them and their families. Anyone that would prefer to work in a distance format can seek a job that has that as an option.</p> <p>Kids and families continue to suffer as the schools remain "open" for only a select few. There are no more than 20 other students on campus with our son. Out of his six teachers three have been teaching from their classrooms from day one. Those teachers are the most organized and engaging. They are professional and on google meets with their class the whole time. The other three push out slides and assignments for the students to complete on their own. On Wellness Wednesday over half of his teachers don't even bother to log on for a google meet.</p> <p>The time has come for the schools to open for all of their students and provide them with the option of learning on campus or from a distance. Our students are falling further and further behind each day that you continue to give in to the union. Please move forward with opening the campuses and getting these students back to in person learning. You have provided the schools and the teachers with all of the safety measures needed and requested by the professionals.</p>
Amy Seose Caterina	<p>I am in support of a safe school re-opening.</p>
Andie Gately	<p>I would like to offer a student's perspective on the reopening plans. Thank you for being receptive and for valuing your students' voices. First, opening up schools for one day a week with the current plan will not improve our mental health. We will sit in almost empty classes, attending our Google Meets with headphones in, and we will not be allowed to socialize during breaks. Additionally, the last thing we as students want is to put our teachers in danger. They should not be forced to teach in an unsafe environment. Teachers have spent the past 9 months adjusting to distance learning, and they have done a fantastic job with it. The work that they have put in to teach us would be thrown away with this new model, where they would have to teach students both in-person and online simultaneously. In returning, they would be risking their life and the lives of their family members. This hybrid model helps no one and hurts all. The COVID vaccine is only a few months away from being distributed. Why rush returning in this way that does not benefit the students? Let us be patient, let us protect our teachers, and, in these 3 months of waiting, let us focus on what will truly help students: getting clubs back on campus. Instead of spending the money on renovations for classrooms and putting teachers at risk for a situation that almost no student would enjoy, put that money towards helping clubs. Clubs will give students the opportunity to socialize with their friends and are safer than classes because they can meet outside. Why risk super-spreading the disease 3 months before this nightmare is over? Let's come back when it is safe. The students ask for patience. We ask that you do not make us the reasons for our teachers' risk. We ask the Board to empathize with our teachers as the students do.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Please provide the option to have students attend school full time or continue distance learning. Distance learning is not working for our children nor for many other students in the district. Schools are not dangerous as many schools in the county, state, across the country and around the world have illustrated. Students at home in distance learning is dangerous. Not just in the pure loss of academics but the lasting damage to their social and emotional well-being. Schools can be opened safely. The plan is in place. The schools have met the physical requirements of the plan. The next step is to add the students to the one place they are supposed to be – in School.</p>
Anonymous	<p>The SDUHSD is misleading parents by claiming in your 12/4/2020 letter that, "Our schools remain open" and then affirming your commitment to continue working towards the goal of one-day a week in-person instruction beginning 1/4/2020.</p> <p>In fact, the covid-19 sdcoe.net website confirms the SDUHSD "reopening status" has ZERO In-Person students attending your schools. Further, the CALIFORNIA ALL COVID19.CA.GOV website makes the distinction between schools that opened for in-person instruction when the county was in a less restrictive tier, and schools that serve "serve small cohorts of students (e.g., students with disabilities) that are NOT open to the general student body. This is the status of SDUHSD. This district is NOT open for in-person instruction, but rather serves small cohorts of students with special needs, disabilities, IEP, etc. At Torrey Pines High School and CCAI, you have listed 5,024 students who are NOT learning in-person and only 25 students with special needs who are in a "hybrid" students. Clearly, your schools are NOT open for in-person instruction. The website states that schools serving small cohorts of disabled students, may continue to do so, however per the SanDiegoCounty.gov and CDPHI Guidelines, schools can only reopen for in-person instruction once their county has been in the Substantial (red) tier for at least two weeks. To falsely represent your schools as "remaining open" when in fact they are not, is to twist reality and to endanger the lives and health of your teachers, students, administrators, families of students, and the community at large. You can learn much from the behavior of San Diego Union District whose leaders acted with wisdom and responsibility by postponing their reopening. Finally, it is noteworthy that the CDC requires you to have "front facing" current information related to student attendance on your site (in-person vs distant vs hybrid). I have been unable to find this posted on your site. To do so would contradict your false assertion that the SDUHSD "will remain open".</p>

Name	Written Comments
Molly Schneider	Local community conditions are clearly not where we'd like. While we very much want to return more or all students to campus, Covid transmission rates are out of control and healthcare capacity is dangerously reduced. SDUHSD should delay reopening for more students until San Diego County is out of the purple tier, focusing instead on keeping only students with prioritized needs on campus until infections are under control as recommended by protocols set forth by UC San Diego Return to Learn program. While the district is trying to implement more safety measures, currently proposed safety protocols are NOT sufficient for a sustainable reopening for all students. The lack of testing plans, ventilation and distance all put us at a disadvantage for sustained in-person learning. We fall short compared to SDUSD, UCSD and neighboring private school plans. On the brighter side of what we are doing, I am thankful to see in the presentation for this meeting that "the majority of our students are demonstrating healthy social-emotional competencies" with 77% responding positively when surveyed. Attendance is high and distance learning is clearly a safe, stable and sustainable option at this moment. Stability is key to students well being. Please follow guidelines from respected scientific community (UCSD) and concentrate efforts to excellently educate our students and support our staff during these challenging times.
beth munce	I don't think the broad public is aware of how horrible online only school is going. This is how my daughter's high school English class went today. I listened to the teacher, head down, baseball cap on (so students could not even see her FACE) read and read and read and read a text. No student engagement, no read aloud, no passing the reading around the room to other students, no questions or answers as she went, no breakouts, no other visual stimuli, no movement, no sense of humor, no NOTHING. Just a baseball cap, and sound. For almost an hour. My daughter told me (through her own tears) that 3 of her friends turned their video off during class to cry. This is the best we can do? This is the great online model we are so proud of?
Brad Silcox	The large majority of students and parents in this district want students to return to school as soon as possible. Please continue on with these plans. Other districts, including many in Orange County, along with private schools have shown it can be done in a safe and effective way for students, teachers, administrators and parents. Our students are suffering both on academic and social levels due to full time distance learning. Don't be satisfied with just one day a week of in school attendance, press forward for five days in the classroom with engaged, supportive teachers. Our students deserve better than what they are getting right now which is isolation, depression, and anxiety.
Anonymous	To the Board: Please open the schools as soon as possible. The District has had a sufficient amount of time to procure and prepare. The Union does not support learning for our kids. Get the students back into school FULL TIME as soon as possible.
Cheryl Dunbar	I am writing in support of a reopening plan. It is important that all students in our district have the option to return to campus in January if they choose. Contrary to what some may say, our students are not "fine" in this distance learning set-up. The isolation of home learning has led to stress, anxiety and loneliness and our kids need to be back in person with their teacher and their peers. Socialization is a huge part of education, and with our current model, our students are not getting what they need to be successful.
Anonymous	I am a parent of a SDA and an LCC student. I also have a child in a charter school that has been back in-person since October. This district is failing my family. After the 2nd quarter, the kids need to be back in school like other kids all across the country. My children are not being treated fairly or equally and they are suffering. On screens all day every day is HORRIBLE. They are not learning anything and will not be prepared for the next grade much less college. Follow the science and OPEN our schools to in-person learning in JANUARY 2021. 5 days a week.
Anonymous	I am a freshman at LCC. I am ready to go to in-person school 5 days a week NOW. Distance learning is not working for me and my grades are slipping. I am a strong math student and I had to have a tutor! I am also lonely from not attending school in person. I have friends in private schools that have been open for quite some time. This district is failing me and my family. Please open my school.
Anonymous	We do not support sending children back to school full time in January. Please reconsider bringing them back 1-2 days at a time on a tier basis. This will allow the administration/teachers/students etc. to acclimate to school learning and teaching in this new COVID environment.
Anonymous	In-person instruction is key to the education of our children. Their education is suffering due to the continued closure of schools in the San Dieguito School District, especially in relation to science education, conservatory, and social interactions. The risk of COVID-19 can be mitigated and should NO LONGER prevent our children from receiving the educational experience they deserve.
Cyndi Darlington	I am imploring you to move forward with the Safe Reopening of our schools. As a parent of an 8th grader at Oak Crest and 11th grader at SDA, I can tell you that the Distance Learning Model is not working. My kids are doing fine with grades, but socially and emotionally they are suffering greatly. They have lost their passion for school and even for leaving their room many days. Their favorite subjects have become a chore, and they are dealing with headaches, eye problems and other issues from too much screen time. However, I know also that they have many advantages so I am most concerned for other kids in our district that don't have an ideal home situation, people to lean on and trust. They desperately need to be on campus. We can do this safely. The CDC and government leaders have been very clear - school is safe, and that's where kids need to be. Our kids have been waiting for your leadership. Please, please, please move forward with getting them on campus safely as the top priority. We simply cannot wait any longer.
Anonymous	I am a parent of two SDUHSD students. The distance learning has GOT to come to an end. Those with means can put their kids in private schools or move out of CA for in-person school. Our kids have the right to an education in GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS and overall they are not getting it. Kids in private, charter and neighboring states are UNFAIR and UNEQUAL!!! It's time to follow the science and allow kids back to school. Even Dr. Fauci says schools should be open. NOW. Not later. NOW!!!
Anonymous	Please continue the plan and path of reopening schools. Our children are depending on you to provide them with a high quality education and unfortunately, distance learning is not that. My own children have reached a point where the uncertainty, lack of clarity has affected their mental well being. Children and teens absolutely need each other - the intrinsic benefit of sitting in a classroom with their peers, feeling connected to their campus and community cannot properly be put in to words. This debate about reopening has not focused nearly enough on our kids-who are the reason for all of this. There has been too much talk and not enough action. Please do the right thing for all of the kids in this district-offer the choice of in person or distance learning. Your choices have a great effect on the futures of all our kids. Thank you.
Diana E SPRAGG	We are currently experiencing a sharp rise in COVID cases in our area. The medical community predicts the same kind of surge (upon our current surge) in early to mid-January, after people undoubtedly gather for the winter holidays. Opening schools on January 4 would not give the community the buffer needed for symptoms to show themselves, for people to get tested, and for people to get those test results back in time to make responsible decisions about attending school and reporting to work. People will have been exposed and infected over winter break, not yet know it, and arrive at school ready to spread and catch this virus. Such exposure would put our entire community at risk. By requiring teachers to report to work on January 4 (or to exhaust their leave), you are intentionally putting SDUHSD's greatest asset at significant risk. SHAME ON YOU. How will students fare emotionally and academically when their friends and teachers fall ill and when sick teachers are replaced by inexperienced shortterm and longterm subs? Students in grades 7-12 need the support of subject matter specialists, something they simply will not get with substitutes. Sending staff and students back to school on Jan 4 will alienate your staff, increase the stress and anxiety of both students and staff, and you will set yourself up for a logistical and academic staffing/substitute nightmare. Please delay our expanding school openings for the safety of all of us.
david a peck	As the parent of a Torrey Pines High School sophomore, I STRONGLY urge the school board to do everything possible to reopen the campuses to all students without further delay. My son's grades, spirits, and emotional well being are suffering great harm by keeping the campuses closed. The emotional harm of missing these irreplaceable high school years is causing far greater damage than would covid. We can be smart and safe and STILL open the campuses. The students' well being should be the top priority.
Anonymous	I am a parent of two SDUHSD students. The distance learning has GOT to come to an end. Those with means can put their kids in private schools or move out of CA for in-person school. Our kids have the right to an education in GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS and overall they are not getting it. Kids in private, charter and neighboring states are UNFAIR and UNEQUAL!!! It's time to follow the science and allow kids back to school. Even Dr. Fauci says schools should be open. NOW. Not later. NOW!!!
n/a	The distance learning model is not working for my kids. My kids don't learn well from a computer screen, they need to be on campus learning in person with their peers and teachers.
Anonymous Student	<p>I AM AN OAK CREST STUDENT WHO HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN DISTANCE LEARNING. I HAVE WONDERFUL TEACHERS, AND I HAVE LEARNED SO MUCH FROM THEM THIS YEAR.</p> <p>THAT BEING SAID, I WAS HONESTLY EXCITED TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL IN JANUARY, BUT NOW I'M WORRIED THAT MY AND OTHER STUDENTS' EDUCATION AND WELL-BEING WILL SUFFER.</p> <p>IT WOULD BE VERY STRESSFUL FOR STUDENTS TO HAVE TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL UNDER THESE DIRE CIRCUMSTANCES.</p> <p>OUR COUNTY IS IN THE PURPLE TIER. OUR GOVERNOR HAS PUT IN PLACE A STAY-AT-HOME ORDER, OUR CASE RATE IS SPIKING, AND THE NUMBER OF CASES HAS HIT RECORD HIGHS OVER THE LAST FEW WEEKS. HOSPITALS ARE FILLING UP, AND THE VIRUS IS SPREADING.</p> <p>THIS IS THE GRAVITY OF THE SITUATION THAT WE ARE IN, AS DESCRIBED BY A PARTIALLY OBLIVIOUS AND SOMEWHAT NAIVE MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT.</p> <p>I AM SURE THAT THERE ARE MORE TERRIFYING FACTS THAT MY PARENTS HAVE SPARED ME THE DETAILS OF.</p> <p>NOW, I AM GOING TO SAY THIS FLAT-OUT - OUR SCHOOLS SHOULD NOT BE OPENING.</p> <p>I WAS PLANNING ON, AND LOOKING FORWARD TO, COMING BACK TO SCHOOL SAFELY - WHEN WE WERE IN THE RED TIER.</p> <p>BUT NOW, IN THE PURPLE TIER, I AM (FRANKLY) SHOCKED THAT YOU ARE STILL CONTINUING WITH YOUR PLAN TO OPEN UP SCHOOLS.</p> <p>KIDS WILL BE PUT IN DANGER. TEACHERS WILL RETIRE, AND THE VALUE OF OUR SCHOOLS WILL DIP.</p> <p>COVID-19 IS SPREADING ALREADY, AND IF THE SCHOOLS IN SDUHSD OPEN UP, THE VIRUS WILL SPREAD EVEN MORE QUICKLY.</p> <p>PLEASE HELP KEEP YOUR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS AND STAFF MEMBERS - AND THEIR FAMILIES - SAFE, AND KEEP OUR SCHOOLS CLOSED UNTIL CASES HAVE GONE DOWN AND OUR COMMUNITY IS SAFER.</p> <p>THIS IS A VERY DANGEROUS AND IMPORTANT ISSUE, FOR PEOPLE'S LIVES ARE AT STAKE.</p> <p>DO NOT TAKE THIS COMMENT LIGHTLY, BUT TAKE IT TO HEART, AND THINK OF THE POOR STUDENTS WHO ARE BEING PUT AT RISK AND WOULD BE STRESSED ABOUT GOING TO SCHOOL.</p> <p>THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Dear SDUHSD,</p> <p>We want schools OPEN!!!</p> <p>I have been a resident in the SDUHSD for over 50 years. I have 4 kids who have been in the district spanning over 30 years. My husband is "over 65" and has a pre-existing heart condition. My brother, my mother, my dad all have preexisting conditions. That being said, our family still wants the schools to open full time (back to normal as much as normal can be). As parents, it is our responsibility to do whatever we must to allow our children a promising future. As parents, we should be able to look past the needs of ourselves and realize that it is in the best interest of the kids to OPEN the schools and give these kids some normalcy during these trying times. My family believes that having them back to school is the only way to ensure the mental health, emotional strength and social needs that our kids need to survive in todays world. The kids in our district should know how to live with this virus by now. Social Distancing, washing their hands and wearing a mask is second nature to these kids. If the "littles" in elementary schools can do it, one should assume that the older kids should be able to as well.</p> <p>It is the School District's responsibility to put the needs of the kids (ALL THE KIDS) as a top priority and the current educational format is not working nor is the 1 day per week as provided in other districts. California kids are failing!!! SDUHSD kids are failing!!!</p> <p>Please get these kids back to some sense of normalcy and open our district's schools.</p> <p>Thank you!</p>
Anonymous	<p>Persisting with this chronic and continued spiraling fear of the virus is now stoking morally outrageous racist sentiments against our kind Chinese neighbors simply because of where the virus originated. Please everybody: Stop racism. Stop masking. Stop remote learning (except as needed). We need to live free again and show our faces to each other. Performance arts, science classes, athletics, all of these are built for personal live instruction and have been for centuries. Virtual class is a horrible and insufficient ad hoc kludge compared to live. Just the ease of "same air" fast verbal interaction and noting simple facial cues enhance the teaching and learning experience. Remote is always on delay with blinders on the teacher, multioverlapping and reluctance to use technology slows the process. Struggling kids suffer more. Special needs kids suffer most. Grades and test scores are slipping even while online cheating is rampant, some families attend class VERY remotely, like from different states or countries now, and college admissions based on GPA will have asterisks. Now that the election is over and Trump is lost, it is time to put rhetoric behind us and come together, return to normal traditional life, with pre-2019 rules. FULL IN-PERSON BARE-FACE learning is the only way for children to acquire information most efficiently, establish good social skills and morals, become and stay fit, and appreciate their fellow human beings. Innocent kids enduring sterile bedroom imprisonment with a sentence of staring at a monitor sometimes for 10+ hours per day, and some weekends too, is not a prescription for healthy eyes, a healthy life or mind. Mumbling through masks at (a proper) lunchtime is not without downside risk: it is a psychologically damaging ritual with little benefit, it causes "maskne" and lung infection cases from chronic mask use is a real thing now. Let kids live. Hold hands. Hug. Walk together, be human.</p>
Christian Klas	<p>This school district and the teachers' unions have to find a way to cooperate for the sake of our students' academic education and mental health. You have to bring our students and teachers back on campus safely! This should be about our students and schools only and not about politics. Most of our students would not be directly impacted by Covid-19 yet they are paying a very high price right now and in the future by not getting the education they deserve. Life needs to go on for everyone and our school district and our schools have so far failed to present any solutions to bring our students and teachers back safely. I heard that about 10% of the teachers can't or don't want to come back due to their age or pre-existing conditions. How can you not live up to this challenge, be flexible and provide for those teachers who have a medical waiver to be able to teach from home while letting the rest of the teachers as well as all students who choose to do so come back on campus? Unprecedented times ask for unprecedented solutions. Keeping our children out of school for such an extended amount of time without even presenting a solid reopening plan is a clear dereliction of your duties to our children. I hope the new school board will finally live up to the high expectations I had when I moved my family to this school district a couple of years ago.</p>

Name	Written Comments
Duncan Brown	<p>The items that this board has not addressed in the plan to reopen is staggering.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Current Public Health Order to Stay at Home - Current Purple Tier Status - Current & Alarming Surges in Positive COVID cases county wide. "Alarming" was the word your own health experts used. - Going back immediately after Winter Break and 72 hours after New Year's Eve -No student baseline testing -No provisions for teachers with medical conditions to teach virtually -A statewide shortage of qualified teachers and substitutes shortage -Students merely three feet away from each other during classes that last over an hour. Be reminded that the minimum standard for close contact is 6 feet for 15 minutes. -Indoor hallways attached to 15 classrooms and 5 minute passing periods -Lunchtime with students on campus as restaurants aren't open for in-store dining -Inferior ventilation systems that can not catch COVID spores unless they attach to another particle <p>Let me re-address my concern about not providing medically compromised teachers the flexibility to teach from home, since I know many of my colleagues will address the other issues listed.</p> <p>I find the lack of compassion for reasonable accommodations for employees who want to work but are unable because of medical reasons appalling. Since I cannot appeal to your sense of compassion, I hope that practically may give you pause. Please consider the negative impact this will have on the district. For the sake of instructional integrity and continuity, we are asking you to allow some educators an option to work from home.</p>
David Wojtkowski	<p>I am a parent of a Torrey Pines High School 10th grader and a Carmel Valley Middle School 8th grader. Both of my children have become disengaged and completely uninterested in school - their grades and general education have suffered immensely.</p> <p>Although I believe the teachers are doing the very best they can in distance learning - that method of teaching is so far below in person. The District has been talking about a return to in person for months now; meanwhile so many other schools around the country in the same or worse COVID situation than us have returned successfully. Just to the north of us the Newport Mesa public school district with schools in similar size to our own has been successfully open incorporating a similar re-opening safety plan to ours and has had very low COVID positive cases and no reported school transmissions. Cathedral Catholic right next door to our district has been successfully open for months. The Del Mar Union School District has been open since September with very low disruptions...and a lot of happy students and families.</p> <p>A forward thinking and acting school district like SDUHSD should have been open months ago. We have a number of experts around the globe saying that the risk of schools being open is less than the risk of them continuing in distance learning. The current plan is failing a significant segment of our population. Today's kids have been asked to sacrifice too much during this pandemic. Please get our schools on track to open and get our kids the education they deserve.</p>
Liz Marshall	<p>Thank you for allowing me to speak here at this board meeting but most importantly to teach your children. Unfortunately, the job I love so much changed drastically on March 13th, 2020. As you know, we immediately pivoted our teaching plans and case management delivery. It has not been an easy task, but there have been many rewards. On October 12th, as a special education teacher, I was required to return to campus and to have students in my classroom. At first, I was excited and couldn't wait to see my students face-to-face. But, this isn't how I expected it to be. The model you are proposing (distance learning while sitting in a classroom) is not what your children want. They want school back to normal. What I'm doing is not normal. Students aren't getting that one-on-one, face-to-face attention they have come to expect. Several of the students that were invited back to campus for "in-person" learning have decided that they would prefer to stay home.</p> <p>Some of my special education colleagues are with the same students for six hours. Some of the students due to medical issues are not able to wear masks and require a great deal of additional support. The district's definition of close contact of 15 minutes within six feet should be considered especially in these classrooms. Our classrooms are not prepared for the number of students that the district is planning on bringing back. There is no way to social distance 17 students in my classroom. There is not proper ventilation and filtering to keep us safe. Plus, they are not planning on cleaning between classes. You have to know that all the teachers in this district are phenomenal. I am very privileged to say I have been a special education teacher in this district for the past 19 years and before that, I was an instructional aide. This is the job I was meant to do. Please, please reconsider the plans for reopening in January and the district's protocols for close contact, especially in these specialized programs. For there to be the same criteria is not sound and it puts everyone in those classrooms at risk.</p>
Anonymous	<p>0 deaths in San Diego under age of 20; teachers are essential workers; kids need to be in school; dmsud opened for 3 months successfully</p>
Erin Charnow	<p>One concern I have is opening without a clear plan and logistics in place with regards to staffing challenges. I believe our school board and district office have not been taking into account our actual staffing logistics. To put it bluntly, we will have a teacher shortage.</p> <p>This is not because teachers do not wish to be with and support our students but because many staff at each site CANNOT be on campus with students per their own doctor's orders and family situation during a PANDEMIC. I want to be clear NO accommodations are being made for these teachers starting January 4th, they must either take an unpaid leave or ignore their personal doctor's orders. No option is provided for these teachers to support their students other than to come on campus, which many cannot do. Many of our most academically vulnerable students are already experiencing this with regards to the number of instructional aids supporting our special programs on campus.</p> <p>What will happen to our students without a teacher. There is a teaching shortage. Student's will be left without teachers. Already, if a teacher needs to have a sub for the day many classes go uncovered or are covered by our site admin. For those teachers that CANNOT come to campus all of their students will have this experience every day. Students will not have a credentialed and highly qualified teacher. If a teacher is on leave they do not provide lesson plans, they do not grade student work; they are not working. So, we are now going to be asking unqualified individuals to step into distance learning with no experience teaching, with our technology, systems, curriculum, or knowledge of their students with 3 weeks left in the first semester. I can only imagine the loss for our students with regards to their educational outcomes.</p> <p>So I wonder, what is the point of having 25% of our students on campus each day knowing that many students whether they are on campus or not will lose their highly qualified credentialed teacher? How is losing teachers helping our students?</p> <p>Thank You Erin Charnow LCC</p>
Evan Sorem	<p>At present, neither Canyon Crest Academy, nor Torrey Pines High School, nor any other SDUHSD school aside from Sunset is "OPEN" to in-person instruction. The San Diego County Office of Education dashboard indicates that there are 13 students at CCA and 12 students at Torrey Pines, learning in a hybrid model. This means there are just 12 or 13 students on those campuses, learning on the distance learning model that all district students are learning under, but are receiving appropriate therapy or academic supports to help them. Under every non-fantastical interpretation of the California Department of Public Health Cohorting Guidance, CCA and Torrey Pines are in full compliance. As a result, under no circumstances is are those schools "open to in-person instruction." No matter how loudly Superintendent Haley screams WE ARE OPEN - in ALL CAPS - CCA is not open, Torrey Pines is not open. And - if full information were provided to the public - none of the other schools are likely OPEN for in-person instruction. If this Board proceeds down the stated path of calling all teachers to return to campus to teach to some students in their classrooms and to the majority of students who will continue online - while all of the rest of us are moving to adjust to the second imposition of Stay-At-Home orders - it will be doing so in clear violation of law. So, to the members of this Board - I implore you to come back to reality - and do several things immediately. First, check your liability insurance. Because you will not be covered. Second, direct Superintendent Haley to reconvene regular meetings of the Expanded Reopening Committee, take stock of the interests of all of the stakeholders, and plan to re-open SDUHSD schools once our county has returned to the Red Tier and plans are in place to ensure the safety of our teachers, our administrators, our staff and our students.</p>
Anonymous	<p>At present, neither Canyon Crest Academy, nor Torrey Pines High School, nor any other SDUHSD school aside from Sunset is "OPEN" to in-person instruction. The San Diego County Office of Education dashboard indicates that there are 13 students at CCA and 12 students at Torrey Pines, learning in a hybrid model. This means there are just 12 or 13 students on those campuses, learning on the distance learning model that all district students are learning under, but are receiving appropriate therapy or academic supports to help them. Under every non-fantastical interpretation of the California Department of Public Health Cohorting Guidance, CCA and Torrey Pines are in full compliance. As a result, under no circumstances is are those schools "open to in-person instruction." No matter how loudly Superintendent Haley screams WE ARE OPEN - in ALL CAPS - CCA is not open, Torrey Pines is not open. And - if full information were provided to the public - none of the other schools are likely OPEN for in-person instruction. If this Board proceeds down the stated path of calling all teachers to return to campus to teach to some students in their classrooms and to the majority of students who will continue online - while all of the rest of us are moving to adjust to the second imposition of Stay-At-Home orders - it will be doing so in clear violation of law. So, to the members of this Board - I implore you to come back to reality - and do several things immediately. First, check your liability insurance. Because you will not be covered. Second, direct Superintendent Haley to reconvene regular meetings of the Expanded Reopening Committee, take stock of the interests of all of the stakeholders, and plan to re-open SDUHSD schools once our county has returned to the Red Tier and plans are in place to ensure the safety of our teachers, our administrators, our staff and our students.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I can't even believe you would consider opening on Jan 4, in the spike of a pandemic, with a flimsy plan, while every other district has a BETTER plan and is delaying. Where is the value in this decision? How does this IMPROVE education by allowing kids to sit "one meter" apart doing distance learning in person? Doesn't it seem negative to emotional health to have your kid sit in a class wearing PPE, next to a student wearing PPE, trying to listen to a teacher in PPE, doing distance learning in person? WE ALL WANT OUR KIDS BACK IN SCHOOL. What we have isn't perfect but it's better than THIS! My son's teacher teaches from school, the wife routinely cuts out WITH NO STUDENTS THERE, the computer takes over 5 minutes to start up if the meet crashes, the teacher has had to use HIS phone to teach from class. THAT'S WHAT WE GET FOR OUR TAXES? Honestly, it was better when the teacher taught from his house. We can wait another while. Distance learning is working for my son. I have enjoyed watching him work on art from home. I hear him frequently engaging with other students in "breakout rooms" and they have done in depth presentations. For those who think getting back will magically change CIF's decision and sports will start up- think again. The schools belong to CIF, the do not run CIF. The students get three warnings about not wearing a mask? Why can't anyone answer what will happen during lunch at the schools or between classes? All this hasn't been figured out and yet, you want to open the next school week? Studies all over have proven that kids get and transmit coronavirus. We owe it to the community at large to prevent as many infections as possible.</p>
Kelli Fletcher Fuller	<p>There is no valid reason why school is still closed. There has been plenty of time, data, research and results that prove schools should be open with the appropriate precautions in place (masks, social distance when needed, sanitation stations). My son is in 10th grade and his grades have dropped, has no motivation to distance learn and is not challenged at all. The social, academic and mental state for him and these kids reaches far and wide beyond school and into their personal and family life. Our daughter graduated in June 2020 from 12th grade and they both wanted to go back to school so badly. Months have gone by and this is dangerous and reckless. One day a week to sit in a classroom on the Chromebook is laughable. Stop playing politics, give options for those who want to return as well as those not comfortable to remain distance learning. Kids want to be in school and teachers want to teach. If a teacher can not or will not return after months of reputable, scientific and valid data supporting schools opening then fire the teacher and replace them with someone who wants a job and cares enough to put our kids mental and educational well being first. The district is gambling with our kids lives and there is zero data to support that there are dangerous and deadly outbreaks of COVID in schools. The suicide, depression and anxiety statistics are staggering now and the district says it's too dangerous to return to the classroom. Get your facts straight, it is no dangerous NOT to return to the classroom. Thank you and do your job, put the education of kids FIRST.</p>
Tory Hill	<p>my kids need to be in school. It is now affecting their mental health. One day a week is better than nothing.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Dear Board of Trustees and Superintendent Haley, I'd like to comment that I believe students should have the option of returning to school and returning to school 5 days a week like many private schools are currently doing. I believe the District has prepared for a safe re-opening of the schools for both teachers and students. I commend the District for following the science. I question however whether or not the teacher's union is following the science. Also, returning to campus one day a week is truly insufficient and many kids don't feel it's worth returning to school for just one day a week. They are losing their motivation. They want to be in school with their classmates on a regular basis. For the kid's sake, I hope this can become a reality for them.</p>
Gavin Hirst	<p>I am writing to remind the San Dieguito Union High School District (SDUHSD) that there is currently a stay-at-home order in place and San Diego County is in the purple tier with a positivity rate at a 8% 14-day moving average, a number that is still increasing.</p> <p>I'm sure the district realizes it would be unlawful to reopen schools while San Diego County is in the purple tier.</p> <p>Also, under CDPH rules a school that is not "open" cannot expand their reopening until the county has been out of the purple tier for 14 days. Aside from Sunset High School, SDUHSD schools have only been operating with small cohorts under the Cohorting Guidance in the CDPH rules. So, once again, it would be unlawful for schools to reopen until the county has been out of the purple tier for 14 days. So, why is the SDUHSD planning to open all its schools to all students starting January 4 in violation of the CDPH rules? I also note that that the California Teachers Association requested that SDUHSD and the San Diego County Office of Education do not move forward with the opening.</p> <p>Our community is in a desperate state with the pandemic knocking at our doors and entering our homes and we are frankly shocked that our school district would move forward despite the CDPH reopening rules. We must protect our children, teachers, family, and community.</p> <p>We cannot lawfully open until San Diego county has been out of the purple tier for 14 days.</p>
Anonymous	<p>SDUHSD must maintain distance learning until our Covid infection rates dramatically decrease.</p>

Name	Written Comments
Jen Charat	<p>Thank you for providing the presentation in advance. I know a lot of effort went into it, and I just want to express my thanks for making it available. I look forward to the presentation as well. I particularly appreciated the clarification on how SDUHSD is different from elementary school districts and private schools, such as Santa Fe Christian and CCHS. I think these differences are often lost in the conversation about what schools can and can't do.</p> <p>Can the presentation address these concerns regarding the plan:</p> <p>What is the plan for mask and distancing supervision during lunch and passing periods? What about passing periods when students are on campuses but not in classes? Studies show these are the riskiest times for virus transmission.</p> <p>What is the plan for rain days? In a Voice of San Diego At Home episode on 12/9/20, Dr. Kimberly Prather, member of the 9-expert panel at UCSD advising schools globally, explained "The riskiest time is indoors when you can't wear a mask. That's eating and drinking."</p> <p>It is unclear if there will be noise canceling headphones to participate in breakout rooms while on campus. Will this impact how teachers conduct breakout rooms?</p> <p>Some slides are particularly concerning regarding equity in access to the teacher. The students in distance learning will have access to the teacher via Meets, but in-person students will have access in person. There will be more students in distance learning. Shouldn't all students have access to the teacher the same way for learning equity, which is protected by law regardless of choice students make?</p> <p>Regarding the distancing requirement, which is already insufficient, in Monday's article in the UT about small cohorts at Oak Crest, there was a photograph that showed a group of four students fewer than 3 apart from each other and a teacher fewer than 6 feet from the students. If the district cannot maintain its own rules in the small cohorts, how can it do this in large groups?</p> <p>Do parents know teachers will be tested every two months and students have no testing requirement?</p>
Joshua Charat-Collins	<p>I understand that the members of this board consider their primary responsibility to the students and parents of this district. As a student, I appreciate the sentiment, but I believe it is irrational. It has been used as justification for the reopening of schools in the face of declarations from 20% of teachers stating they will leave if we return to in-person learning. What the board fails to consider is that the losers will be the students. If the board truly wishes to improve education for students they would not pursue a course of action that so severely harms it. Without highly-qualified teachers, students are not going to get a high-quality education. When the board pushes so strongly for plans that will result in a mass exodus of these teachers, students only see two possibilities: either the board is too interested in a victory over teachers on behalf of students to see that students are harmed by this pyrrhic victory, or the board pushes for said victory because they feel no responsibility for the students of the district. The board may see the actions of teachers as irrational, believing there to be little danger in reopening. Regardless of the board's flawed belief—every bit of scientific evidence contradicts it—when it comes down to it, schools are reliant on teachers, and their needs must be considered with more than the grain of salt the board gives them. The board believes online learning is not working—if the board passes this resolution, we students will see first-hand what in-person learning really is in one of the 60 classes at CCA that will be taught by an inexperienced substitute teacher. We will see how much better our learning experience is when the teachers that have worked so long to help us are gone. We will see how much our grades improve under a teacher who will be unable to assist us through difficult material. We will see how our AP scores are affected.</p>
Jennifer Daniel-Duckering	<p>Please reconsider moving forward with the expanded reopening on Jan. 4th. We are in the worst surge of the COVID cases this County has seen yet. Our hospitals and ICUs are filling up fast. People will surely ignore public health officials' warnings not to travel during the winter break. So opening our campuses on Jan. 4th to hundreds more students is simply reckless. Also, there has been lots of calls for reopening as that provides parents with a "choice." I am a parent of 2 teens in the district (MS and HS) who are performing the same academically in the DL mode as they did last year. I am thankful to their wonderful teachers and grateful because I recognize that's not the case for all. (Although the data I have seen at least with respect to TPHS and CCA shows not a significant drop in academic performance based on standardized test scores.) What about the "choice" not to have their teachers forced to retire or take an unpaid/unbenefited leave of absence because the District is failing to provide them with a safe working environment. We need better ventilation, we need guaranteed protocols for social distancing and masking, we need testing (not just for teachers), and the teachers need to option to continue teaching remotely if they have a health concern. Prove to the parents and the community that you are willing to do these things and wait until the end of the semester (when hopefully we are past the winter break surge) and you will gain back some of the trust the District and Board has lost these past 9 months.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I'm the parent of a senior at San Dieguito Academy and a social worker at Scripps Encinitas. I'm writing today to give you my perspective on the reopening, and to urge you to consider a slower and safer approach.</p> <p>Our hospital, like all of the others in the county, is at capacity. Our once small covid unit has become a covid floor and has now expanded into other floors and units. We are watching people die alone, and it's heartbreaking. The staff, who have been working under the strain of a pandemic since March, are overworked and stressed. We simply can't keep going like this, and yet, we have to because the numbers keep growing. On Monday's episode of "The Daily" podcast, New York Times science and health reporter Donald G. McNeil Jr. described the phase we are entering as "the shadow of the valley of death." Similar thoughts have been expressed by Anthony Fauci and Bill Gates, and these predictions are proving true in our rapidly escalating numbers in San Diego county. From my perspective, it's insane to consider bringing kids back to school in person at this moment in time.</p> <p>As a parent, I share the desire for life to get back to normal. But things aren't normal, and we can't will it to be different. My daughter has adjusted to the online schedule and doesn't want the disruption of changing the routine three weeks before finals, at what is likely to be the peak of the pandemic. We need to show our kids that the grown ups are making good choices and have their best interests at heart. In my daughter's friend group, no one feels ready or eager to return to school in early January. I know much concern has been expressed about kids' mental health during this time, but encouraging students to return to school before it's safe to do so, and without a solid plan, is likely to make many feel anxious and unsafe.</p>
Jen Goswami	<p>Dear Superintendent Haley and Board Members,</p> <p>I am writing to please ask you not to rush to reopen the schools for on campus learning. The decision regarding whether to attend in-person or via distance is sometimes viewed as an 'individual choice'. But it really isn't. The choice is directly tied to the level of spread within our community, which is now in the purple tier. Rushing to reopen will not make the virus go away nor make things 'normal again'. It is no wonder that some students are struggling—we are in a pandemic! But the fact is that most of our students (as demonstrated by surveys and test results shared with parents) are really doing well, considering.</p> <p>At least for the Academies, please consider waiting until the start of Q3. A safe reopening means planning for traffic patterns on campus. Bringing kids in for 3 weeks of one routing and then having to learn another makes no sense.</p> <p>The vaccine is on its way. Please leave distance learning in place for a month or so and focus ways to open our campuses to allow for healthy socialization. Many outdoor sports are arguably safer than on campus learning. Lets find ways to prioritize athletics, clubs, and on-campus tutoring until we can get teachers vaccinated and the post-holiday Covid surge abates. In the meantime, we can finish the improved reopening plan—toward one that satisfies teacher concerns and is safer for everyone.</p> <p>Thank you very much for your continued efforts and service on behalf of our students.</p>
Jennifer DiMase	<p>My children are 7th graders at Diegueno Middle School. I hope the district and school board will reconsider further reopening of campuses during the predicted upcoming peak of the pandemic this January. With the student mixing inherent in secondary schedules and the larger class sizes of middle and high schools, we need higher safety standards in order to return to school. Private secondary schools that have reopened have much smaller class sizes (less aerosol virus circulating), and some such as PFS require regular student covid testing, hospital grade merv filtration and ventilation, and minimum 6 feet distancing between students. Please consider the students who cannot return to in person learning due to their own health conditions or those of close family members. How will their online instruction remain personal, engaging, and equitable if teachers are teaching to most of the students in person? With the teachers able to focus on distance learning, my kids have had the opportunity to be face to face online with their teachers who can give them their presence. We want our Sudust credentialed teachers connecting with our kids. With in person learning, staff quarantines and illness will significantly impact district staffing. The significant substitute shortage has recently led to the closure of at least two local public school districts.</p>
Joann C Kreps	<p>Having the students 1 meter apart is not aligned with any recommendations regarding how to prevent the spread of Covid 19. 1 meter is 3 feet, exactly 1/2 the distance the CDC recommends in order to prevent the spread of this illness. SDUHSD is responsible for the health and well being of our children when they are at school. I feel like the district is opening itself up to a fair amount of risk by providing substandard and hazardous spacing. I think the reason the teachers are placed at 6 feet away is that they are adults with more rights than our children.</p>
Jennifer Lucero	<p>I fully support students on campus full time. My daughter is about 50/50 with teachers who fully engage her attention. But she has burst in tears saying how hard it is to learn and stay focused. Went for a physical and was happy to see that her doctor focused on her mental health in addition to physical. I think they are noticing the emotional struggles. We need to remember that being on campus is about more than just education. It is social and mental outlets that help them grow just as much or more than books. For some kids, this is the only way to reach out to their peers. For some kids, this is the only way to reach out to their peers, then do so, but not at the expense of all the kids that need to be back.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I want to go back to school because I want to be there for at least part of my senior year and so I can see my friends again. It makes me really sad that we are still out of school after 7 months. I miss my friends, I miss sitting in a classroom, and I miss the social interactions that school provides. I'm really sad and feel isolated.</p>
Anonymous	<p>THE PILOT PLAN ACCOMMODATES STUDENTS AND PARENTS THAT ARE UNABLE OR UNWILLING TO RETURN TO SCHOOL IN-PERSON, BUT IT DOES NOT AFFORD THE SAME PROTECTIONS TO TEACHERS. SDUHSD TEACHERS ARE THE MOST VITAL AND VALUABLE RESOURCE IN THE DISTRICT; ENFORCING A PLAN WHICH WILL RESULT IN LOSING 10-20% OF THEM (PARTICULARLY THE MORE EXPERIENCED ONES) WILL EVISCERATE THE DISTRICT AND HAVE SIGNIFICANT, LONG-LASTING, NEGATIVE IMPACTS ON THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION IT PROVIDES. GIVEN THAT WE ARE MONTHS AWAY FROM A VACCINE BEING WIDELY AVAILABLE, THIS IS AN EXTREMELY SHORT-SIGHTED AND COUNTERPRODUCTIVE COURSE OF ACTION.</p>
Julie M Bronstein	<p>I am a parent with two students in the district. We chose to buy our home in Carmel Valley because of the outstanding quality of the public schools. I am very much in favor of my children returning to in-person instruction when it is safe to do so. However, given the high level of community spread and transmission in combination with the inferior reopening plan, I am very uncomfortable with having our kids return to school at this time. I have kept a watchful eye on what private schools in the area have been doing to bring students back to campus and our plan is sorely lacking in comparison. Schools like Pacific Ridge and LUCD have had students participate in a minimum of 1 week of distance learning after a holiday in order to make sure families and teachers aren't coming directly from travel or spending time with people outside of their households directly before returning to school. In addition, these schools are requiring that students provide documentation of a negative COVID test before returning to school. I understand that there are parents who would like their kids to return to school ASAP and I do think this should be facilitated although I also think these parents and students will end up surprised/disappointed on the student experience when they see that their student will be sitting in a classroom with a mask and headphones on learning from their teacher with a mask on. However, I do not think it makes sense to require all teachers to return during purple tier when the students are participating in distance learning. There must be a compromise approach that would allow teachers with underlying conditions or children at home whose schools have not reopened for in person learning or who are taking care of an at-risk relative to continue teleworking.</p> <p>I recognize that it is a difficult balancing act but know if there is a way, there is a way.</p>
Julie Schneyer	<p>Remote learning is taking its toll on the mental well being of students everywhere. How can we continue sacrificing our children's education? Kids need be prioritized with a proper, in-person education. Infectious disease experts are telling us there's no reason for kids not to be in school. Please listen to the science.</p>
Anonymous	<p>It is clear that using the pretense of having had a very small population on campuses to classify a district as "open" in order to justify continuing and expanding reopening plans in the purple tier is not only against the Public Health order, but goes against the reasoning for allowing opened schools to stay open in the first place. That reasoning has to do with the fact that for opened schools who have been able to prevent spread, protocols are in place and are working, so they can stay open despite whatever tier we are in. Our district, however, has not had a chance to open and show that protocols are in place and are working, and so testing those protocols for the first time when community spread is at its highest not only sets us up for failure, but it's an irresponsible experiment that will unnecessarily put lives at risk. It's likely we'll be back in the red before too long. At the very least, build some trust with your community by committing not to expand opening at the most dangerous time, and instead use whatever time remains between now and reentering the red tier to come up with protocols that will build trust, and work, and therefore will mean that when we open, we can STAY open. How short sighted to rush it when you're only making more likely the outcome that you're trying to avoid - closed schools.</p>
Anonymous	<p>It is time to get our kids back in school full time. The district has had 9 months to come up with a plan and one day a week distance learning at school is not going to work! Give us choices! Poll how many want to go back full time. The CDC, Fauci, studies across the world have proven that schools are not super spreaders. Our children's mental health depends on them going back to school. For once this district, board and teachers union need to put students first and get them back in school full time!</p>
Kristin Demarest	<p>Specifically, I would like to address the lack of transparency related to approval of or consultation with the experts associated with UCSD's Return to Learn plan. The lack of written confirmation and unclear language on the part of the district suggests to me the advice is being ignored or they were never consulted. Which is it? This should have been handled months ago. Clearly, it has not. Given current circumstances, at this point, all teachers who wish to do so should be able to teach from home and students who want to return can do so with supervision from subs—where the kids will do their online learning at school to maintain equity. Anything less than this will result in a loss of highly qualified teachers, disrupted education, stressed students, and the district's ranking plummeting. The board will be to blame.</p>
Anonymous	<p>How will contract tracing be done when students return to campus? If a child goes to school on any given day and reports a positive test later in the week (or if schools open beyond 1 day/week for students and a student is in school for multiple days), there will be a need to check seating charts and attendance records for all the classes the student attended, then to interview the student in case he/she was in close proximity with other students (and to encourage students that it's ok and important to be honest even if they broke the social distancing rule at lunch or elsewhere), and then to tell any students who were potentially exposed, all while school continues. Some students see other students outside of school, and while it's not the school's responsibility, getting information out as quickly as possible seems essential for health and safety reasons, for the benefit of all. How will this be done in a timely manner? Are there people being hired to help with this effort?</p>

Name	Written Comments
Kerily McEvoy	There are rumors and innuendos that the further reopening of our schools for in-person learning 1 day per week starting in January 2021 is potentially being blocked by threat of legal or other action. Please stay strong as a board and continue to support this small step forward. The children and families were surveyed and at least 50% on average want to return, even in this limited capacity. Taking that away from them at this point will be devastating to the kids.
Anonymous	Our schools are not ready to open. We do not have the ability to provide for the safety of our students, nor do we have the ability to provide for them educationally. We already know there is a shortage of substitute teachers, and even hiring more subs does not mean that you are providing experienced educators for our students. We do not have the technology (chromebooks, wifi etc) to support everyone back on campus. Opening now will not support the educational needs of our students.
Kimberly McSherry	I request that the board please consult with experts when considering reopening practices. UCSD has written guidelines used effectively by our local Solana Beach schools to re-open, and adopted by SDUSD as well. The UCSD team are experts in infectious diseases, as well as in education. By contrast, our board is consulting with random health care professionals that aren't experts (ENTs or boutique pediatricians for instance). Why do this when we have national experts ready and willing to guide us? The only conclusion I reach is that our district does not in fact want expert advice, they are cherry picking medical people to support their pre-decided agenda. This does not inspire trust in any future decisions. Please use the expert resources we have right in our own backyard.
Anonymous	As cases continue to surge in San Diego, in California and across the nation, responsible officials must take measured and deliberate action to protect our students, teachers and community. I appreciate all the planning that school sites have done in preparation for the eventual return to campus. Everyone longs for the time when students and teachers can safely return. Until that time, however, the harm greatly outweighs the benefit of a premature return. We will place students, teachers, administrators, families, and our entire community at greater risk of contracting and spreading COVID—a deadly virus for some. The current remote teaching my children have received in eight separate classes at SDA has been excellent. A premature re-opening will lower the quality of education as teachers must multi-task even more than they already are, teaching both in-person and remotely at the same time. We will further reduce the quality of education when we lose experienced and highly qualified teachers who must leave to protect their health or that of a family member. Replacing such teachers with a brand-new substitute or worse, congregating students in a large room because you are unable to hire enough substitutes, is unacceptable. Finally, if you do vote to re-open our district schools, I expect that each one of you will be on campus, in classrooms, hallways, and bathrooms, as you ask of your students, teachers, and staff. I am sure, based on your decision that is safe for our students, that you are comfortable. Please publicize your presence on campus. It will go a long way to the community's trust in your decision-making for our students, teachers, and staff.
Krystal Kernott	Why are the co-curricular activities being allowed on the SDUHSD campuses different campus to campus? The COVID infection rates are fairly consistent throughout the school district. I don't understand why there are activities allowed at Torrey Pines that are not allowed at LCC, CCA or SDA and vice versa. And why some schools are requiring outside clubs be set up and others are not. I believe all of the schools in the district have the same insurance policy so this doesn't make sense. Please correct me if this isn't true. When the administration requires a club be set up this requires a lot of additional effort and expenses on behalf of all. I am told when clubs are required to be set up to use school facilities those clubs are then charged fees, such as janitorial fees, for use of the school facilities. Is this true? If so, where does this money go? It seems like the district would be paying these salaries anyway, at least for in season sports. Also, how are the safety requirements for co-curricular activities determined from school to school/sport to sport? We recently learned of new protocols for the LCC Baseball club that are not consistent with other sports' requirements, WHO guidelines, or CA Youth Sports Guidelines. They are requiring cohorts (this item is consistent), masks to be worn at all times when exercising outdoors (not consistent with guidelines), and surgical or bathing gloves be worn at all time when playing catch (not consistent with guidelines and impractical). Is the district allowing school admin to make things up site to site/sport to sport with no oversight? My son has been thrilled to be back on campus for the Football Club and looks forward to baseball. This has been a light in the darkness and a true gift. We are so thankful for Coach Sovacool and all that put in the effort to make that happen while the district is sorting out how to bring students back for academics. The students have been respectful of the guidelines and remained safe. This is a real life example showing that students will follow the rules for safe return to campus.
Anonymous	With 2000-3000 new COVID cases a day in San Diego and our ICUs nearing capacity, expanding the re-opening of schools January 4th is NOT safe! Why would our district want to risk contributing to making these conditions even worse in San Diego? It is unsafe and unwise for SDUHSD to increase the number of students on campus at this time. The actions to increase students participating on campuses will put our entire community at risk and will contribute to further spread of COVID in San Diego. The CDC has come out saying that in-person learning for teenagers is considered "high risk." Many of our teenagers are congregating on their own, not following health and safety protocols, and traveling to other states for college visits and sports. These actions will increase over winter break as the students have two weeks off. California is back in a stay-at-home order like we were in March, when COVID wasn't as widespread. Many families, like mine, have canceled Thanksgiving and other holiday plans to protect their loved ones. Doesn't that scream volumes to you that this is NOT the right time to be increasing students on campuses? Why would you want to risk getting our teenagers, staff, and other community members sick? The number of COVID cases is expected to climb through the holidays. Why would you risk the health of the students, staff, and community just to meet your personal and political agendas? Why not "be the change you want to see in the world" and be a role model for how to properly handle this pandemic in an educational setting?! I implore you to NOT re-open our schools on January 4th and wait to expand the re-opening (slowly and safely) until the curve has been flattened in San Diego!
Lea C Park	I support the opening of schools for in-person learning to the largest extent possible. School attendance and activities are essential to the well-being of our children and numerous developed countries have shown that re-opening is possible and can be managed with a minimum of infection and that vulnerable populations can be protected. I believe the BOT needs to receive more comments from those opposed to opening than for and that it because people motivated by fear are more apt to weigh in. Despite this, I would encourage the BOT to take seriously the interests of those who support re-opening as I strongly believe this group is under-represented in written and spoken comments. The BOT is understandably risk-averse but it's time to move forward. We simply cannot keep our schools shuttered any longer.
Clare Lemon	Returning students to campus, especially at a distance of only three feet, will fuel the spread of this virus, strain our health care system, and hurt the community. Forcing teachers to return to campus will jeopardize the excellent instruction that is the hallmark of this district. If those at risk are forced to take leave, preparation for AP exams and college falls on the shoulders of unqualified substitutes. While distance learning is not ideal, it is the sacrifice this crisis temporarily asks of us, to save lives, until the vaccine is widely distributed. My CCA student's teachers have found engaging and creative ways to cover their topics thoroughly and minimize academic dishonesty -- it can be done. And there are a multitude of ways for this resourceful and respected district to support our students until they transition back to campus when it is safe and legal to do so.
Anonymous	Our school district did not give us many options regarding teachers that have preexisting conditions. With COVID being a silent killer, it worries many of our staff to be on campus with students so close to each other. If you look at the current SDUHSD dashboard for Covid cases, the numbers have exponentially increased after Thanksgiving break. Many teachers are scared to address their medical concerns to administration or human resources. This should not be the case. The district and schools should work closely to talk to our teachers about their rights. In many cases I have heard that some teachers tried to make appointments with Human Resources, but that they were too busy to take their call or concerns right away. I believe that there are a lot of teachers that still have yet to really voice their concerns because they are hoping that dates will be pushed for re-opening.
Anonymous	Per SDUT, on 12/11/20 Scripps Encinitas ICU capacity is was at 150%. Dr. Fauci and other experts warn January may be the worst stage of the pandemic. Please vote to delay the reopening until we are out of the purple tier. At the very least, please delay reopening until the beginning of Q3 so the last three weeks of Q2 aren't thrown into chaos. We are going to lose approximately 20% of teachers if we reopen in the purple tier and there is a shortage of subs. SDUHSD has tried to entice subs with a wage increase but there have been few applicants. It will be difficult to find people willing to go into classrooms under these dangerous conditions. The CDC recently declared in-person learning to be high-risk, especially for secondary students who are now known to transmit the virus with as much efficacy as adults, and are at a similar risk for serious outcomes. Students have been through so much, please let them finish Q2 without the chaos of a sub shortage. Students deserve continuity, to receive their Q2 grades from the teachers who have worked with them. Delaying the reopen to the beginning of Q3 has another positive benefit in that whatever surge may come from holiday travel and gatherings, there will be time for infections to make themselves known before students and teachers crowd into classrooms. Putting students first isn't just about getting them back on campus. Putting students first means protecting their physical health, as well as mental. It means protecting their education through instructional integrity with qualified teachers. Putting students first means not bringing them back to campus just as our local hospital systems teeter against full capacity. In person learning is not a panacea for a student's decline in mental health. Perhaps there can be greater outreach efforts to protect the minority of students for whom there is a causal connection between distance learning and mental health decline. For the majority of students distance learning is going well and even considering the emergency we're in.
mary ann rall	I teach AP Biology & Introduction to Biotechnology at TPHS. This is my 23rd year teaching science at TP. I'm also a mom of 2 kids who attend the San Diego Unified District and are learning 100% online, at home this year. It is my hope that a compromise can be made to allow teachers to continue teaching from home. The district proposed concurrent model of instruction has teachers teaching 100% of students online & through headphones whether students are at home or in school. I believe I can serve my students very well from home, just as I have been all year. I understand that some students would like to have more personable interactions with their teachers and I have provided multiple formats for them to receive my personal attention. Daily, my students always have the option of staying online to talk with me after they are dismissed to work asynchronously and, as needed or requested, I arrange appointments to meet at other times throughout the week during my non-teaching hours. I'M EXTREMELY PROUD OF MY STUDENTS THIS YEAR! My students are: * maintaining good grades & taking advantage of opportunities to stay on track when absent. * attending classes at the highest rates I have ever seen in my career at TPHS. * creating routines that allow them to attend their classes, complete their work, and maintain stability. * providing me great feedback regarding their connectedness to school & their teachers despite the great challenges this year. * learning a lot and connecting Biology to their own lives through current events and the multiple guest scientists I have had join my Intro to Biotech classes. As a seasoned teacher and a big fan of teenagers of all types, I fear that a substitute wouldn't have the expertise to connect with my students in the unique ways that I have been able to reach them throughout this challenging year. I also fear that a substitute would not have the ability to teach advanced science classes like mine. I sincerely hope that compromises can be made this school year that would allow me and my colleagues to continue to do the job we love.
Mark Schneyer	We support Trustee-Elect Allman's Expanded Reopening Resolution.
Anonymous	Please consider this reopening plan in light of the terrible surge we are now experiencing, which will only get worse immediately following Winter Break. We now know that students at this age transmit the virus at rates equal to adults and will cause community spread. For secondary schools who are unable to form small stable cohorts like elementary schools, this is irresponsible. The CDC now recognizes our particular model of reopening as high risk. Asserting that we must choose between physical safety and mental health is a false choice to further a political agenda. If the board is so committed to mental health, may I suggest hiring more counselors, reducing class sizes so students can have individual attention, and for goodness sake do not let them be taught by a surge of unqualified substitutes who don't even know them. The district's refusal to allow staff to teach remotely even with a medical exemption is cruel - unpaid leave is the only option, which effectively includes losing health insurance in the middle of a pandemic. Please remember that the standards of safety have not changed, the window of non-compliance has widened. When SDUHSD began its phased reopening approach, it was based on violating the health orders. We did not comply with small stable cohorts, we did not comply with 6 feet of social distancing, and now we are not in compliance with not re-opening in the purple tier. This district is leading the way in unlawful risk-taking with its students, constituents, and staff. Has anyone been thinking about continuity of instruction? Concurrent teaching, especially an uneven number of times right before finals, is disastrous to student learning. Please consider how to best serve our students - and that is not by creating working conditions so extreme that we drain the district of our most experienced teachers and replace them with subs.
Meghan Muir	My children are suffering severely. I have a 12 year old boy at Earl Warren. He has struggled so much with distance learning and has become a little businessman; scanning documents, cramped at a desk for hours and hours a day. He gets headaches from being online all day. He has missed out on very important emotional growth from not being around his peers. His physical activity has gone from a 10 to a 2. HE NEEDS TO BE ON CAMPUS. My 17 year old son is at TPHS as a junior. He is/was #7 on the football team. He has great grades now because he "cheats" on all of his tests. He wants to quit football now since there is no real date to look forward to actually playing. MY KIDS ARE SUFFERING. Please put the wellbeing of the children in front of the teachers. The gap you are creating is disgusting. ONLY PRIVATE SCHOOL KIDS GO TO SCHOOL? Shameful.
Anonymous	It is important that we open our schools to students for full-time learning as soon as possible. Planning for returning in the third quarter is the right thing to do. That is 6 weeks way and the vaccine has been deployed. We need our kids back in school.
Anonymous	The teachers need to do their job and teach from the classroom. If a specific teacher is legitimately sick or compromised, and it is best for the district to have them teach from home, then let them teach from home. Otherwise, they need to show up for work like the rest of us.
Maria Lucian	My son is a senior at LCC. Not only is he missing out on quality education (in person learning) and fun events that seniors normally do in school, but he is also missing out on playing football. Taking so much away from our students has taken a toll on his well being. Depression kicks in daily. I hope and pray that SDUHSD will make the right decision for the sake of the student's mental health and open up our schools.
Brian Shay	Thank you all for taking the time to listen and learn about what teaching and learning has been like and will be like as we move forward. As a calculus teacher in the district, I can assure you that our classes this year are just as robust and rigorous as they have been in previous years. In fact, talking with colleagues (across all sites and subjects), teaching and learning this fall has been challenging, but very successful. The Co-Vitality data shows that the vast majority of OUR are students ARE doing well with virtual school, both emotionally and academically. The concern all teachers and students have with the hybrid or concurrent models is how much will change. We will all need to be masked while at school, so the ability for my students to hear me and each other on Meet will be very challenging. Due to audio feedback concerns, the students in the room with me will have to stay at their seats and use headsets to communicate. Due to distancing rules, we will not be allowed to sit together and work on classwork differently than how we do it currently through Meet. The experience that students will have on campus will basically be what they have at home, except they'll be in a classroom, with a mask and headset on, and distanced from everyone else. When there is a positive case, and based on what has happened at Vista Unified there will be, we will all revert back to the current state of learning. Talking with students and teachers at Vista, I've learned that the upheaval and inconsistencies is very hard to deal with. The lack of qualified staff to cover teacher absences is very frightening and should be a huge concern to you. As our HR team will tell you, finding someone to teach calculus, sculpture, Japanese, or physics is very challenging during regular times, it will be nearly impossible in January during the peak of the pandemic. Think about the impact your decision will have on our students ability to learn and be healthy. Yes, some kids are struggling, so give them more opportunities to succeed. Please, do not force all kids and teachers to be on campus.
Anonymous	It has been brought up before at earlier board meetings this fall that there has not been evidence of Covid-19 transmission ON school campuses. And yet, it is very difficult to tell where such transmission is happening because of problematic contact tracing, coupled with the fact that very few students have been ON campus. As of today, La Costa Heights Elementary has reverted to virtual learning due to 7 active Covid cases among students who were on campus. That is a school that "feeds" into SDUHSD. As the number of cases spikes to record levels with each new day, does it not become, if not inevitable then at least highly likely, that asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic students on campus in increasing numbers in January will spread the virus to classmates and staff and vice versa? I fear that if the district proceeds with the Re-opening plan right after the Winter Break, the question of "on-campus" transmission will not be an instance of if but when and how many. This is entirely preventable. Everyone, students and staff alike, want to go back to "normal," and to go back to campus as soon as possible! Wishing does not make it so. These are not normal times. We are in the midst of a global pandemic; the choices this board makes impacts the entire San Diego community. This district is not an island. Vaccines are being given. The number of Americans indicating they are willing to be vaccinated is increasing. This wonderful district WILL get through this, patience and wisdom are what the times call for. Please delay the increased re-opening.
Anonymous	Kids need to be back to in-person learning. Too much screen time is very bad. There is no socializing. Minimal instruction. Even if the kids return to school once a week, it's simply not worth it to the majority of the kids. The COVID transmission rates are extremely low in schools. This has been documented. Let's get these kids back into school 5 days a week! Enough is enough.

Name	Written Comments
Marianne Grosner	<p>I believe the plan being offered to families gives them a choice of either distance learning or in-person learning. This seems very reasonable and extremely fair for those that are worried about COVID and would like their kids to remain at home and to those students and families that wish to return to in-person learning. What I don't understand is why in-person learning was proposed to be only one-day-a-week. I'm hearing from many that say their students don't feel it's worth returning to school for just one day a week. Also, if it's true that they would be returning one day a week to sit in a class getting their instructions ONLINE instead of sitting in a classroom with a teacher, then it seems this effort is inconsequential and if I were a student there I would not want to return either for one day a week.</p>
	<p>Let's find a way we can get these students, the ones that want to return to in-person learning, back to school full-time, 5 days a week. Peer-reviewed studies are reflecting that COVID-19 transmission rates are very low in schools. It seems that the District is following the science and is prepared for a safe, in-person learning experience. I realize the role of SDFIA is to look out for the teachers but I hope that SDFIA can realize that the role of the District is to also look out for the students. Most students simply want to return to school full time. Other private schools in San Diego County are accomplishing this. I hope SDUHSD can follow suit. Thank you.</p>
Suhdsd staff member	<p>This safety plan lacks many loopholes. Students only 3 feet or less apart with no more safety measures than a mask. No extra staffing to support the supervision to devise a plan for lunch, passing periods and symptom checks upon entering campus. We received our rosters tonight. One of my classes is already scheduled for over the marked capacity level on my classroom door. Over and over since August we have asked for a better plan, and over and over we are provided with no real plan just a bunch of slides that slightly change with a few new photos at each meeting.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I am concerned that the Board and Superintendent Haley have been ignoring epidemiological science and insist on opening schools on January 4, 2021. Aside from the obvious public health threat, SDUHSD does not have clear, specific contingency plans to bring students and staff to campus.</p> <p>As a teacher, I have several questions, the answers to which are neither on the SDUHSD "reopening plan" slideshow nor have they been answered by my site administration. Several times I have asked for a flow-chart of decisions and contingencies, and I have been ignored. Here's ONE example: What if I have been exposed to a person with COVID but have no symptoms? What if I have a fever but a cough? What if I take my temperature before I leave for school, and I have a fever? Can I teach from home? Do I request a sub for students in the classroom? How do I classify my absence from campus? Is it not a personal sick day because I am actually working from home? If I do not have a fever at home, but when I get my temperature taken at school and have a fever, and I get sent home, what happens? Do I teach from home? If I can teach from home, but it takes me 40 minutes to drive back to my house and I cannot make it home before my first class, then what do I do? Do I not teach from home? What happens to the students in my classroom? Do I request a sub, or does the school? How is that absence classified? Do I get a COVID test and stay home until I get my results? A COVID test result takes three days; what do I do until then? Do I teach from home? Do I request a sub for the students in my classroom for three days? How do I classify that absence? Do I have to use three personal sick days? And these are unanswered questions for ONE INSTANCE.</p> <p>There are no plans for rainy days. There are no plans for passing periods or off-campus lunch privileges.</p> <p>This lack of planning will cause chaos and confusion. It will exacerbate existing, and create more, mental health and wellness issues. It will breed anxiety and stress. This lack of planning is not what's best for students.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Don't cause the departure of many teachers by forcing them to sacrifice their health and/or other major compromises in order to keep teaching; Teachers should be able to teach from home as opposed to the classroom if they have safety or life situation concerns about going back to the classroom. These may include but are not limited to</p> <p>Medical conditions that make themselves more vulnerable to COVID-19 Medical conditions of a family member that make them more vulnerable to COVID-19 Concern for their safety if they were back in the classroom Childcare problems, for instance if their children aren't in school in-person full-time Effectiveness concerns, in terms of specialized equipment they may have at home, or other concerns about the classroom reducing their ability to effectively educate their students Poway is having many teachers teach from home in the concurrent model SDUHSD should heed the directive of San Diego County that all businesses that remain in operation (which include schools) shall make every effort to use telecommuting for their workforces. All teachers and as many employees as possible should be given a choice to continue teleworking, which is feasible given the distance learning model currently in use for instruction.</p> <p>There is misinformation circulating in the community that "Any teacher with a legitimate health risk will be able to apply for a waiver to teach from home." https://nextdoor.com/news_feed/?post=169874020&comment=509123165 The district has been clear that the human resources strategy for handling teacher's needs to telework is to offer unpaid leaves without benefits. The district's plan to protect teachers and students is not adequate; it is not "above and beyond" as one board member characterized it in the October 14 board meeting. It is causing teachers to make impossible choices.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I think my junior year is pretty messed up. I miss my friends and I know I am not learning as much as I would if we could go to school. What really bothers me is that we were told a couple of times that we would go back to school, when we help flatten the curve or when we are in the red tier. Then this was not an option anymore, even when our numbers here in San Diego were low enough and our schools were allowed to open. Then we were told we would come back for the 2nd quarter and I was really looking forward to it. Again, it did not happen. I know that a lot of my friends don't believe that we won't be back in school for the entire school year. They have given up hope, but I have not.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Please let us have a choice and find a safe way for students and teachers to come back on campus. I am 16 years old and a student at TPHS.</p> <p>I support full school opening as soon as possible after January 4. Our students are not doing fine during distance learning. I have personally seen an all-student falling into depression and doctor diagnosed Covid isolation was part of the cause. My own student said that the lack of personal engagement with the teacher and friends have made study more difficult. Zoom meeting simply cannot replace in person class. Education is not just learning academic concepts. School life is an integral and important part of education, the class interaction, the breaks, extra-curriculars, sports, and friendship are all important aspect of a balanced growth environment. And the full education experience can only be achieved when students are on campus. Students have been out of school for 9 months now. There seems to be no quick end to the Pandemic. The vaccine is not widely available to all Americans until at least the second part of 2021. But we need to act before permanent damage is done to the student's mental and intellectual wellness. The WHO, CDC and Dr. Fauci all emphasized the need to keep school open because scientifically the risk to the school community is very small. We make decision based on our own risk assessment. The School Board makes assessment after balancing the risks to the school community - most importantly the students. After all, schools exist to educate our youth. It is not possible to attain 100% safety. I risk getting COVID grocery shopping. Teachers are designated as essential worker for a reason. Schooling to students is as important as healthcare to patients. We see healthcare workers, retail workers, first-responders, grocery workers, etc., going to work every day, with masks, hand sanitizers and social distancing. Teachers should be no different. Issues raised by the teachers union are common to all essential workers. Many teachers are doing their best to deliver a distance learning education to our kids. To them I thank you and am grateful. But it is time to go back to school and give the students a learning environment they deserve.</p>
Qin Anderson	<p>My son is in 9th grade. The freshmen are hit the hardest in terms of social isolation. They have not met anyone on campus yet and it's hard to form any friendship their classmates who they only met over the zoom. Learning in group setting is essential for young adult or for anyone in that matter.</p>
Randy Gupta	<p>My kids are doing well with DL. We make them get out of bed, WE make them tell us what is happening, WE provide safe social opportunities for them. It is not the school's responsibility to raise our kids, it is to educate and do it safely. LOOK AT OUR OWN COMMUNITY- Scripps Encinitas is at 150% capacity due to increasing demand. Don't say this is "normal" the recent caseload of Coronavirus is 27.0-FOUR TIMES THE PURPLE TIER. HS students can get and transmit coronavirus, studies in India by Princeton, a 65k person study in South Korea also proved this. The CDC regards in person learning as "high risk." Recently, 700 epidemiologists surveyed, only 26% sent their kids to in person school. Locally, NBC reported that Lakeside schools closed down were because of exposure on campus. There have been NINE documented community outbreaks at SD schools according to the County. Dr. Kimberly Praher at UCSD of the panel that advises schools all across the US said about OUR "safe" plan: "It's crazy. I don't know how else to say it. 3 feet in a classroom is not good....Distance in a classroom is very important." She also added ventilation is important- do all the windows open in every classroom, are the hvac systems the same throughout- they aren't. Who cleans the classrooms in the short amount of time between classes? The PPE is insufficient currently, what are the plans to resupply? There is no plan in place for "lunch" or passing periods in your "safe" plan. Where will the kids eat when it rains? Why does your dashboard not update at regular intervals? To consider opening on Jan. 4th- after a two week break where people will be travelling, is inconceivable of a "world class district." It has been suggested to "not let your choice affect mine," consequently your choice of demanding your kids be sent back to school in the midst of a massive spread of the virus, shouldn't affect others.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Dear San Dieguito School Board. My comment is in support of item 10b. As a front line health care provider at Scripps Hospital, I understand the necessity of essential services. Hospitals are essential. Our schools are essential also. We can't adequately care for our patients remotely, and our students are not getting adequate education and socialization remotely. At our hospital, with proper protection, incidence of Covid is no higher than the general public. With proper planning, our schools can do the same. Those families that choose to continue to learn from home can do so. Alternatively, we, who want our students in class, can opt for in-class education. My daughter is not receiving the education and experience she needs for her future, and I worry that many if not most other students are in the same dilemma. This is a societal issue, one that may have repercussions for years to come. I know, as a board, your responsibilities are great and the decision is difficult, but I implore you to please reopen the classrooms.</p>
Ryan Giusta	<p>Highest Risk On the CDC's Continuum of Risk, the SDUHSD Reopening Plan is now considered "Highest Risk" because "students mix freely between classes and activities". Local elementary schools are considered "Some Risk" because of stable cohorts of 10-15 students 2 days/week. With roughly half of our students choosing to return to campus, our high schools will have cohorts of roughly 200-300 students 1 day/week. (400-600 if we move to 2 days/week) It doesn't seem right to expose students to this level of risk with such large cohorts.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Please re-consider the safety of opening schools on January 4th. Our Positive cases in San Diego continue to rise since Thanksgiving. On Saturday there were 2,867 new positive cases. We still do not know the long term effects of recovering for young adults. Our high school students will spread the disease at the same rate as adults. I believe the mental anguish of knowing that they may have spread the virus and caused someone's death is greater than continuing to stay at home until everyone can get the vaccine. Parents should be working with teachers instead of against them.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Thank you for this measured, flexible hybrid approach to reopening.</p> <p>I appreciate the district's approach to serve all students with a safe and flexible approach that provides for the continuity of our children's education and preservation of their schedules and teachers.</p> <p>Unfortunately, this pilot program should not be happening while San Diego County remains in the purple tier, much less with our drastically increasing case numbers well above CDC recommendations for such a high risk indoor activity.</p> <p>Please act responsibly and protect our students, teachers, and families and postpone this reopening until we are out of the purple tier.</p> <p>Our teachers are the heart, guts, labor and cornerstone of our amazing district.</p> <p>If we lose even a few of them, our district will suffer in the long-term.</p> <p>Substitutes are NO substitute - random, untrained substitutes do not advance the learning of secondary students in any way.</p> <p>Days with only substitutes are classroom time wasted.</p> <p>It is extremely short-sighted of the district to not generously offer any teacher who wants it the option to teach from home, especially since the continued model is distance learning.</p> <p>Let's take those substitutes and put them in the classroom to supervise students while the teacher teaches safely from home if that's what they need.</p> <p>The vaccine is so close, please lets get to the finish line together as a district with our reputation, teachers, students, community, and soul intact.</p>
Anonymous	<p>There will always be reasons for inaction. Inaction is easier. It is not the right thing to do. Our kids are dying, literally. Of course there are some that are fine and they can stay remote. Do not lose the remote option. There are teachers that will want to come back (great!) and teachers that won't (sorry, our admins will have to hire. That is part of their job). Stop listening to the reasons to not open and just open. Work out the kinks. Our kids deserve your best - the board's best, the district leadership's best, the school site admin's best.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I am a science student at CCA and I am missing out on both biology and QUEST labs which have been poorly virtualized. I also feel as though my teachers do not know when I am struggling due to this poor online interface.</p>
Scott Huntley	<p>I have been a teacher in this district for 15 years. I am credentialed to teach a dozen different subjects, am a member of the District CTE Academic Committee, and have been District Teacher of the Year. I am an expert at providing instruction for my course curriculum, and use my years of experience to care for the social and educational needs of my students. Yet, it has been suggested that my knowledge and experience can be replaced by an unemployed parent, or a person driving down Santa Fe who sees a help wanted sign.</p> <p>Many of you in this meeting have been welcomed into my classroom and we have had extensive conversations relating to my content area, my students, and your favorite recipes. You have participated in the rich educational experiences and creative explorations I facilitate for my students.</p> <p>Those who are convinced that we should immediately return to in-person learning fail to consider how the reopening plan will negatively impact my instruction. Under this system, I will have 2-6 students in my classroom, masked, wearing headphones, and watching their chromebooks as I teach the majority of my students who are at home. How is this a superior solution?</p> <p>I have always felt pride in my job, support from my community, and most importantly from the District Office and Board of Trustees. I cannot remember a time when there was this level of animosity toward, and disregard for, the value of what I do on a daily basis. Teacher morale is lower than I have ever experienced, mostly because we do not feel that our community is supporting us. We have heard, instead, that we are selfish and scared when we express reasonable concerns about returning to in-person learning under these circumstances.</p> <p>I am not afraid to return to the classroom but I am concerned by those that are pushing forward in spite of your educators urging caution. Under these circumstances we know instruction will be greatly inferior to the current Distance Learning model. My experience and expertise make me 100% certain of that.</p>

Name	Written Comments
Anonymous	I don't think it is prudent to open up the schools on January 4th, or to pursue more aggressive reopening for 3rd quarter, now that we are seeing a surge in COVID cases in our community. I am concerned for teachers and staff. I think all teachers should have the option to teach from home, just like the students have a choice to learn from home. Kids that come to school could sit in the classroom with an aide and "distance learn" from school, with their teacher remote. It would be much easier to find adults that could sit in classes, than to find qualified substitutes. Why put teachers at risk when we are so close to the end of this, with vaccines in sight? Let's push through that extra month or two and do this safely. You can see that five DMUSD employees (and four in-person DMUSD kids) have COVID right now. And they are putting in way more safety measure than SDUHSD proposes. This is just not worth it.
Shannon Kearns	I am one of the thousands of parents who strongly believe we should delay reopening for more students until San Diego County is out of the purple tier. I do believe we should keep students with prioritized needs on campus until infections are under control as recommended by protocols set forth by UC San Diego, like other schools have done. I also think the Board should consider using Sunset as an in person learning option since it already exists. Our district's reputation for academic excellence is not a result of parents' actions or those of the Board. Our teachers are what makes our district what it is. They are irreplaceable. Literally. According to articles in the paper and online, substitutes are not easy to find. And you know that, hence the suggestion at the last meeting that we hang banners to attract people driving by to be substitutes in our district. I want to ensure that my sons' teachers will be safe and be able to continue teaching online because they are the key to my sons' mental, emotional and academic well being. My boys are doing amazingly well with online learning and they love their teachers. Yes, they are challenged. If teachers are forced to return to an unsafe work condition and either choose to, or have to, go on leave, then it's our students and their education that will suffer. For my kids, not knowing if their teachers will continue to teach and what is going to happen next year is more stressful than not physically returning to the classroom. A vaccine is on its way. There is an end. I implore you not to risk having our teachers have to leave the classroom and our students because it is not safe for them. I hope that you will not create chaos within the classroom for our kids. Work together and find a solution for everyone. Shannon Kearns
Anonymous	I am a parent of two boys at SDA. I am perplexed as to why SDUHSD does not have a reopening plan? I'm sure you've seen the pictures being circulated of Santa Fe Christian classes being held live/in-person. I strongly advocate for re-opening our schools for in-person learning as quickly as possible. Why can't we do it? We CAN. Being online on Virtual calls all day is depressing, causing a low self esteem and social skills, and isolating...not to mention the poor grades. The mental health far outweighs the risk. Why is this not being addressed? I am at a loss as to why the teachers Union, Dr Haley, and the board are not representing the kids. PLEASE RE-OPEN SCHOOLS. My only little bit of hope is having a new board of trustees who will have our kids best interest at heart. Studies show that the transmission rate is lower while kids are in school. The CDC noted it's safe for kids to go back to school with PPE. I know there are teachers that do want to go back. Teachers are essential workers. Those who don't want to go back; take a furlough or retire.
Anonymous	I am a teacher in the district and I am currently experiencing compromised immunity and complications related to a cancer diagnosis which will require an additional surgery at the earliest possible date. This surgery will require an approximately 2-week recovery period. Due to the School Board's decision to require in-person teaching, I am experiencing tremendous stress and sleepless nights trying to outweigh my commitment to my students or my personal health. If we maintain our current status as online teaching, I can continue my current workload, possibly within 7 to 10 days after my surgery. However, teaching in-person may force me to be absent up to three weeks, based on my doctor's recommendations. With the already minimal substitute teacher pool, I will be placing an extra burden on my administration to ensure coverage for my classes. Also, having a substitute will introduce a potential unknown into my classroom possibly exposing my students considering a substitute teacher may be traveling among various classrooms and/or engaging with multiple groups within our school or school district. Therefore, I urge you to maintain online teaching. We have already subjected our students, parents, staff and teachers to constant fluctuations to their lives with shifting news and expectations. If we continue with what everyone knows and is familiar with, we can give our community mental and emotional stability.
Anonymous	My 8th grade daughter is really struggling with distance learning. It is clearly impacting not just her mental health but her academic achievement. It is outrageous that these schools are still closed and don't seem to have a coherent plan to reopen in the near future. There is no evidence that schools are conducive to spreading COVID. In fact, all of the evidence points to the contrary. My younger daughters are in school 5 days a week in the Del Mar Union School District and have been going to school since September. There is no reason why my 8th grade daughter should be denied the right to in-person instruction when the schools can clearly be re-opened safely. Please do the right thing, and re-open the schools as soon as possible.
Anonymous	I am a sophomore at Torrey Pines. When I went home on March 13th I thought I would be back in school in 2 weeks. 3 months later I still haven't been back and I miss my friends and teachers at school, my field hockey and lacrosse teams and most of all my social life on campus. Distance learning was okay for a little while, but now I have enough. My little sister and many other students I know go to school every day and it works for them and for their schools. I don't understand why our school can't open safely when so many other schools can. Please reopen our schools as soon as possible. Thank you.
Susanne Klas	I am very hopeful that the new board of trustees will finally put our students first. My two high school students have been out of school and in front of their screens for distance learning for the past 9 months with no end in sight. In the meantime they had high hopes when schools were officially allowed to open in September and then again, when the district told them they would come back for one day in November and for two days in December. All those promises were broken and our students' hopes for a return to campus crushed. It's devastating! How many more times do you want to disappoint our children? When do you start to put their education and mental, emotional and social well-being first? If this goes on much longer it will be disastrous for so many students. Our students have taken on their fair share of responsibility, they stayed home in front of their screens all day long (which is - according to a friend of mine who is a neurologist at Scripps - "the absolute worst for a developing brain") to keep their communities and families safe. It's about time this award-winning school district lives up to its reputation to be engaged-inspired-prepared. So far I have not seen any of this. Schools around us have opened - elementary schools and private schools mainly- and continue to stay open. I understand this is a different situation, but it's about time this school district is creative and solution oriented enough to give our public school students what they deserve: at least some normalcy, at least some in-person instruction, at least some time back on campus, at least some hope. Giving them nothing is simply not enough!
Anonymous	Please continue to work diligently to offer the choice to students who want to be on campus for as many days possible for classes for Q2 and Q3. The rollercoaster my student experiences on a weekly basis is very unhealthy - his frustration with the inconsistencies in quality of instruction from his teachers, the small amount of synchronous instruction he receives, and his isolation from other students away from campus cause anxiety and mood swings. He hates school for the first time in his life and reels between boredom and being overwhelmed. The CDC and Academic articles state the facts of this pandemic and the toll it is taking on our society - but our students will bear the brunt of the negative outcomes. Open our schools to families who need their students to attend in person school for their mental well-being.
Anonymous	Our kids need to be given the choice to learn in person on campus. Right now they don't have any choices, except to sit in their pajamas in their rooms by themselves to learn through a computer screen all day long. Then they spend more time on their computer doing homework. One of my kids doesn't even have any text books. They are all online. Most classes don't require students have their screens on. Please give our students a choice to go back to in person learning.
Anonymous	I am a junior at SDA. I request the board listen to science and all of the studies and allow us to return to in-person school 5 days a week at the end of the 2nd quarter. My education is suffering from "distance learning." I do not feel like I am going to be prepared for my senior year or for college if this continues. I have friends in private schools that are open. I should have the same educational opportunities as them! There is also a vaccine now thanks to President Trump and Warp Speed.
Tracey Bannon	Distance learning can be effective if you have a good set up which this district does as their teachers are exceptional. The students in this district are motivated to learn and most are doing well online. However most folks will agree classroom teaching and learning is preferable for most- but not in a raging pandemic, in a purple tiered county whose hospitals are struggling and whose citizens are under a stay-at-home order. Online learning is working for most students and there are multiple efforts to help those who need it. You are calling your teachers, staff and students back at a time when Covid is at it's worse and we will continue to see cases rise until well after the holidays. Students have a choice to return or stay home and most will choose to stay home until the school can safely open as many parents have attested. Calling the educators and staff back at this time is asking them to make choices between their jobs and family safety. Small children are not in school and daycare is not an option. Your only solution to this is unpaid leave and for many this is unattainable..for single parents, impossible. It is impossible! They are forced to put their vulnerable at risk or go without a paycheck. Others have had to make heart wrenching decisions - put their own lives at risk or resign their jobs. It is an unconscionable situation and one which is unnecessary. Other schools have opted for the safety and well-being of their teachers, staff and students. SDUHSD is a highly rated educational district and the foundation of that ranking is this districts exceptional teachers. Your safety procedures may look good on paper but many will not be substantiated if even implemented. Purple tier is not the time to open your campuses, you know what will happen- people will get sick. Some people may get very sick and your vote on reopening the schools is crucial in that determination. The vaccine is almost here. Please keep the schools closed and continue safe online learning from home until we can safely open the school.
Cherie Heid	I am writing in support of a reopening plan for in-person classes. It is important that all students in our district have the option to return to campus in January if they choose. Our students are not doing well with distance learning. The isolation of home learning has 100% led to stress, anxiety, loneliness, and a harder time understanding the curriculum through a laptop so GRADES ARE SLIPPING. Our kids need to be back in person with their teacher and their peers.
Ronette Youmans	Here we are, in the purple tier, as hospitalizations soar right after the Thanksgiving Break. And now you want to begin reopening our schools after the Winter Break? Dr. Anthony Fauci has said that the COVID outbreak will get worse before it gets better and the country won't see dramatic changes until the third quarter of next year. I quote: "I think January is gonna be terrible, because you're gonna have the Thanksgiving surge super-imposed upon the Christmas surge." Research tell us that teens and pre-teens have been clearly shown to spread the virus as much as adults. And you STILL want to reopen the schools on Jan 4? This is no longer about patients who have COVID, and what's good for teachers and students. A January reopening is putting our entire community at risk. Bringing thousands of students after Winter Break right is cruel & horribly disruptive to preparation for end-of-term finals. Bringing school staff and teachers on campuses on Jan 4 is absolutely irresponsible. We have not heard about any increase in custodial staff to help teachers disinfect between classrooms and tents? What additional security staff will be hired to hallways and make sure the bathrooms are not above the capacity? Who will escort students to the health office if they have a problem? What happens at lunch? How will students hear their teachers outside in tents when the teachers are wearing masks? We, the community, are not reassured by your precarious proposals. Our safety doesn't seem to be an important factor in your haphazard decisions. We are scared.
Anonymous	Dear Board- I am a ninth grader at LCC. I am doing well in distance learning and do not think it is safe to return to school on January 4th. Originally, I wanted to come to school, but now with so many people sick, even people I know, I don't think it is safe. I also don't understand why you would have us sit so close together- it's only three feet apart! Does distance learning at school make sense? How will we even hear the teacher through a mask? With the rising cases, including my own grandmother in the hospital- I do NOT think we should open after the break.
Anonymous	San Dieguito High School District should be moving forward to immediately implement and adopt a plan for students to return to campus for in-person instruction immediately. The students have suffered and will continue to suffer with a "distance learning program". The best distance learning program is not as good as in-person instruction. If the teachers don't want to return, then either terminate their employment or let them go without pay and hire a long-term substitute teacher. If a student doesn't want to return, then allow them to continue with the "distance learning program", but stop punishing those who want to return to in-person instruction just because some people don't want return.
Anonymous	The tradeoff is clear. Students learn better in person, and the risk of reopening is low. Do the right thing. Bring our students back on campus in a meaningful way. Not 1 day per week. At least 2 days in January. Then go full time for quarter 3.
Anonymous	I am a school counselor in the district and I also have two of my own students that attend high school in the district. In the distance learning platform, as a counselor, I have continued to diligently serve my students and families daily- just as I would when doing in person learning. I meet with students and families over google meet, host and attend meetings, reach out to my students and work tirelessly to provide excellent care to each and every one of the students on my case load. I also meet regularly with my students who are designated for small group in person learning to check in and provide support to meet their needs. My husband and I believe that our daughters are receiving an excellent and consistent education in the distance learning platform. They are both excelling academically and engaged in learning on a consistent daily basis. Their top notch teachers are accessible, engaging, and provide time during asynchronous class time to connect, answer questions and provide help, as needed. Community transmission rates are out of control and health care capacity is dangerously reduced. SDUHSD should delay reopening for more students until San Diego County is out of the purple tier, focusing instead on keeping only students with prioritized needs on campus until infections are under control as recommended by protocols set forth by UC San Diego Return to Learn program. I do not feel safe, given the current COVID rates and practices that are happening or not happening on site, to expand to more students doing in person learning. Please do not bring more students on campus until it is deemed safe to do so and we are no longer in the purple tier.
Tracy Cereghino	Please implement necessary safety measures to get our students back in the classrooms. Face masks and proper ventilation work! DL is a poor substitute for in person learning. Please acknowledge that most other states and European countries have their schools open and are doing everything they can to keep kids in school. We can do this. Our students are not thriving in DL.
Travis Lucero	Children > Unions. Please put the childrens needs above the unions agenda
Anonymous	I would really like to go back to school because I think it is a much better experience than online school. Kids get social interaction and also have a better opportunity to learn in a more open environment. We are able to interact with kids more and teachers better, and there is just something about in person school that makes it so much more worthy of time than online school.
Tricia Neill	Board Members - I am asking you to move forward with the Safe Reopening of our schools. As a parent of an 8th grader at Oak Crest, I can tell you that the Distance Learning Model is not working for my child. She is suffering socially and emotionally to a point that is unacceptable due to these closures. She has stopped leaving her room during the day and is becoming depressed with back issues from laying in bed and not moving all day. She has become antisocial to a point that she talks with only one other person her age on a regular basis. She has lost her passion for school and feels like the teachers are not giving her work that is challenging. She drops off and on the internet due to WiFi and computer issues daily and is frustrated with that as well. My daughter desperately needs to be on campus. We can do this safely. The CDC and government leaders have been very clear - school is safe, and that's where kids need to be. Our kids have been waiting for your leadership. Please, please, please move forward with getting them on campus safely as the top priority. We simply cannot wait any longer.
Kimberly Harkin	I am writing as a parent of a student at CCA and a student at PTMS and requesting that you delay the reopening of SDUHSD until infections are under control as recommended by protocols set forth by the UC San Diego Return to Learn program. The currently proposed safety protocols are NOT sufficient for a sustainable reopening. While SDUHSD may pride itself in being a high ranking school district, the current plan is well below the minimum health and safety standards for its teachers and students. An inadequate approach to safety protocols jeopardizes the health of teachers, students, staff, their families and as a result the community at large. While I may be given the choice to allow my children to remain home, I fully believe that it is unfair to ask the teachers in our district to put their health at risk. Teachers should also be given the choice to work from home. The potential loss of teachers will not only degrade the school district, but our children's educations. Distance learning is the safe, stable, and sustainable option for students, teachers, and staff at this moment. On a side note, I have read the letter from a teacher in our school district voicing concerns about the reopening, and newly elected board member Michael Allman's response. I am deeply concerned that a board member could be so insensitive, unprofessional, and rude to a teacher in our community. I expect more from a person who hopes to have a future in public service.

Name	Written Comments
Anonymous	<p>Dear San Dieguito School Board,</p> <p>I am a student at CCA and I would like nothing more than to go back to in-person school. It is extremely difficult for me to learn online, even though I have tried hard to adapt to this system of learning. I have fallen behind in my classes, and am often confused. When I am confused on something we are learning and try to get in contact with my teachers, there are many times when I don't get an answer, and this leads to not doing so well on quizzes/tests. Emotionally, it sucks too, not being able to interact with friends and classmates. Seeing people online through a computer is not the same. Please allow those who want to come back in-person to have that chance.</p> <p>Sincerely, Vanessa Zeman</p>
Victoria A. Ahumada	<p>Board members:</p> <p>I write as a concerned citizen and educator regarding the Board's decision to disregard the health and safety of the students, teachers, and staff of the SDUHS district in recommending a return to in-person schooling on January 4.</p> <p>The country is reeling from this pandemic, and I need not recount for you here the number of fatalities and infected persons nationally and locally. That the Board would jeopardize the health and safety of those is liable for, for those it must act as 'en loco parentis', is truly a violation of a most sacred responsibility.</p> <p>While there is no dispute about the social and emotional advantages to in-person schooling, that argument is not weighty enough to disregard the health and safety of all concerned. Additionally, the regular social activities that usually accompany in-person schooling are cancelled so that students returning to school would not be afforded those games, conferences, seminars, study groups anyway.</p> <p>It is my hope that the Board will act responsibly, as the SDUHS Board has done in the past through so many difficult times. None, however, has been as difficult as this, and this is one which truly requires the most judicious and cautious of actions.</p> <p>Victoria Murphy Ahumada 1969 Outtrigger Way, OceanSide, CA</p>
Anonymous	<p>As a senior graduating this year, I've never felt like this district has done anything to support my safety and wellbeing. By continuously making decisions that go against the majority opinion of STUDENTS and TEACHERS, the district has lost the respect and trust of not only me but my fellow students as well as teachers. The fact that members of your board do not care about how teachers will be affected by going back is mindblowing and horrid. Student opinions have always been for show and have never really been acknowledged anyways...to be honest I'm glad I get to escape this horrible district next year. I feel for my fellow younger students and teachers who have to deal with the ineptitude of the district for the next couple of years.</p>
Anonymous	<p>We have waited too long to reopen the schools. Please reopen as promised in January. The students' needs and interests should come first. Please bring them back and teach concurrently (both to students who are in person and at home). This had been done successfully in high schools and colleges.</p>
Yu Linda Song	<p>Dear Supt Haley & Board Members, As a family we are hoping to see a well thought out testing plan for students as part of the return to campus. We have not seen such a plan. We believe in order to safely spend more than 15 minutes within 6 feet or less, precautions need to be made and screening for Covid is one way to do that. Schools that have opened for any in-person classes (including hybrid, which includes combination of in-person and virtual classes) can benefit from developing a testing strategy. Many young people are asymptomatic and will spread the virus unknowingly. Please lay out a testing plan as part of the Reopening. We would feel more comfortable sending kids back with a testing plan. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-testing.html</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
Justin Davis	<p>My name is Justin Davis, a junior at Canyon Crest Academy. Distance learning works; there is no educational benefit for going back to school even for one day a week, as the student will literally be doing the same thing as their peers online, but in a dangerous environment. It is simply impossible to stop the spread of COVID through our schools, as we have seen younger students in elementary schools as well as with college students, and our school will be no exception, especially with our outdated ventilation system, the proposed 3-foot spacing, the atrociously small amount of people quarantined per case, and the rotating of people through classes. Furthermore, switching on January 4th (3 weeks before finals) would be incredibly stressful for a multitude of reasons. For one, a complete switch of schooling style would take the emphasis off of the learning itself and putting it instead on how to manage the class. Furthermore, many of our teachers would leave because they're uncomfortable with the proposed environment and we would be stuck with a sub who, from my experience and from that of many of my peers, rarely knows what they're talking about. In 5 Spanish classes, I've only ever had 1 sub out of at least 10-15 who actually spoke a word of Spanish. This would hurt us for both our AP exams AND finals, hurting our ability to get into a good college. We are very lucky to have some incredible teachers that do their job incredibly well and shouldn't be replaced because they care about their safety or that of their loved ones. It is SIGNIFICANTLY better to have a qualified teacher online than an unqualified adult off of the street in person, especially because a vast majority of people want to continue with distance learning.</p>
Item #10c - CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION 5132.1, STUDENT MASK AND FACE COVERINGS AT SCHOOL	
Anonymous	<p>Face coverings are an essential part of Covid safety protocols. Air circulation in classrooms and distancing should also be addressed.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Please don't allow students to have 3 opportunities to refuse to wear a mask. The guidelines from CDPH clearly state that students must wear a mask if they are opting for in person learning. This poses a risk to anyone in a classroom.</p>
Lily Bolig	<p>This does not have any guidance as to what masks are acceptable and what aren't. Not all masks are equally effective. It is worrying that SDUHS currently does not have any guidance on mask types. The Return to Learn program has guidances we should be following.</p>
Olga Freedman	<p>Middle and high schools must keep Distance Learning for all except high priority groups, until SD County is out of purple tier or until teachers and students can be vaccinated!</p> <p>Distance Learning works now.</p> <p>Bringing large student population to school in person risks community transmission. It will result in people bouncing in and out of quarantine, will be dangerous and disruptive</p>
Anonymous	<p>If a student is unable to wear a mask or face covering due to a medical condition, they should not be going to school for their own safety. It would be irresponsible to put themselves in a situation where they could be infected when classroom ventilation is poor and the school is only encouraging and not enforcing social distance during lunch. This is the time when all students will be without a mask since they will be eating and drinking and are more susceptible to transmitting the virus.</p>
Item #10d - CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION REGARDING EXPANDED SCHOOL OPENING (SUBMITTED BY TRUSTEE-ELECT ALLMAN)	
Jason Todd Ipson	<p>It is clear from these comments that the Union is trying to stack comments to imply that we should not be opening schools. This is in defiance of the science and recommendations of the CDC, WHO, and Pediatrics Association. The children are being hurt in unrecoverable ways. To me, it is embarrassing to see the Teachers Unions not supporting their students.</p> <p>The burden is on the board to lead. The children need in person classroom education. A plan that allows those that do not wish to return to stay online, but everyone else to return 5 days a week is not only fair - it is morally what you are obliged to do.</p> <p>I am a physician taking care of Covid patients regularly. Our grocery stores are taking care of society. Why on earth are we allowing schools to remain closed? This is unethical.</p> <p>Do not continue to take politics over our children. Please put a plan in place to reopen now. Thank you.</p>
Abby Brown	<p>I have been teaching at Torrey Pines High School for over 20 years and I am a TPHS graduate that grew up in this community. Our school district and teachers have a long history of successful collaboration and mutual respect that has created an environment for the students in our educational programs to thrive.</p> <p>Distance learning is certainly not ideal and is more challenging than in-person learning. However, it is significantly more manageable than proposed hybrid models, especially beginning in January while the pandemic is only getting worse and immediately following Winter Break when many students will be traveling with their families. The minimal PPE teachers have been provided in their classrooms is insufficient for many teachers to feel protected. For example, the plastic barrier does not surround our desks nor does it prevent particles from reaching us. The filters we were provided are designed for spaces with smaller volume than our classrooms.</p> <p>My colleagues and I have never worked harder than we have this fall to provide the quality education we are passionate to deliver to our students, yet there is only so much we can give. Many teachers are scared, confused about their options, and worried about childcare plans. These pressures are not coming from the union. These are the pressures in our lives. Combining all this with restructuring our pedagogy (again) and the fear of returning to campuses with students who could give us or our families a life-changing (or life-ending) illness is too much to bear. This will weigh us down and affect what we are able to continue to give to our students. Teachers are supposed to be early recipients of the vaccines becoming available. Waiting a bit longer so that we have this opportunity to protect ourselves would alleviate a considerable portion of this strain.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I object to Michael Allman being designated as a board "delegate and representative" on facilitating any reopening plan, or as "spokesperson" for these matters. First, why would any board member want to relinquish his/her direct participation in that process. Second, Mr. Allman's vile response to a teacher's letter that is circulating on social media should preclude him outright from any spokesperson role. His response proves his animosity toward major stakeholders, his rejection of the collaborative community of schools and families that have been the cornerstone of our award-winning district for decades, his lack of understanding of the basics of school and personnel management, and particularly his tone and language unbecoming of an elected representative, choosing tactics of dismissal and intimidation in his official communications as a sitting board member. If that role is necessary, other members of this board would better elicit the trust necessary for the district to execute any plan with public support. Mrs. Gibson has demonstrated her measured, articulate, information-based approach to these difficult matters. Mrs. Mossey always communicates in a positive, respectful manner. Both have experience on the board and can be trusted to communicate with our entire community.</p>
Adam Fischer	<p>This resolution starts off saying "Unless specifically ordered otherwise by an applicable public health order issued directly to the District by the County or State" and then lays out the plan. The problem is that the district HAS effectively been ordered to not reopen in the manner currently planned and certainly not in the manner laid out in this resolution.</p> <p>Bottom-line is that the district would be violating state law and exposing itself and its board members to legal liability if it reopens before the county has been out of the purple tier for 14 days.</p> <p>The California Department of Public Health rules specifically state in the Schools FAQ (https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Schools-FAQ.aspx) that a school is only considered "open" under the July 17 school reopening framework if it is operating in a manner beyond small cohorts as specified in the Cohorting Guidance. Also, schools that are not "open" cannot expand their reopening unless the county has been out of the purple tier for 14 days. SDUHS schools have only (with the sole exception of Sunset High School) been operating with small groups under the Cohorting Guidance. Therefore, the schools cannot reopen until the county has been out of the purple tier for 14 days, and to do so would be unlawful.</p> <p>The district is correct in that the authority on this matter is not the SDCOE. The district says that the controlling authority is San Diego County. And while San Diego County is the authority at the county level, the county cannot be less restrictive than the state, and the district thus needs to at least follow the state CDPH rules regardless.</p> <p>The district can claim they are waiting for San Diego County to issue updated guidance on this matter, however that won't change the state rules that the district would be directly violating if it opens schools before the county has been out of the purple tier for 14 days. That will not happen by January 4, and so the district should only plan to reopen in a lawful manner.</p>
Anonymous	<p>As a community, we have endured so much during this pandemic. Many of us have lost loved ones to C-19. Many of us have fallen ill. Our nemesis is the virus – not each other. The vitriol unleashed in recent months saddens me greatly. We are turning against each other at a time when we should be coming together to stem this tide of sickness and death claiming thousands of American lives each day.</p> <p>The good news is that a vaccine is just a couple months, if not weeks, away. We've come so far already. Let's stand together in support of our teachers and our community. Let's show our children that we can resolve our differences in ways that are respectful, caring and humanizing.</p> <p>Because the alternative is just too costly – and not just in lives. We risk inflicting wounds to our community that will outlast the pandemic. The distrust, fear and hatred we sow now between neighbors, parents, teachers, students, staff, administrators, and publicly elected officials will take years to heal. And it will impart lasting lessons for our children who bear witness to our ability or inability to come together in a time of crisis.</p> <p>Among the most hurtful accusations being hurled is that "teachers and principals don't want to do their jobs." Prior to this pandemic, it would have been unthinkable to say this. A year ago, we were effusive with gratitude during Staff Appreciation Week.</p> <p>What changed? Our teachers haven't changed. They continue to do an outstanding and heroic job of teaching our children under extremely challenging circumstances. We have some of the best schools in the country, thanks in large part to these very teachers. What has changed is an undeniably deadly virus.</p> <p>Remote school is not ideal. But it also hasn't been an unmitigated disaster. And it is temporary.</p> <p>We've come so far. We're almost to the finish line! We can continue to tear each other apart. Or we can come together and hang in there for just a few more weeks – choosing to demonstrate our ability to work out our differences with kindness and respect.</p>

Name	Written Comments
Amber La-Haise	<p>Our son has been allowed to attend school on campus two days a week. One is spent sitting in an area with a few other kids on their own computers with headphones. He dreads these days as there is very minimal interaction with others. But on the other day he gets to be in a classroom with a real live person. He loves this day and comes alive. He enjoys school and is a much happier person, he feels like he is learning.</p> <p>There should be a choice for those of us that want to send our kids to school. I was given a choice when this started to either work or quit. As the schools didn't open and I had to remain home with my kids, I had to collect unemployment. There is no reason teachers should be given any other offer. They can make the choice of what works for them and their families. Anyone that would prefer to work in a distance format can seek a job that has that as an option.</p> <p>Kids and families continue to suffer as the schools remain "open" for only a select few. There are no more than 20 other students on campus with our son. Out of his six teachers three have been teaching from their classrooms from day one. Those teachers are the most organized and engaging. They are professional and on google meets with their class the whole time. The other three push out slides and assignments for the students to complete on their own. On Wellness Wednesday over half of his teachers don't even bother to log on for a google meet.</p> <p>The time has come for the schools to open for all of their students and provide them with the option of learning on campus or from a distance. Our students are falling further and further behind each day that you continue to give in to the union. Please move forward with opening the campuses and getting these students back to in person learning. You have provided the schools and the teachers with all of the safety measures needed and requested by the professionals.</p>
Amy Griffiths	<p>We can all sit here and tell you about how much our kids are suffering in online learning or how some teachers are taking advantage of the system by not being required to come to school. We can read countless anonymous emails about keeping schools closed for the safety of our community and the teachers. These messages are nothing new, they have been communicated over and over again since we were told in August that school is going online.</p> <p>Many of my friends and their friends want school to be back in person. The majority of parents want their kids back in school. Have they written in, No. Most of them have had to go back to work themselves in person and don't have the time to hours long board meetings that end up with no resolution or resolutions that don't get implemented.</p> <p>We constantly tell our children to be resilient, to look for creative solutions to their problems and yet the adults in charge of their education are not willing to do this themselves. Instead they take the easy way out and make excuses for why we cannot be back in school in person, why we cannot have a socially distanced graduation ceremony, why we cannot play sports, etc. No one that is being paid to be in charge is actually doing their job. All they do is make many excuses on why things cannot be done here while it is being done in states all over the country.</p> <p>As I am sitting here writing this statement my husband is looking at homes in different areas of the US to move to because even if you tell us that we'll definitely be open in the Spring of 2021 or even the Fall of 2021, your track record has made it very clear that you say one thing but don't actually mean to do it. I couldn't think of a worse message to send to my kids as you keep sending to ours, if it is too hard just give up or rather yet, instead of finding solutions just make excuses.</p>
Anonymous	<p>As a teacher in this district, I find it very concerning that SDUHSD does not want to work under the guidance of the San Diego County Department of Education. I have personally reached out to both SDCOE and SD Public health, they are both working closely together.</p> <p>SD Public Health's website: What determines if a school is considered "reopened" for in-person learning? If a school is providing in-person instruction for a portion of its student body, and that instruction is provided by a certified teacher and based on a formal curriculum, that school is considered open for in-person instruction.</p> <p>I have written communication from our admin team dated 11/16/20 (SD was in the purple tier at this time) on how to take attendance in our new program that has an option (200) to mark "in-person instruction". "Should we be checking the 200 box (in Section C) for students currently on campus? No, the 200 code is for students that are receiving in-person instruction. Current students are in distance learning, just on campus."</p> <p>It is very clear that while we do have students on campus that needed additional support we were not "open" under the SD Public Health definition. We need to legally and ethically wait until we are back into the red tier to safely open our schools. This is not political, this is not teacher vs. the community, this is a pandemic.</p>
Anonymous	<p>The resolution (10D) to reopen 5 days a week when we are having outrageous spikes is completely appalling, irresponsible and reckless. This is the hardest time, we are ALL covid fatigued but we are so close, the vaccine is rolling out. Surely we can work together and make the responsible choice to wait for the 5 day a week reopening. It is disheartening to see how divisive this has become. I am not sure how this district will recover from the bitterness. All the public schools that were open have recently closed. What's the point of reopening after a huge holiday break only to have to most likely close and quarantine after what surely will be a holiday spike? It makes zero sense, there is no logic in this. We need safe, consistent and responsible decisions. Please vote for safety.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Please provide the option to have students attend school full time or continue distance learning. Distance learning is not working for our children nor for many other students in the district. Schools are not dangerous as many schools in the county, state, across the country and around the world have illustrated. Students at home in distance learning is dangerous. Not just in the pure loss of academics but the lasting damage to their social and emotional well-being. Schools can be opened safely. The plan is in place. The schools have met the physical requirements of the plan. The next step is to add the students to the one place they are supposed to be -- in School.</p>
Amy Steinhoff	<p>Please approve in person on campus teaching and requiring teachers to teach from campus. The risks of transmission of COVID-19 at schools following the distancing and safety protocol is lower than in the community as a whole. Our kids need in-person teaching. My son, who is an excellent student, hates online learning and is getting burned out. This is creating a generation of kids who are disconnected and hate school. All the fun of school is gone, they only have the work. Put the fun back in school, get the kids back on campus with their teachers!</p>
Molly Schneider	<p>Seeing 10d on the agenda seems to ignore the work done by the board and district to this point. This item seems to be a single person focused initiative that is not collaborative or informed. What happened to the expanded reopening committee that was formed? A few meetings were had, with input from many viewpoints. Kristin Gibson and Melissa Mossy are both on the expanded reopening committees, are experienced board members and have been consistently involved in the planning. If anyone should be a "spokesperson" for the board, please choose a person with board experience and familiarity with the history of this issue as it pertains to this district. A trustee who campaigned on this issue cannot be neutral. Sitting board members Kristin and Melissa have encouraged people with different viewpoints to communicate with them, which is important.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I am a 13 year-old middle school student at Earl Warren. Participating in distance learning is depressing. The support from teachers is minimal. Having a sibling screaming in the background of your meet is annoying. When it comes to education, are you really learning anything? Thirty minutes of the class is taking attendance. When going on the meet you expect the same old thing, listening without intention. When you leave the meet, you are left alone.</p> <p>There were many times I remember where after I left the meet to do my work, I would stare at my screen for a few minutes. Wondering if it will ever be normal again. Where I would get up in the morning to get ready for school and actually go on campus. Instead, waking up is a natural disappointment.</p> <p>What is the meaning of getting up at seven just to get in a chair and open your computer? Looking at the many bored faces on my screen, I see no emotion, no connection. Just a cold stare looking right back at me. An empty imagination. No hope for a future. A cold environment that is silent, other than the tapping of your foot, waiting for the meet to end. Then to just go on alone.</p>
Jason Barry	<p>I am a parent of an Earl Warren Middle School 7th grader and I write to strongly advocate for as full a re-opening of campuses for in-person learning, as swiftly as possible. If you hadn't heard, photos have circulated of teachers doing the good work of live instruction for in-person classes of students. Regretfully, these classes are not ours, but the private school Santa Fe Christian, across from my daughter's campus.</p> <p>I am at a loss to explain why school is fully reopen there, safely, but not hers or others in our district. This private school pulls from the same communities. It's on the same street. And it proceeds with the business of teaching its students in ways they can truly engage and flourish, through on campus, in-person teaching. Maybe, too, a private school has to give real value to its tuition-paying families.</p> <p>Meanwhile, in anecdote after anecdote, our teachers teach from the slopes and the beach and on their way to wine country and out of state. One, supposedly even drank a beer during a broadcasted class. Apropos, it was a Corona.</p> <p>Do you hear the disparity, how the business of teaching differs from schools fully in session to ours? Since summer, our teachers — or their union leadership — have sidestepped a full return with impassioned concerns for safety. But none about the effects on the kids. None address the continuous spiral down the students endure. Isolation. Depression. Disengagement. Stifled interpersonal growth. Never mind an academic slide.</p> <p>The world may well be changing, but these holdouts of the teacher union leadership — want no part leaning in. Still, they get paid handsomely, while not doing the good work of teaching meaningfully, like across from my daughter's school.</p> <p>I long for when teachers are heroes again. Right now they aren't. Their students need to learn in-person, on-campus. It's beyond overdue. It's time to fully re-open our schools to the students who choose to return. Right now they are hurting. From laptops, their teachers may not realize. But I see the pain daily.</p>
Anonymous	<p>My youngest (elementary) is back to school 2 days a week in live instruction and the quality of her instruction is far, far, far exceeding the quality my older children are getting online only via SDUHSD. She will be back in school 4 days per week in a month. Students are hurting a great deal right now -- this cannot be understated --, we need to bring them back together in the classroom, and in light of the recommendations to do so made by the CDC, WHO and American Academy of Pediatrics. If they Union is truly committed to the children first, they should be lobbying to get the vaccine to their constituents ASAP and get their committed teachers back in class, not suing us to keep schools closed.</p>
Beth Hergesheimer	<p>As a recently retired board member I am very familiar with the conversation and actions regarding SDUHSD's return to school to date. Everyone has heard my positions regarding a safe, measured, incremental approach to expanding a return to campus. I know this board has some new voices now trying to address this effort. This item brought by new board member Michael Alliman is to me for concerning for several reasons. Firstly, Declarations 1 & 2 over-simplify all that has been considered to date regarding on-campus instruction efforts and frustrations. Most concerning to me at the moment, however, are Declarations 3 and 4 where the Governing Board designates Trustee Alliman as the Board's representative, decision maker and spokesperson for matters addressed by or arising from this Resolution. To support this resolution as written would be an abdication of board member responsibility. A basic tenet of school boards is that each board member is only one representative voice of five total. Your constituents elected each of you to represent their voices. A vote for this resolution is a vote to give up your future voice as trustees regarding this topic. Please do not support this resolution language or start down this slippery slope.</p>
Anonymous	<p>The science is clear- indoor activities with many different people from outside of your household is putting those at high risk for transmitting or contracting the virus (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/community/schools-childcare/schools.html, https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/q-a-how-is-covid-19-transmitted). That is the rationale behind the closure in the first place. We are in a much worse situation now than when schools first closed in March. We all agree that in-school learning is best. However we are in a pandemic which makes in-person learning (as it is typically in our district), the HIGHEST RISK on the continuum according to the CDC. (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/community/schools-childcare/schools.html) Risk could be adequately reduced for students, staff, and the community with daily testing of all who come on campus, reduced class sizes and cohorts, MERV-13+ filters, learning materials and supplies for each student. If you want in-person learning then spend the money to make it SAFE to do so. What's going to happen when a student falls ill or dies? Staff member? The potential for guilt and trauma is sky high, what resources will be there to support communities then? This is not a hypothetical or hyperbole, it's a matter of time.</p> <p>To say that distance learning has been all bad is garbage! We have the data to show that most students are doing alright IN A PANDEMIC. Grades have not declined in the way being painted by some board members, again we have the data to support this. Please do not think that a substitute pulled off the street will have the same positive impact on our students as teachers with decades of experience (at varying grade levels and courses), multiple credentials, advanced degrees, 100s of hours of professional development and established relationships with students and staff: that is incredibly wrong and disrespectful.</p>
Carrie Bishop	<p>Thank you to the Board for your work and dedication. I am hopeful we can bring our students and teachers/staff back soon, full time. As a parent of a Senior who has an IEP (and has not been invited back on campus), I am anxious to see the consistency and positive reinforcement that being in a regular school program will bring back to his life and those of his peers. Depression, self-harm and suicide are very real, and have a direct correlation to keeping our kids behind computer screens all day for their education. I applaud your efforts to use data and science from UCSD, the county health officer Wilma Wooten and even Dr. Fauci himself who emphatically states 'schools should be open'. I am also hopeful that you will use all covid funds possible, towards protecting the teachers, staff and students with building plexiglass walls in each class (while microphoning the teachers), installing hepa-grade air filters in each class along with swivel cameras so that concurrent teaching can be successful for those who choose to be in class and those who choose to remain in distance learning. We can see and read about the success this has had at many Universities nationwide. While I understand the want to make everything 100% safe, that will unfortunately, never happen. Thank you for understanding that, and for making our schools as safe as possible for a full-time re-start date, as soon as possible.</p>
0	<p>There are 88 people currently reported on TPHS campus. There are 2 teachers, 1 student, and 1 unknown positive cases in this on campus group. This is .4% away from the 5% closing the campus. When will the SDUHSD dashboard be updated?</p>
Bryn Faris	<p>Covid has killed more than twice the number of Americans who died in WWII. 5x as many as in Vietnam. 100x as many as 9/11 terrorist attacks. ICU capacity is at 9% in the So. CA region. There's a Regional Stay at Home order that prohibits gatherings of any size with people from other households. How does it make sense that some people are advocating for their child to be in a room mixed with people from 40 other families? Some argue that teachers didn't return to an empty classroom when asked. Teaching in an empty classroom would compromise the quality of education I've been delivering since August. My own children would be left home all day to manage this experience alone, which would contribute greatly to a decline in their mental wellness. They're not thriving, but they're okay - it's a sacrifice they're willing to make to help keep people in our community alive. My son is part of the increase in D/Fs. We're supporting him, his teachers have been working relentlessly - they've also been compassionate while being clear about expectations. That's what I want for my children as they navigate this time and learn what sacrifice and resiliency look like. My colleagues are taking a leave come January 4th. They are heartbroken for their students. But they believe their lives are worth more than your child's next 3 weeks (or 3 more months) of education. Their students will have a sub. Some will meet in the gym with 5 other classes under the sup of 1 sub. 5 classes of potentially 40 kids from 200 different households in a gym during a pandemic that has killed 50,000 Americans in the past 4 weeks. Why are so many people fighting to have their child made vulnerable to a situation with a potentially devastating outcome? My heart aches for the students who are struggling with mental health issues. My heart aches for their parents. I am one of them. That some people are here attacking teachers who are trying to protect their students, their families, and themselves from a virus that has killed 1.61 million people in one year is heartbreaking. I cannot wait for this to be over.</p>

Name	Written Comments
Clinton Gile	<p>The purpose of my comment is to encourage adoption of the Expanded Reopening Resolution to be considered under Agenda item 10d.</p> <p>I am the parent of a current senior at La Costa Canyon, and I am in favor of providing students a choice to return to campus for in-person instruction beginning on January 4, 2021.</p> <p>I encourage the Board, Administrators, Teachers and Staff to use all available resources to plan for and implement in-person instruction for any students desiring to return to campus in January 2021.</p> <p>Thank you for your efforts to date and please continue to work toward the goal of returning our students to campus for instruction as soon as possible.</p> <p>Thank you, Clint Gile</p>
Anonymous	<p>First and foremost, please understand that the vast majority of SDUHSD's teachers do this work because we love children. We are a group of professionals who have graduate-level degrees who choose a lesser-paying career in order to help shape the brilliant minds of the next generation. As someone who gives countless weekends up in order to support our students in extracurricular activities (many of which are still happening during virtual learning) for very little extra pay, please understand that I do this because I absolutely love working with my students.</p> <p>There is a dangerous narrative that educators do not want to return to the classroom because we are lazy, or prefer working from home, when this could not be further from the truth. We, as graduate-level scholars, have decided to trust the most up-to-date science to make decisions for ourselves and our students. We do not prefer the current system by any means, but we understand that it is the only way to guarantee the safety of our students, ourselves, and our loved ones. The majority of us are working harder than we ever have in our careers to adapt and make education meaningful for our students in an impossible situation, but we have become the villains in which entire Facebook groups are created to besmirch our good names. Even now, I must shamefully submit this anonymously because members of this very board have sent their followers on email campaigns against my colleagues who bravely spoke at previous meetings, further attempting to shame us into silence.</p> <p>At the beginning of this pandemic, educators were lifted as heroes, while we are now being knocked from our pedestals as martyrs; the price we must pay for "normalcy." I ask that this board listen to science (particularly UCSD's Return to Learn program), the CTA, and the trained experts in the classroom: the teachers. I guarantee you that we miss teaching from the classroom more than students miss learning in one; the difference is, we are willing to put the greater good above our own wants and needs.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I am writing to urge you to consider the adoption of a resolution regarding expanded school opening. Our kids have been held hostage long enough by the fear mongers and politicians using COVID for their own agendas. I feel like Moses- Let my child go back to school! I am tired of my child's education and future being dictated by people who are driven by fear.</p> <p>I believe that the school board is able to come up with a sound, common sense solution to REOPEN our schools safely. Plus give the option of distance learning to those who think that it is a better plan for their family. It should not be an all or nothing scenario. This is a CAN DO situation.</p> <p>Please take a stand. You know the hospitalization rates have increased dramatically with our youth population and it's NOT because of COVID illnesses. It's because of DEPRESSION, SUICIDE ATTEMPTS, OVER DOSES, ABUSE, ETC. The lost of life due to suicide in our youth outnumbers the lost of life due to the COVID cases with our youth. The effects of suicide out last and spread farther than a 3-4 day virus. Please do your research. It is in your power to change these tragic numbers! What more is it going to take.</p> <p>99.98%</p>
Cindy Gray	<p>We were so disappointed to receive the school re-opening survey from LCC in November outlining our choice of remaining in DL for the entire 3rd quarter or returning to campus 1 day a week to continue in DL. It makes no sense to me to have students in a classroom online watching their teacher through a screen. My student is also disappointed not to be in class with his friends or classmates as the determination is solely alphabetical.</p> <p>My student is a senior and is hoping to return to school 5 days a week. I support that and hope you will support a plan that provides students further access to the classroom and in-person instruction. I believe we can safely bring students and teachers on campus and we can be in compliance with the health & safety guidelines for being open.</p>
Cheryl Dunbar	<p>I am writing in support of a reopening plan. It is important that ALL students in our district have the OPTION to return to campus in January if they choose.</p> <p>Contrary to what some may say, our students are not 'fine' in this distance learning set-up. The isolation of home-learning has led to stress, anxiety and loneliness and our kids need to be back in person with their teacher and their peers. Socialization is a huge part of education, and with our current model, our students are not getting what they need to be successful.</p>
Anonymous	<p>For the mental health of our student community and to prevent further long-term mental damage to our kids, please open our schools. 40 other states are open for in person learning. How many more student suicides do we have to witness? We need our teachers, our kids need their teachers - they are essential - they are valued and fundamental to student development. I have direct comparison in my own family: sister's 3 teenagers in school full time 5x per week since August - student body of 2,900. Families have options to stay home. Band, theater, arts, sports, football, senior night is happening. They decided to make it work and they have. Her kids are now half-of-a-school-year fully engaged and ahead in learning, sports, arts - everything. Zero hospitalizations for students or teachers due to any cases at school. Cases are dealt with by logical quarantine using 6ft grids, not the entire classroom and not the entire school. And they are not as impacted by depression, stress, anxiety or suicide. Together, we can move forward to make progress. Protect those who are vulnerable and need extra safety measures, but fulfill the common goal to educate our children - they are the true stakeholders and key to our future.</p>
Anonymous	<p>The proposal to open 5 days a week starting 1/4/21 defies rational logic. Districts around us are delaying and the virus is surging at its all time high. The argument that kids don't spread COVID is just untrue. Locally we are currently experiencing a surge due to blatant disregard for CDC guidelines between Halloween and Thanksgiving, Christmas & NYE are destined to be far worse. Why do this at the very end of Q2- it makes no sense. Our local KCSUs are at and above capacity. The local defiance to Stay Home-restaurant take-out only and even mask wearing in public, should make it clear that many people in this community do not take COVID seriously. The fact that there will be no cleaning between classes, some classes have windows that don't open, there has been no proposed change in bell schedules - and that kids will still congregate, hop in cars, and go to lunch feeds that much of this "safe reopening plan" is just theatrics. To see comments about how disposable some feel our teachers are is heartbreaking. I am not interested in having unqualified substitutes teach students advanced courses, because a beloved and qualified teacher is choosing to stay safe. Nobody thinks Distance Learning is ideal for anyone involved, but this is an unprecedented global pandemic. I also want to compliment the staff at SDA for providing a quality educational experience for our students, even while online. Students who are truly struggling are permitted to be on campus right now. To rush an opening due to a loud and vocal minority is unfair. I recommend anyone who argues that we should "get over this", that the survival rate is incredibly high etc. - go actually talk to any local healthcare worker. Better yet - take a visit to a local hospital. They are overwhelmed and devastated. We need to be teaching our kids to care about the community at large, and sometimes putting the needs of others above themselves - a concept that is so clearly lacking in a neighborhood I used to love.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Most teachers say that they do not want to go back to school because they do not want to get the Corona Virus. Well, they are just as equally at risk as the kids, seeing the same amount, if not even less people that students are seeing. The reason for this is because they want to keep online school because it is so much easier than their normal job in real life and in person school. They don't have to put any effort at all into their teaching jobs, or put them into breakout groups so that the students teach each other and figure it out themselves while the teachers just sit back and relax. Me, personally, have all of my classes with teachers like this, and it is a pain and suffering to have to sit at home and watch a computer screen for 12 hours a day doing homework and watching the teachers present a video on class. Now, some may say that online school has only helped students because their grades are only going higher. Well, students can also cheat 40 times easier as a result of kids having the freedom to google test answers and turn off their cameras and such because they are "broken". I guarantee you once you start putting kids back in class, their lives will become so much less miserable than they are right now.</p>
Courtney Harmeling	<p>Our family strongly believes extra measures should be put in place to support teacher and staff safety before the students return to in-person school. But we know all of that done now. It's time. We have to move forward, even if it doesn't go perfectly. It feels like our kids, their mental health and their education, are being sacrificed in some strange union vs district game. It needs to end and the kids need to be put first. THIS is the priority of educators.</p> <p>Our 10th grader has done very well through the last 9 months, showing more motivation and patience than I have ever had. But we see him slipping now. It's hard to learn this way, and it's even harder to stay engaged or interested. His grades are dropping. He has been tardy a few times. He is missing assignments that he didn't even have clear direction for. His passion and excitement has melted. He is not reading much any more. He is not making natural direct eye contact as easily. He is not reaching out to many friends or family, because what is there to say? They have no common experiences anymore. He does not participate in all these online, ASB and school events because its just more screen time with no real connection.</p> <p>This is heart breaking. Please help. Please, we have to move forward. We have to take steps towards returning to in-person. Of course there will be mistakes, because that is how education works. Doing nothing is not education.</p>
Carol S Knight	<p>I am writing yet again in support of safely re-opening our schools. It is imperative that our schools re-open beyond 1 day a week for those that choose to be on campus.</p> <p>Science and data prove that being in school does not increase a person's risk for contracting COVID-19. Science and data do prove that our children are more at risk for mental illness, depression, learning loss and general discontent while being in a DL model. The stress and strain DL puts on a family is huge and I know many teachers who would much rather be teaching in-person than via Google Meets. They realize the disconnect too and ache to establish a relationship with their students.</p> <p>As a parent of a senior, I can tell you that even though my student is "getting by" that does not by any stretch mean that he is thriving. I am fortunate to have a task-oriented child that is still getting good grades. However, the assignments aren't rigorous and, admittedly, in a few classes he is putting in the minimal amount of effort. I am really afraid he is going to suffer academically once he gets to college and be behind his peers that have had in-person learning this year. Classes like AP Environmental Science should be taking place outside the classroom, instead many lectures are pre-recorded and there is no fieldwork. His Culinary class, is a joke. As the new and expensive Culinary facility sits empty, the teacher is struggling to make the class meaningful on a computer screen.</p> <p>Also, the lack of effort to get not only sports but even Club sports back on campus is so disheartening. As a member of beach volleyball, why on earth is that not happening? It would give the kids such a great outlet, mentally and physically.</p> <p>Students need to learn in-person, on-campus. It's beyond overdue. It's time to fully re-open our schools to the students who choose to return.</p>
Anonymous	<p>In-person instruction is key to the education of our children. Their education is suffering due to the continued closure of schools in the San Dieguito School District, especially in relation to science education, conservatory, and social interactions. The risk of COVID-19 can be mitigated and should NO LONGER prevent our children from receiving the educational experience they deserve.</p>
Anonymous	<p>When SDUHSD may reopen to all students, it should meet or exceed recommended safety standards established by medical professionals affiliated with UC San Diego's Return to Learn program. An inadequate approach to safety protocols jeopardizes the health not only of teachers, students and their families in the district but also of the community at large by negatively impacting our hospitals and healthcare system at a time when COVID-19 infections are hitting record highs.</p>
Cyndi Darlington	<p>I am imploring you to move forward with the expanded reopening of schools, particularly the plan that Michael Allman is putting forward. As a parent of an 8th grader at Oak Crest and 11th grader at SDA, I can tell you that the Distance Learning Model is not working. My kids are doing fine with grades, but socially and emotionally they are suffering greatly. They have lost their passion for school and even for leaving their room many days. Their favorite subjects have become a chore, and they are dealing with headaches, eye problems and other issues from too much screen time. However, I know also that they have many advantages so I am most concerned for other kids in our district that don't have an ideal home situation, people to lean on and trust. They desperately need to be on campus. We can do this safely. The CDC and government leaders have been very clear - school is safe, and that's where kids need to be. Our kids have been waiting for your leadership. Please, please, please move forward with getting them on campus safely as the top priority. We simply cannot wait any longer.</p>
Cynthia Edgerly	<p>I am a parent of two children in the district. I first want to commend the excellent dedication and efforts made by the teachers and administrators in adapting during these incredibly difficult times and making distance learning a success.</p> <p>While I acknowledge that it isn't ideal, distance learning is the safest, most stable model of instruction for our students and teachers at this time, and I request that you do not move forward with expanded opening on 1/4.</p> <p>I am very concerned about the impact on teachers, who are being given the false "choice" to either show up to an unsafe work environment, or take an unpaid leave without medical coverage. How many will report to work on January 4th? How many substitutes have been secured, and what are their qualifications? Will reopening even be an option if there aren't enough staff? How many teachers will we lose, and then if we are unable to bring more students onto campuses, or if we do and then have to close back down, what will it all have been for? Will it jeopardize the ability of the vulnerable students already on campus to be able to remain?</p> <p>I understand the argument that distance learning has its price, but the price of risking the health of our community and integrity of the outstanding education that our district provides is not worth the potential gains. I say "potential", because I highly doubt that proceeding with expanded opening on 1/4 will be successful. Instead, I predict that it will be chaotic, dangerous, and hugely disappointing to the students. As a mental health professional, I have concerns that such an ill-timed, poorly equipped, and risky plan will result in significant instability, negatively impacting our children's well-being.</p> <p>I understand there are some students truly struggling with mental health issues. Perhaps substitutes could be hired to supervise students who need to be on campus, as they will be using the distance learning model anyway, and teachers could still teach from home?</p> <p>Please be thoughtful, creative, and responsible as you make such important decisions for our community.</p>
Dana Sisitsky	<p>While I want our children to be back in school, I strongly believe that this MUST be done in a way that protects our students, their families, their teachers and their community. I believe that a slow progression of returning to school is best. I support the once per week format that is set to be implemented in January. Schools have been preparing for this and to change this at the 11th hour is not productive for the school administration nor the students / families who have prepared for this slow progression. I also do not support a commitment to jump from 1 day per week to 5 days per week without having seen how the one day per week plan works in practice. Committing to such a significant expansion that radically changes the COVID precautions that schools are able to enact (based on the huge increase in student populations on campus at any one time) before the initial return to campus plan has even started is irresponsible and unfair to the many constituencies involved. Lastly, there needs to be some accommodations put into place that would allow teachers of specialized classes who may not be able to return to campus for personal reasons to continue teaching. While substitute teachers may be effective for some classes, many require teachers with specialized credentials / knowledge (language skills, high level sciences or math, etc.). All students will be at a disadvantage if their teachers take a leave of absence and their substitutes are not qualified to teach the subjects they are teaching. I encourage all board members to be thoughtful and practical in their approach, and be willing to compromise. NO solution will be perfect, but picking one path for a return to school that pleases a certain constituency while ostracizing another (and simultaneously leading to a very real qualified teacher shortage) will make a hard year even harder.</p>

Name	Written Comments
Anonymous	Please continue the plan and path of reopening schools. Our children are depending on you to provide them with a high quality education and unfortunately, distance learning is not that. My own children have reached a point where the uncertainty, lack of clarity has affected their mental well being. Children and teens absolutely need each other the intrinsic benefits from sitting in a classroom with their peers, feeling connected to their campus and community cannot properly be put in to words. This debate about reopening has not focused nearly enough on our kids-who are the reason for all of this. There has been too much talk and not enough action. Please do the right thing for all of the kids in this district-offer the choice of in person or distance learning. Your choices have a great effect on the futures of all our kids. Thank you.
n/a	Please give our students the choice for in person learning five days a week.
Anonymous	Please do not open schools at this time. You will put the community at risk. It is not fair that the school may open and that the children may be asymptomatic carriers and bring it back to their communities, at risk parents, grandparents, etc. I feel that the teachers are teaching online and the students are learning. Why put the teachers at risk? We are in the middle of a pandemic and we should not risk the kids going back. The kids will not get over the feeling if they bring COVID back and their parent or grandparent dies from this. Again, please think of the community when making this decision. Please just don't listen to the loudest and most prominent parents. Please listen to science! COVID will spread in those buildings!
Delaney Daniels	I am a fairly good student, and rarely ever struggle. I also enjoy going to school and learning. However, ever since distance learning started, I have struggled a lot, and hated getting on my google meets at times. Several times, I have cried because of distance learning. I have also had a hard time getting motivated. Please reopen school. I know I am not the only one who is struggling.
David Loseke	I am in full support of opening the schools and getting the kids back on campus for in-person classes. I have two daughters at TPHS and they are suffering emotionally from lack of social interaction.
Bad Form Item	We should go back to 2019. Medical Science says so. We all love science, right? FULL IN-PERSON BARE-FACE learning is needed for the health of the children. 92130 is one of the safest zip codes in America and punishing our children with compulsory remote learning for "cases" of infection in Los Angeles and south San Diego Unified is really unfair and actually, counterproductive. The data is in from CDC and WHO; children up to 18 are not lethally affected by COVID the way they were with 2010 H1N1, and they do not even transmit disease very effectively to adults. Many children have already encountered this virus approximately 1 year ago and are now immune. Adults without risk factors such as advanced age, diabetes, hypertension, obesity, or chronic lung conditions are very unlikely to encounter serious disease if they do become ill. Better treatments are available than in March. Please note that Cases are not Hospitalizations are not Deaths. And we know that deaths "from COVID" have been over-reported by media and government aggregators to an extent large enough to be concerned that we are not getting the whole correct picture. We know that diagnostic tests have been having validation problems that overstate positives. We know this has been a politically-driven media campaign to influence parents who are generally compassionate and interested in helping others to agree to the terms of teachers' unions, who, for some reason, wish to work only remotely from now on. It has been nearly a year now. Vacation is over. Time to teach the kids properly. We will sign an ironclad waiver of liability holding the District harmless.
Christian Kias	This school district and the teachers' unions have to find a way to cooperate for the sake of our students' academic education and mental health. You have to bring our students and teachers back on campus safely! This should be about our students and schools only and not about politics. Most of our students would not be directly impacted by Covid-19 yet they are paying a very high price right now and in the future by not getting the education they deserve. Life needs to go on for everyone and our school district and our schools have so far failed to present any solutions to bring our students and teachers back safely. I heard that about 10% of the teachers can't or don't want to come back due to their age or pre-existing conditions. How can you not live up to this challenge, be flexible and provide for those teachers who have a medical waiver to be able to teach from home while letting the rest of the teachers as well as all students who choose to do so come back on campus? Unprecedented times ask for unprecedented solutions. Keeping our children out of school for such an extended amount of time without even presenting a solid reopening plan is a clear dereliction of your duties to our children. I hope the new school board will finally live up to the high expectations I had when I moved my family to this school district a couple of years ago.
Anonymous	My son is NOT thriving in distance learning. He is at his desk most of the day and night. Teaching instruction not that great. It is better for AP classes. He does not have the same motivation while distance learning. He is more angry and moody. He is upset his senior year has been taken away from him. Socially it is very difficult. Kids need social interaction and you cannot do that with distance learning. Sometimes his classes are 10 min long or whole session asynchronous. I guarantee when u see AP exam results, either they won't take the tests or they will not get good numbers. Pair this with actual science where schools are not spreaders, it's a no brainer to open school. If u open sports and clubs before you let kids back in school, you are not paying attention to science. This distance learning is harmful and not working. Enough is enough!
John Neustadt	We need to get our kids back to school—full time. Data clearly support bringing our kids back on campus full time, and other schools and districts locally and nationally are doing so safely and effectively. The harm distance learning is causing to our children is too great and it's an embarrassment how woefully stagnant our district has been on this.
Erin Graff Zivin	I would like to voice concerns regarding plans to bring students to campus beginning on January 4, during what is sure to be a post-holiday surge much like Thanksgiving, after which time we have witnessed COVID cases and deaths on the rise. In the past, we could tell ourselves that while San Diego County might be in the purple, our communities still had lower numbers. That is no longer the case. Solana Beach, Del Mar, Encinitas, and Carmel Valley are all in the purple now, with no sign of slowing down. The ICU beds are nearly full in our hospitals. Now is not the time to send thousands of kids to school. I respect parents who have decided to keep their kids at home. However, I am not one of those parents. I have been a proponent of safe reopening of schools. I have two children at Skyline Elementary School and, until now, have been reassured by the periodic testing of staff and students, the small cohorts (12 kids), and the 6 feet distancing. In the SDUHSD schools, there are no plans for testing. Small cohorts have been deemed impossible. 3 feet distance has been declared sufficient. Let's take January to see how we do post-holidays, allow the students to finish the 2nd quarter exams without major disruption (and let's not kid ourselves, this will affect kids on campus "and" at home), and make an educated, prudent decision for Q3.
Ellen di Cristina	This is a bogus request. Michael Allman was narrowly elected by his constituents. He hardly speaks for the majority of the specific fraction of the community he represents, and he certainly doesn't speak for the majority of families in SDUHSD. Please reject Mr. Allman's attempt at asserting himself into forefront of our district reopening plans. His interests lie in making a name for himself – NOT in protecting our staff and community.
Anonymous	The hybrid model is a very ineffective way to continue in person teaching and I believe we should be spending resources improving the current online format while we wait for the vaccine to be distributed. There are little to no benefits to going to school in hybrid mode, compared to online only. If a student who is attending school in person gets covid, then all the people in their classes will have to quarantine, which not only puts the students/teachers at risk, but also ruins the teaching for all the other students who chose to learn from online. If a student gets covid, every single person in all their classes will have to quarantine (and if they don't because "they were more than 6 feet apart" then you are just being unsafe by following a loophole). This not only puts the students/teachers and their families at risk but also lowers the grade of teaching for every single student, even if they choose to learn online. A teacher might not be able to teach and will have to get a last minute sub, and the teacher will still have to reformat their entire schedule to fit the sub. We can solve the problems the hybrid model intends to solve by still being in an online format. To help struggling students we could implement more group work in classes (teachers could have meetings on how to implement this) where the students would meet in the same breakout groups for an extended period of time to build bonds like tablemates and the students that understand the concepts would teach those who don't and they could work through classwork together. This not only helps the students who don't understand the material but also re-affirms the learning in the students helping out their fellow classmates. If students want to go in person to school for that human connection we should offer that through clubs, encouraging students to join/create clubs and "advertising" such clubs during class or during homework. Once it is safe, we can then go back to "full" in person school.
Anonymous	This year for the majority of the year, my 8th grader with a 504 plan at DNO has had straight Fs. No one contacted me. I found out from Aeris. I contacted the school a few times. They said he could go to campus two days a week and work in the Learning Commons. Seemed like it would be a great help until I discovered that he is just working independently on his own from his laptop. Exactly the same as when he is at home. When things didn't improve, I requested a 504 meeting and asked an advocate to accompany me. She immediately started the process to get him moved back into an IEP. She asked them to drop his gym class and give him a support class. (I had begged to let him add the support class and was told it was impossible without dropping the only class he likes: Art.) I hired him a tutor to come 2-3 times a week. Now instead of all F's he has one F, three D's, a B- and an N/A in his Support class. Not much of an improvement considering all of the accommodations. My 16 year old son who should be at LCC has a few "melt-downs" starting in about May. Once he barricaded himself in his room and I had to call the police. Of course, I got him into therapy after that and the therapist mentioned how her number of teen patients is surging and so many of them are struggling. Thank God I can afford an Advocate, a tutor, and a therapist for my kids. Heaven help those who can't! This situation is intolerable and is hurting our kids. They don't just need to be back on campus, they need to be back in school full time. Millions of people across the globe are making it work. We need to make it work for our kids. Give teachers the vaccine and get them back in their classrooms immediately. Otherwise, refund my property taxes and I will enroll my kids in private schools.
Anonymous	I am a health care practitioner and also a parent of a Sophomore at SDA and I support a choice to return to a 5 day in person learning. I am deemed an essential worker and have never stopped seeing patients. I follow current data of children in our community and infection rates of infection in that age range. I support the choice of a 5 day option to return to in person school based off the science and also the detrimental social, emotional and academic impact of being in DL is having on many of our youth. We are seeing teen depression, suicide, hopelessness, and drug use on the rise in our public district that is not being seen as much in the private sector of education that is in person in our area. Because the district has followed all safety guidelines that is required to keep children and our essential workers/staff and teachers safe, I ask the board to follow the science and the data and do the right thing. Give families a choice -continue with the path of a concurrent plan that will support all families in our district, not just the ones that feel at risk and choose to continue DL.
Anonymous	Both my sons have failed their academic classes. Being online for hours and hours has disengaged them. Getting help with teachers, while they are willing, involved even more screen time and they just can't pay attention. My junior who is a CTE student has hands on classes that are all video and worksheets. He hates school with a passion now where before he loved going every day. He is to the point he's considering taking the GRE just to end the misery and go to work instead. Europe has all the kids in school- all ages- and they've made it work because they value education and mental health for the future of their society. We are killing our kids! Open the schools. Students need in person school before it's too late.
Anonymous	I am a parent and have watched the deterioration of my own children, and the children of other parents in the district due to the continued mandated distance learning. There is not a single child who has not been negatively affected either socially, academically, emotionally, and in their overall growth. I've detailed examples in letters written personally to the superintendent and board members in the past and I'm appalled that this district has continued to represent, and side with the interests of the teachers unions, politicians, and certain teachers, instead of advocating for the children and teens who should be your number one concern. Data shows, and neighboring districts prove, that you are preaching fear, not facts. This is not new data, it has been clearly defined by the CDC, and local and state government websites. With certain precautions, our schools are not only safe, they are literal havens for healthier daily lives and mental well being. Sitting at home, for hours on screen, isolated, and alone is not saving our children, it is killing them. In some cases, literally. If you don't want your child in school, or you are a teacher who does not want to teach in person because you are at risk, or fear for your personal safety or someone at home, please step aside, so the rest of our children can move forward without further harm to their life and future.
Erika Daniels	While the debate about when, whether, and how to reopen schools continues to rage, proponents of keeping schools closed have rarely mentioned the impact this stance has on children and adolescents. Although covid remains prevalent in communities, that does not mean that schools should remain closed indefinitely. The negative impact on students' mental and emotional health cannot be overstated and, simply put, it is time to prioritize our youth. Prioritizing our youth does not simultaneously mean that we do not care about adults, but it does mean that we make decisions with our youths' needs as the overriding criteria. My daughter cries herself to sleep more nights than not because she hates distance learning so much. My son has developed a muscle twitch near his eye that the doctor says is a result of staring at a computer for so many hours a day. I do not have enough space here to explain the impact on his mental health. While the Board will hear comments from the other side about the value of keeping schools closed, please note that very, very few of those comments have anything to do with the well-being of children and adolescents. Childcare is something that all working parents have to sort out. Fear of contracting a virus is not a reason to put all of our children's futures at risk. Please, please vote yes on item 10d and show the students in this district that the adults do care and are willing to take a stand for them.
Anonymous	I am a student in the SDUHSD school district. From my experiences with online school and distance learning, I have regressed socially and academically as a person. For example, being in school I have the opportunity to work with my teacher in person if I have any questions or things I could work on. However, the schedule makes it harder to ask questions. An example for the social impact is seeing your friends in and out of school. I see my friends mostly in school and on the weekends. However, Online school makes it harder to connect with them during class and outside of school 6 ft. Opening schools could be a fresh start to a beginning that incorporates all of those things.
Evan Sorem	This is a joke. No. SDUHSD cannot, in the span of 3 weeks, move from one day a week to five. Cases will explode. People will get sick, and people will die. And you will all be wondering how exactly it was that you let a brand new Trustee — Trustee Michael Allman — waltz into the room and unleash disease upon our students, teachers, administrators, staff, families and community. Goodness gracious this is the very definition of gross negligence. Before any of this is considered, SDUHSD needs a safer plan. SDUHSD prides itself on being the #1 ranked school district in San Diego and the #6 ranked school district in the state of California (according to niche.com), yet is sinking to below the minimum health and safety standards for this community. When our schools can legally reopen to all students, SDUHSD should meet or exceed recommended safety standards established by medical professionals affiliated with UC San Diego's Return to Learn program. SDUHSD serves over 13,000 students and employs over 620 teachers and 500 classified staff, who reside throughout San Diego County, and an inadequate approach to safety protocols jeopardizes the health not only of teachers, students and their families in the district but also of the community at large by negatively impacting our hospitals and healthcare system at a time when COVID-19 infections are hitting record highs. Think this is hyperbole, then you live in Fantasyland. And surely, you will agree to apologize to each person who contracts COVID-19 as a result of any grossly negligent decision to re-open schools beyond what has previously been contemplated. If an apology will be warranted for those who contract COVID-19, what will you offer to the families of those who die from it?
Anonymous	This is a joke. No. SDUHSD cannot, in the span of 3 weeks, move from one day a week to five. Cases will explode. People will get sick, and people will die. And you will all be wondering how exactly it was that you let a brand new Trustee — Trustee Michael Allman — waltz into the room and unleash disease upon our students, teachers, administrators, staff, families and community. Goodness gracious this is the very definition of gross negligence. Before any of this is considered, SDUHSD needs a safer plan. SDUHSD prides itself on being the #1 ranked school district in San Diego and the #6 ranked school district in the state of California (according to niche.com), yet is sinking to below the minimum health and safety standards for this community. When our schools can legally reopen to all students, SDUHSD should meet or exceed recommended safety standards established by medical professionals affiliated with UC San Diego's Return to Learn program. SDUHSD serves over 13,000 students and employs over 620 teachers and 500 classified staff, who reside throughout San Diego County, and an inadequate approach to safety protocols jeopardizes the health not only of teachers, students and their families in the district but also of the community at large by negatively impacting our hospitals and healthcare system at a time when COVID-19 infections are hitting record highs. Think this is hyperbole, then you live in Fantasyland. And surely, you will agree to apologize to each person who contracts COVID-19 as a result of any grossly negligent decision to re-open schools beyond what has previously been contemplated. If an apology will be warranted for those who contract COVID-19, what will you offer to the families of those who die from it?
Frances Chai	As a senior in the district, I am upset about losing a part of my last year of high school. However, I am able to bypass these feelings and advocate AGAINST reopening because I know that staying in distance learning is the safest option for students and teachers alike. Many of the kids at my school agree with me, as evident by the wave of petitions calling for schools to remain closed being shared on social media. How is it that kids are able to maturely consider the safety of everyone while some adults are not? Contrary to what Mr. Allman believes, COVID-19 is a very real, very serious issue that is taking thousands of lives every single day, and the possibility of death or serious illness will always outweigh the need to have children in physical classrooms. Someone who does not believe in science should not be in charge of all things regarding reopening. As a member of the school board, you are supposed to take care of your district's constituents, without teachers and students, there are no schools for you to be on the board. SDUHSD cannot pride itself on being an outstanding district while simultaneously failing its people in such a drastic way—which is exactly what is happening right now. If the spike following the Thanksgiving holiday has taught us anything, there is a high chance of another increase in cases following winter break; therefore, it is unreasonable and dangerous to bring students back in full capacity in January. For everyone's safety and well-being, students AND teachers should remain in the distance-learning format until it is actually deemed safe to return.
Gabe Daniels	I am a junior at CCA, and distance learning is so hard. I really need to be on campus and learning in real life because it is easier to ask questions with I am actually with my teachers. I am missing my sport and missing my friends too. Please reopen the schools.

Name	Written Comments
Grace Ko	<p>Much of the talk about returning to campus is based on important discussions about health, but beyond that, I urge the board to have deeper conversations about instruction as they consider plans to return students to campus. The parents and students who are struggling are looking for solutions to their issues, but don't have specific expertise in education. Students who want to remain in distance learning are worried about equity in their instruction and continuity in what they have been receiving, which is a reasonable concern given the unprecedented times and disruption of learning last spring. To meet the needs of all students, the district needs to figure out how to support school sites in addressing the needs of kids who are struggling without taking steps backwards from what is working. These complex challenges will not be automatically addressed by any decision, whether it's to stay in distance learning or return in any given model--the work of education is not that simple. Although the "choose your own location" model seems reasonable, if teachers cannot manage working with students in the classroom and at home simultaneously, everyone will take a step back. We need to find solutions that do not trade one set of issues for another.</p> <p>While there may be some debate about the timing of return to campus, from an instructional perspective alone, trying the 25% model as a start seems reasonable with a timeline built in to look at which students aren't being served and targeting the next steps to keep adding to our successes rather than haphazardly trading the needs of one group for another. We need to increase odds of success and hopefully bring back unity and trust in our community. The principals and instructional leadership need to be at the heart of your instructional decisions so that implementation of any model is successful. In serving ALL the students of this district, please rely on the voices of your site administrators and instructional leadership to make it work for everyone.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Dear Board of Trustees and Superintendent Haley, I'd like to comment that I believe students should have the option of returning to school and returning to school 5 days a week like many private schools are currently doing. I believe the District has prepared for a safe re-opening of the schools for both teachers and students. I commend the District for following the science. I question however whether or not the teacher's union is following the science. Also, returning to campus one day a week is truly insufficient and many kids don't feel it's worth returning to school for just one day a week. They are losing their motivation. They want to be in school with their classmates on a regular basis. For the kid's sake, I hope this can become a reality for them.</p>
teacher in district	<p>Some of the very basic reopening questions we can not get answered are what to do about the extreme noise and feedback loop created by students and teachers in the same physical space with mics and speakers on, making concentration and teaching impossible? Are all students now required to buy headphones? What happens when half the class forgets theirs? How do you attend to students asking questions in the chat on a computer on the other side of the room when you're trying to demo in front of the class? How do you give equitable assessments when students in class are monitored but students at home can access the internet and all their notes with no supervision? What does the school do when more teachers are out sick or on quarantine than we have subs or admin to cover? What has changed since March that makes it okay to return now? In the classroom, students will be barely a meter apart. How long until half the school has to quarantine because they were within 6 feet of a confirmed case for more than 15 minutes in a 24 hour period? We already have COVID on campuses across our district and we're not even fully open yet, nor have we seen the full effect of fall and winter break travel, family gathering, and subsequent COVID spikes.</p> <p>Neighboring districts have already tried reopening, and have closed shortly after due to outbreaks and staffing shortages. We will not be the exception here. A smart district learns from its mistakes. A wise district learns from the mistakes of others. Let's prevent the mistake we all clearly see coming, which could be fatal for students, staff, and families. We should continue to offer stability and safety by focusing on and improving distance learning from home while supporting small groups of students with the greatest need, rather than gambling with the health and safety of our community for little, if any, reward. If our district truly valued us all, any one our lives would be too great a price to pay.</p>
Anonymous	<p>If this school district truly prides itself on the safety and wellbeing of teachers and students, it is an incredible necessity to listen to the pleas of students and teachers alike. We have been saying, for months and months on end, that reopening schools in a rush, without full consideration of the diverse situations of everyone involved, is dangerous for everyone's safety and mental health. To assume that teachers aren't doing their job well enough, to assume that everyone is better off in a more conventional school model, and to assume that everyone has the capabilities at home to be able to come to school is unfair, ill-informed, and rather an ignorant assumption. The decision to reopen schools has a clear answer: schools should remain closed to protect everyone at risk unless it is 110% safe to reopen. Have some decent humanity.</p>
Hedieh Naraghi-Smythe	<p>I am a Spanish teacher and this is my 27th year in the district. As Covid cases surge across the country and our region, I don't understand how the District and the Board think it's safe to return to school on January 4. When we are in the Purple Tier, when schools all across the state are closing, when ICU's have no more beds, our leadership and the Board believes a return of students is the best idea. Who is this best for? I've been teaching from my classroom since school started and even I'm not sure how all the technology will work. This decision is setting us up for failure, because none of us will have any training necessary for this model. Why don't you consider giving us the last 3 weeks of the semester to prepare and have the in-service days to test everything out? Why can't we wait for the vaccinations to begin before we bring everyone back to school? I used to be proud of being a part of this district, now I feel so defeated and worthless. This district has gone from being one of the top districts in the county to a district that shows no compassion or empathy towards its staff. Your lack of empathy makes us teachers feel undervalued, disrespected and frankly "insignificant". You treat us as if we can be replaced easily, and our countless hours of hard work to make this semester be of value to our students means nothing. We are blatantly vilified by some board members, who apparently think we teachers are lazy and make "excuses" for not teaching from our classrooms. Why are you going down this road when you know that the district will lose many experienced teachers? How can you justify this huge loss? I ask the District administration and the Board to reconsider bringing more students back on January 4th and not disrupt the end of the semester. I ask you to show compassion as you make a decision that will impact the whole community for a very long time. Thank you.</p>
Gavin Hirst	<p>I am writing to remind the San Dieguito Union High School District (SDUHS) that there is currently a stay-at-home order in place and San Diego County is in the purple tier with a positivity rate at a 8% 14-day moving average, a number that is still increasing. I'm sure the district realizes it would be unlawful to reopen schools while San Diego County is in the purple tier. Also, under CDPH rules a school that is not "open" cannot expand their reopening until the county has been out of the purple tier for 14 days. Aside from Sunset High School, SDUHS schools have only been operating with small cohorts under the Cohorting Guidance in the CDPH rules. So, once again, it would be unlawful for schools to reopen until the county has been out of the purple tier for 14 days. So, why is the SDUHS planning to open all its schools to all students starting January 4 in violation of the CDPH rules? I also note that that the California Teachers Association requested that SDUHS and the San Diego County Office of Education do not move forward with the opening. Our community is in a desperate state with the pandemic knocking at our doors and entering our homes and we are frankly shocked that our school district would move forward despite the CDPH reopening rules. We must protect our children, teachers, family, and community. We cannot lawfully open until San Diego county has been out of the purple tier for 14 days.</p>
Anonymous	<p>SDUHS must do its part, as school districts such as San Diego Unified, Coronado, Poway and other districts up and down the state have done by delaying reopening to all students at this time.</p>
Hong pham	<p>Dear Trustees, I would like to ask you to do your job as board members and find solutions to open up the school for students who want to go back in person school as well as continue online school for those who can't or don't want to due to health concerns. By in person, I mean with a teacher in the classroom teaching, not one who is behind a computer screen. Schools and teachers are as essential as other frontline workers. How would those frontline workers be able to do their job if they have to stay at home or reduce work hours to be with their children and double as an educator? As a nurse, I put myself and my family in danger everyday that I work and don't think twice about that because it is my job. With precautions and safeguards in place, we have managed to steer clear of getting sick. I want to point out that other schools managed to get their students back in school, so we, as one of the best school district in California should too. Especially now with the vaccine on the horizon, that should make it less worrisome to return to the classroom. My daughter is not doing well emotionally or physically at home and I worry how it will be if continued for the rest of the school year. I implore you to step up to this challenge, find a way and make it work for everyone. Sincerely, Hong Pham</p>
Kathy Seemann	<p>Approve 10d: Everyone's essential, including students. Let's make sure they have the tools to remedy this mess that the current adults have created!</p>
Michael Russo	<p>Hello, my name is Michael Russo. I have had four children that attended SDA or LLC over the past 20 years. My daughter Angelina is currently a senior at LCC. Although my daughter is doing very well with the academic side of at home school, she is in dire need of the social side of actually attending IN CLASS, playing and watching high school athletics (this will be her last year on the LLC Softball Team, and learning to deal with functioning as a young adult interacting with her peers and other students on a day to day basis. There has been no proof that students attending school IN CLASS JEOPORDIZES the health or well being of teachers, administration or support staff, especially when we follow all the safety guidelines with wearing masks, washing our hands consistently, and keeping our social distance. Many private schools in San Diego are having full time students IN CLASS with little to no outbreaks or spread of Covid. We cannot continue to live if fear; Angelina has been away from her classmates since last March, and she wishes (as do her Mother and I) for her to get back to a normal life, with a normal education, with teachers IN CLASS teaching her in person. The "survey" that was sent out had only two choices, and it was totally geared to get the results that the last board and teacher's union wanted. It is absolutely not fair that a minority of parents/students who do NOT want to go back to in class teaching should dictate to those of us who DO WANT to get back to in school teaching and attendance. Let each individual student and parents make their own choice for their own children. If a teacher has underlying conditions, let them continue to teach remotely. But they get paid to teach IN CLASS, and if they choose to not to follow the direction of the Board of Trustees, with no reason other than they do not want to follow their decision, then they should be furloughed, laid off, or let go. MY child wants to get back to full time in school attendance, as soon as the holiday vacation is over. Please let HER choice be heard today.</p>
MONICA DAWN SYLVES	<p>I am writing this as a plea to strongly consider bringing our kids back on campus for in person learning immediately. As as parent of a TPHS Junior, I have watched my daughters emotional well being suffer as she sits day in, day out, sometimes 6 hours a day or more, locked in her bedroom glued to her laptop. To date, she has been to the doctors since September, 3 times for headaches, eye pain, and increased anxiety & depression. The level of emotional distress due to long term isolation and remote "learning" is unacceptable. There is no reason why private schools in coastal North County, have adapted just fine, while this district cant get past the plain facts of this virus, and quiet frankly, the political BS that surrounds this decision to move forward in a safe and reasonable manner. Furthermore, the lack of "teaching" via remote learning, that I have personally observed, is an absolute disgrace to this district and to my child, who deserves better. I hope the Board uses basic logic and reason to make the right decision to bring our kids back on campus ASAP to a full in-person learning environment.</p>
Anonymous	<p>This resolution proposes that a board member be appointed to coordinate with district staff regarding reopening plans and communicate with the public about these plans. If the board feels this is necessary, please select a neutral spokesperson with a history of open communication and a broad understanding of the perspectives and issues associated with reopening. A trustee who campaigned on this issue cannot be neutral. Please consider Trustee Mossy for this role as she has demonstrated a willingness to listen to all perspectives. She engages in productive conversations and is well respected by many in our community.</p>
Jayme Zage	<p>I am increasingly frustrated by the one-size-fits-all mindset that I see on both sides of the issue. While it is true that there are students who are not receiving all they could in distance learning, it is also true that there are students who are thriving. Some students could be harmed by returning earlier than is right for them, when they don't feel safe. We have amazing teachers and administrators, they have developed incredible learning environments under distance learning. Our district is a leader and we should continue innovating to address the needs of ALL individual students. The 4X4 model is a great example of the district's past innovation. Let's give our teachers and staff the time and creative license needed to develop new models for learning that meet the needs of all students in the district, allow teachers flexibility to be on-campus or off and enable our district to lead the way in education in the years to come. Let's not rush back but rather build a plan, with an achievable but flexible target date for implementation that meets both the safety and education goals we all desire. I want to thank the district for their efforts to secure services for the mental health needs of the students with Rady Children's. I track mental health issues through our regular work so I understand the importance of addressing this need. I caution the thinking though, that simply getting kids back on campus will solve this issue. Mental health prevalence and suicide rates were on the rise prior to the pandemic and are complex and multifactorial. COVID along with the economic hardships and social disruptions it has created just compound these issues. Even when we begin to bring kids back to campus we will need to increase support of their emotional well-being, as many mental health issues will still persist. Finally, I do not feel the district would be well served by designating a single spokesperson. All board members have a role to play and should be equally involved in communicating the boards position on return to campus.</p>

Name	Written Comments
Jen Charat	<p>Experts at UCSD have called aspects of our current reopening plan at 1-day per week, "crazy" and "not good." This resolution violates the tenets under which SDUHSD planned to reopen.</p> <p>The proposal to return all students all at once does not adhere to public health guidelines. Students and teachers will not be sufficiently distanced, passing periods will be impossible to supervise, bathroom occupancy will be uncontrolled. Anyone who has been on our campuses would know this.</p> <p>Perhaps this resolution has been drafted because the mental and emotional health of students has been repeatedly cited as the reason to reopen schools unsafely. But based on Fall 2020 data, the majority of SDUHSD students are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrating healthy social-emotional competencies accessing the learning platform and attending online classes meeting grade level standards passing their classes planning to participate in AP Exams if enrolled in AP courses <p>The resolution proposes naming a spokesperson for reopening issues. Board bylaws state, "When speaking for the district, the Board encourages its spokespersons to exercise restraint and tact and to communicate the message in a manner that promotes public confidence in the Board's leadership."</p> <p>A neutral spokesperson, with experience on the board and familiarity with the history of this issue as it pertains to this district, would be best in this role. If the board appoints a spokesperson for matters related to this resolution, it should be Trustee Mossy because she has shown a willingness to hear all viewpoints, she does not swear at staff and post about it on social media, and most importantly, she is an experienced board member. The board should not appoint a new board member who campaigned on one side of this issue and received fewer than 2% more votes than his opponent. There is no overwhelming mandate here.</p>
Jennifer Daniel-Duckering	<p>strongly object to the proposed Draft Resolution (at pg. 85 of 280), paras. 3 and 4, whereby Mr. Allman attempts to have himself – a brand new Board member – appointed as the "Board's spokesperson for the matters addressed by or arising from this Resolution" (a "full return to in-person, on-campus instruction for all students in January 2021"). I also object to Mr. Allman attempting to have himself be appointed the 'delegate' of the Board as it pertains to the reopening process (or any other Board matters in the future). Even aside from the ample, publicly available evidence that Mr. Allman lacks the ability to approach the issue of re-opening in a respectful, unbiased and inclusive manner, the Board consists of 5 members for a reason. No one single Board member should be given such broad, sweeping power. Moreover, Mr. Allman's behavior during this election campaign and since has been in direct violation of the Board Bylaws, specifically BB 9010. For example, "members who participate on social networking sites" are "encouraged" to "conduct themselves in a respectful, courteous, and professional manner and to model good behavior for district students and the community." Also, Board spokespersons are encouraged to "exercise restraint and tact and to communicate the message in a manner that promotes public confidence in the Board's leadership."</p> <p>If the District and this Board wants to repair any of the damage to its reputation that has occurred in the eyes of the community over the past several months, it cannot afford to take an action that clearly favors one Board member over all others.</p>
Charlotte DiMase	<p>I'm a seventh grade student at Diegueno and I'm worried about returning to school during the peak of the pandemic. I'm also worried for my teachers who have to teach more than 100 kids every day. I like distance learning and I think I'm learning a lot, even in classes that haven't been super interesting to me before, such as world history. I especially love that I can do my science experiments at my own pace at home. Even though you would think it would be difficult to learn at home, my teachers have given me supplies, shared instructional videos, demonstrated special techniques that I can watch several times if needed, and they are able to give me a lot of help in class and office hours. I don't think they would be able to help me like this if some students are there in person and I'm online.</p>
Jenny Richards	<p>Our family strongly supports the safe re-opening of schools. Other school districts and states have made this happen. Why can't we? How are some teachers and students in school right now and some aren't? It makes no sense. Countless experts have stated that the net benefits of opening schools outweighs the costs of closing them. Teenagers are suffering, losing out on academics and social and emotional development. Depression, suicide, isolation, and apathy should all be measured against the relatively low risk of opening schools with safety measures in place. Distance learning is not a long term solution. The idea that distance learning is a success and that students are learning and engaged is entirely false. My son, a senior, has learned virtually nothing since distance learning began. As a student that easily loses focus, he needs the classroom, teachers and other students to engage and learn. He logs on to class but he zones out immediately. He is not engaged and he is not learning. He is on actual live classes for about 6 hours a week. Compare that to a school week of about 35 hours. The rest of the time is basically free time. School has lost all meaning and importance to him. Most teenagers, when not held accountable, will do the bare minimum. All that many students have learned this year is how to work the system, how to cheat, and how to get As by doing nothing. How can our students be prepared for college when they have potentially a year off of school? When I say that no learning is happening in the distance format, I am not exaggerating. My son has missed out on 9 months of education with the potential for more. While it may be working for a few it is certainly not working for all students. Give families the choice.</p>
Jennifer MacDougall	<p>I am very concerned with making a preemptive decision to open schools in a very fluid and dynamic situation where Covid is surging, and information is changing regularly. I am also concerned with the impact on quality instruction with the anticipated resulting shortage of teachers. Also I disagree with one board member being named THE delegate and THE spokesperson on this extremely broad and impactful issue.</p>
Jeremy Schneider	<p>I write this, concerned that this district's values and ethics are sorely out of whack. To begin, I'd like to commend the job done by our staff. I can't speak to every single one, but my teachers at CCA have done an outstanding job of adjusting their classes for distance learning. It has been a tall task to keep students engaged, but the hard work of our teachers has paid off. For example, despite obvious limitations, my video/film teacher has kept us learning through sharing work and teaching ways to film awesome videos from the safety of our homes. In a class where lecturing is unavoidable, my AP World History teacher has found a great balance of lecturing, while also dividing us into groups for activities. The notion that staff across SDUHSD have been lazy and taken distance learning as a way to work less is an incredibly false and disrespectful narrative. The least we can do is find ways to be flexible and understanding with our staff, because they're struggling just like students and families! Next, is the matter of blatant disrespect and lack of decency to a staff member from a specific trustee. I am all for having different opinions and sharing our perspectives and outlooks, but there is a clear and obvious line that cannot be crossed. After reading said message, from the trustee to the staff member, I was appalled by the lack of civility and pure hostility in the trustee's response. Our staff deserve respect, belittling them is inexcusable, especially from someone that our community elected to serve us. Students and families should remain a priority in moving towards a safe reopening plan, but the blatant disregard of staff makes me lose some faith in our district decision makers. Disagreement? Sure. But outright insolence and professionalism towards the people who make our schools run is incredibly dishonorable. We all have a common goal of wanting to return to campus, but we're in a global pandemic! Please have compassion and empathy for the staff of SDUHSD as we continue to navigate towards a safe reopening.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I'm writing regarding the return to in-person instruction on our campuses. I would like to request that the board lead with science-based decisions putting the safety of our students, teachers, and staff as the most important factor for returning to campus. In the deluge of data and "data" circulated online, I admonish you to follow the directives of the State and County cautiously. When so close to vaccination availability, returning while cases are spiking is simply not wise. Academically, my two kids at SDA have been challenged and engaged all along. AP classes have remained rigorous and the kids still work hard to keep their GPAs up. It is not ideal, but the quality of instruction is by no means suffering. They look forward to the social and athletic aspects of school life returning, but they are not falling behind in their academics.</p> <p>I am part of multiple fb groups working to get our campuses open and have been encouraged by the willingness of so many parents to get involved. However, I have watched with alarm as the rhetoric in what started as a group of parents seeking ways to work with the district to get campuses reopened safely, has morphed into vitriol towards the teachers and staff. At one point, the salaries of SDUHSD employees were posted for all to view. While there are some helpful strings of comments in terms of academia or mental health, there are increasingly "gotcha" posts to out schools or classrooms or complain about specific teachers. Instead of tempering the content, moderators and posters are encouraging people to take sides. Since Michael Allman is spearheading much of that content, I do not think he should be the voice of the Board reporting back to the parents and staff. I think he started with good intentions and wanted to elevate his name during the election, but before even being installed on the Board, he has managed to foment anger that will only serve to divide people at a time when we all need to work together to solve the critical issues that concern us all.</p>
Anonymous	<p>A member of the SDUHSD Board should never have to make a life or death decision, that is not within the criteria you signed up for and I empathize with the fact you have to deal with this. Yet, with COVID, that's the reality you're facing. I'm focusing on teachers with this letter and your vote will make it so they'll have a choice between health and jobs. It would be a disservice to have teachers return to school before we are informed it's safe to do so; please note the Public Health Notices- our district is in a region with high outbreaks. (UCSD has published a return to learn experts guide about safety measures.) Please consider alternative measures such as hiring tier two personnel to monitor the in-person kids while the (High risk) teachers stay home. I don't want us to hear about horror stories of teachers or students contracting COVID.</p> <p>Aside from a health perspective, our school district is #1 in SD County, and ranked 5th in the whole of CA. As much as we would like to be optimistic and imagine the quality of our staffing will not decrease, these ideals are unreal and there will be a decline in quality. Let's keep our Unified School District strong and producing students who will have lasting impacts with their educations.</p> <p>As much as distance learning has been challenging, I am impressed with how students have been navigating the new dynamics. I'm concerned because school like SDA have three more weeks after winter break of the 'first term'. This means finals will at the time of your new change which will complicate the delivery method of finals as well as the students capabilities of test taking and general anxiety levels. I'm hoping you understand that finals IS NOT the time to be changing the learning environment. As a parent, I know you understand the need for quality education and you're looking to encourage the students success in final exams.</p> <p>Please reconsider the timing of reopening. Don't rock the boat that these teachers have spent so long to steady.</p>
Joshua Graff Zivin	<p>I am a parent of a Torrey Pines High School student and I am very appreciative of the hard work that the District has taken to try and develop a re-opening plan that responds to the ever-changing public health situation. That said, the plan to re-open schools in January appears to be grounded in a dated assessment of the risks. At the moment, San Diego has the highest level of community transmission since this pandemic has begun and experts warn that it is likely to get worse in the coming months due to the holidays and winter weather. At the same time, there is growing evidence that the virus spreads in those high schools that have remained open, including those in neighboring Orange County, and that is despite greatly reduced student populations since many have opted to study from home.</p> <p>On a more personal note, my sister is an infectious disease expert in the NY/NJ metro area. She has treated more than 600 patients since the beginning of this pandemic and has witnessed severe illness and deaths of patients at all ages, including otherwise healthy high schoolers. She also works for a firm that designs COVID safety plans for Fortune 500 companies, non-profits and schools. Their experience suggests that high schools are the most difficult to operate because of the large-scale mixing of the student body and the difficulties in keeping students masked and 6 feet apart at all times. With few exceptions, they have urged large public schools to remain virtual.</p> <p>Nothing would make me happier than to have our high schoolers back on campus. With the vaccine rolling out this week, I am confident that we will be able to do so safely in the near future. With local transmission rates so high and hospitals stretched thin, now is not the time. SDUHSD should follow the lead of Coronado, Poway, and other Districts and delay their re-opening plans until it is more prudent to do so. Anything short of that imposes needless risks on our students, our teachers, and all the residents of our community.</p>
Jill Bryant	<p>Please give our children the option to be back on campus with face to face instruction, and for more than 1 day. Our kids need this, they are suffering</p>
Anonymous	<p>It is absurd that we are even contemplating sending teachers and students into classrooms while the community spread of the virus is at its height. Listen to science! Listen to guidance and common sense. Listen to stay at home orders. Put academics first. Let students learn in distance learning without having to risk their lives, as well as those of their loved ones and the community at large. Don't cause more upheaval for students in the middle of a semester so close to exams (and in the winter). Don't force teachers to choose between keeping themselves and their families safe and their jobs. And don't risk students' lives when it makes no sense. See this article: this could be your child: https://abcnews.go.com/US/wired-lives-families-young-adults-died-covid-19/story?id=74148061</p> <p>There will be no group work. There will be no meaningful discussions. There will be no energized, creative teachers and teachers -- only scared, tired, restricted instructors in masks (and substitute teachers who aren't able to successfully implement lessons, because so many teachers will take a leave). Wait until it is safer to go back... PLEASE. Why would you be so reckless when other people's lives, and especially when the learning environment will be inferior?</p>
Joann Kreps	<p>I object in the strongest possible way to Mr. Allman's draft resolution on Expanded School Opening. Our school district has been working towards a reopening plan that values our current staff, values our students' education, and uses real-time data to make decisions. By wording it the way he has "Unless specifically ordered otherwise by an applicable public health order issued directly to the District by the County or State" he is trying to create a loophole to allow the SDUHSD board to do whatever they want. I urge the Board members to vote against this and continue to work with the school site admins to come up with a plan that works for each site.</p>
Jennifer Lucero	<p>I fully support students on campus full time. My daughter is about 50/50 with teachers who fully engage her attention. But she has burst in tears saying how hard it is to learn and stay focused. Went for a physical and was happy to see that her doctor focused on her mental health in addition to physical. I think they are noticing the emotional struggles. We need to remember that being on campus is about more than just education. It is social and mental outlets that help them grow just as much or more than books. For some kids, this is the only way to reach out to their peers. If you want to stay home, then do so, but not at the expense of all the kids that need to be back.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I am the father of a senior at LCC and strongly support school reopening. Distance learning is not a long term solution and is failing our students on so many levels. I believe getting kids on campus can be done safely and that the benefits of offering in person learning to those who choose it far outweigh the harm being done to our teens academically, physically, socially and emotionally. The benefits over risk of reopening have been repeatedly stated by experts who are currently being willfully ignored. Other school districts, states and private schools have safely reopened and are providing an education to their students. We must do the same.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I support Board member Allmans' resolution and appreciate his willingness to explore the issue of school reopening and provide accountability.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I want to go back to school because I want to be there for at least part of my senior year and so I can see my friends again. It makes me really sad that we are still out of school after 7 months. I miss my friends, I miss sitting in a classroom, and I miss the social interactions that school provides. I feel really sad and isolated</p>

Name	Written Comments
Anonymous	<p>IT IS WILDLY IRRESPONSIBLE TO COMMIT TO A FULL REOPENING GIVEN THE CURRENT RATE OF COVID TRANSMISSION WITHIN THE DISTRICT, PARTICULARLY WITHOUT FIRST ASSESSING THE SUCCESS OF THE PILOT MODEL OR CURRENT PUBLIC HEALTH CONDITIONS AS OF THE END OF JANUARY. MOREOVER, NO DETAILS HAVE BEEN PROVIDED NOR ASSURANCES MADE THAT STUDENTS THAT ARE UNABLE OR UNWILLING TO RETURN TO SCHOOL IN-PERSON WILL CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THE SAME QUALITY OF INSTRUCTION AS STUDENTS AT SCHOOL, OR AS IS CURRENTLY BEING PROVIDED UNDER DISTANCE LEARNING.</p>
James frederic Stiven	<p>I write to the Board as a parent. As a Board, your constituency is quite large - students and parents, of course, but equally including teachers and staff, as well as residents within District boundaries. I am a parent, not of a student, but of a teacher in the District, and I am also a resident within this District (with five grandchildren presently or previously attending SDUHSD schools). As I understand plans for expanding attendance at District schools starting after January, such plans could create a density within classrooms that would be dangerous for teachers and students alike. Most District classrooms will not accommodate more than 10- 12 students at a time so as to maintain social distancing required by the CDC and adopted by the CA state and SD county Public Health guidelines and/or regulations. In order to effectively teach, it would be difficult, if not impossible, for teachers to always maintain safe distances from their students, even if classes are limited to 10 - 12 students. More students would guarantee unsafe exposure to teachers. While it is acknowledged that on-line instruction is less desirable than in person instruction, it still works, and keeping to a plan (as recently promulgated) to limit in person attendance to 10 - 12 students (depending on classroom size) (students attending once a week), with all other students attending virtually, seems a fair compromise to promote both learning and safety. As long as SD County remains in the Purple tier, no in person classes would be permitted in HS.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I am a senior at La Costa Canyon.</p> <p>Why is it important to go back to school?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The social aspect. Having community and camaraderie with my friends during lunch, between and in classes. It definitely helps to get through a day of school, especially mid-terms and finals. 2. Face to face instruction. I have an IEP, so having in-class instruction helps me to understand and focus on what is being taught. It's definitely easier for me to participate in class and ask questions. Getting help during lunch or after school is more personal. Also, if I need more time to finish a test (a part of my accommodations) and can go in after school. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I think the teachers have a better gage on the instructional atmosphere if we are in the classroom rather than looking at black tiles (some faces) on google classroom. 3. Sports and college: I am a SENIOR football player. There are a number of colleges looking at me for their football program BUT they want my senior film. How I am going to supply film if I have no season? The school board, teachers' union, superintendent and teachers literally hold my future in their hands. 4. I believe that the fear needs to stop and hope, empowerment and strength needs to happen. I believe we can reopen schools and give families the choice. I am hoping after time the DL's will see there is nothing to fear but fear itself.
Anonymous	<p>There are hundreds of schools open right now in California and doing it successfully. Mental health and isolation are damaging our kids physical health significantly. It's imperative that we stop this abuse and allow our kids to be considered essential so they can get an in person education by learning directly from the teacher, not on screens. The damage that's being done very well may be seen for years on with each month passing by of staring at screens, hunched over, and without any social interaction or physical activity. Please treat our kids as if they're important enough to have a future in this world. Thank you!</p>
Anonymous	<p>It is time to get our kids back in school full time. The district has had 9 months to come up with a plan and one day a week distance learning at school is not going to work! Give us choices! Poll how many want to go back full time. The CDC, Fauci, studies across the world have proven that schools are not super spreaders. Our children's mental health depends on them going back to school. For once this district, board and teachers union need to put students first and get them back in school full time!</p>
Kara Chine	<p>As a former high school teacher, and now a parent of 2 students in this district, I am overwhelmed by the logistical implications for a 100% return to school this winter. This shift suggests a school staff to be able to 1. keep all attending students to the safety protocols that will protect them and their families with larger numbers, and 2. be able to teach students who are in class AND still give the interaction needed to those who need to or choose to continue with distance learning. 100% is not actually 100%. There will still be a large percentage left at home now tending for themselves. Can my kids' teachers assure me it won't be a distinctly worse experience for both categories of student? I value the teachers' perspective on this proposed model. All health risks aside, does it work? Is it going to be good for all students, or allow them to teach in ways they know work? I can't see how. While distance isn't perfect, I know my children can ask questions of their teachers, still interact in smaller groups, and get attention when needed. How could a teacher possibly give that kind of attention to... a camera in the back of the room? And this assumes the teacher just lectures from the front? If so, both groups of students are getting short-changed on instruction (effective teaching means many levels of interaction happening and a minimum of long lectures)... and then we will be willing to risk more lives to do something that might prove worse? If the majority of parents are comfortable with a 25% reentry that is slow and steady, increasing based on our city's numbers and our proof to ourselves that the students can successfully perform safety precautions, why is there this sudden push to jump ahead of the state recommendations and risk: yet more challenges to good instruction, loss of more fine teachers (for which our district is nationally famous), and increased spreading of a virus leading to the loss of human life? It is a roll of the dice I would rather we not take on the education of our kids, and the health of our families.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Community transmission rates are out of control and healthcare capacity is in extremely dangerous territory (At the Dec. 8 San Diego County Board of Supervisors meeting, it was presented that San Diego is projected to run out of ICU beds by the week of Dec. 14 and is projected to run out of all hospital beds by the end of the month.) SDUHSD should delay reopening for more students until San Diego County is out of the purple tier, focusing instead on keeping only students with prioritized needs on campus until infections are under control as recommended by protocols set forth by UC San Diego Return to Learn program.</p>
Kerily McEvoy	<p>The SDUHSD needs to continue to move forward with the development of a plan to safely reopen schools in a Hybrid model allowing those students who want it the opportunity to learn face to face and receive the high quality education that SDUHSD is known for. The board needs to set guidelines, parameters and most importantly a DEADLINE for each school staff to develop a site-specific plan that gets kids back on campus THIS SCHOOL YEAR. And we need to communicate regularly to our community and kids on the progress of this plan.</p> <p>Our children are suffering under the current Distance Learning model. It is just not working. Children are not engaged, and teachers are struggling to deliver meaningful curriculum. Cheating is commonplace. Teenagers are sleeping through classes. My Torrey Pines 9th grader was so excited for freshman year. Now she sits in her room all day and says: that she hates school. She is getting straight A's but is she really learning anything? In honors English they haven't even read a single novel yet - only short stories. Her video film class teacher can't use the expensive equipment he has in the classroom so they making films using their phones. I asked her what % of kids she thought were cheating and she said 100%. When I allow one of her friends to come over to do online school from our dining room table, the difference is night and day - smiling, laughing, talking about weird teachers or the crazy kid in science class. The students NEED their high school community. They NEED to connect with their teachers. And, despite best efforts, the Distance Learning model is just NOT DOING THAT.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Understanding that the pandemic is not over and the virus is still real, our plans need to be safe and responsible but we also need to prioritize the quality of the education that our students are receiving and the welfare of our students above all else. Please give these kids some hope. They need it.</p> <p>I am in disbelief that we are even talking about "expanded reopening". We seem to be living in parallel universes, where local schools are closing because of rising case numbers within their own populations, our ICU capacity in the region is at 4% (our local hospitals even worse), and our death rate is exponentially rising. Then I read this... the board is considering expanding by thousands of students???? No. We have a vaccine on the way, we have thousands of students living in multi-generational households, and we have the capacity to help students who need to be on campus. Well, we do now. Make the focus putting general population kids on campus, and there won't be staff, space, or resources for our kids that need it the most. The facts are clear: The vast majority of our students are doing okay, and are learning. We are in a global century-level pandemic. Forcing this crazy plan will result in a massive explosion of community cases and will certainly mean our schools close again, to everyone, due to clusters on campus. The vaccine is on the way, and once we get our vulnerable teachers vaccinated, staff shortages will be greatly alleviated. Our kids will get instruction from their teachers, and we can plan a safe return to in-person learning. My son has live instruction every day from all of his teachers. I'd like to keep him learning, and keep my family well, and this resolution is a threat to both.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Trustee Allman, brand new to the Board, does not have sufficient experience or equipoise to serve in the capacity for which he proposes himself. His communication with members of our community is embarrassing, ill-tempered, and juvenile. His exchange with a teacher is just one example:</p> <p>The schools that have tried to re-open locally have failed due to the easy spread of the virus within schools, causing hundreds of students and staff to quarantine, causing mass disruption to learning and safety.</p> <p>-->That is complete misinformation. -->The virus does not easily spread through schools. The fact that you say that tells me that you really have done no research at all. It doesn't spread through schools much at all! AT ALL through schools! You missed that by 180-degrees!</p> <p>Also, distance learning is working.</p> <p>-->Dude, I have no idea where you get this from, and the fact that you think this is true makes me question if we want you teaching our children.</p> <p>It may not be ideal or better than in person (I don't think any teacher would disagree that in person is best in general), but students are learning via virtual, they are engaged, and they will be fine. I am working very hard to make it worth their while.</p> <p>-->Any teacher who assumes on-line for all and doesn't engage the students in the classroom has given up.</p> <p>Please realize that you make decisions for people that you do not interact with, that you do not fully know, that you don't share their role or are on the front line in the classroom with. Your choices could be the cause of death of me, staff, and students.</p> <p>-->Jesus, did you just say that?</p> <p>-->Wow. Now there is no doubt, you should NOT be teaching our kids. Period.</p>
Kristen	<p>I vehemently support returning to the classroom full time as soon as possible. My 7th and 9th graders have suffered immensely over the last nine months, from both poor education and isolation/depression.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Giving Mr. Allman so much control in our district, especially as a new board member whose children did not even attend our schools, is risky and unwise. The push for having all students in school 5 days a week for the start of 3rd quarter is not something that should be voted on at this point. We don't know where San Diego will be at with COVID caseloads or ICU capacity at the end of January. If anything (ONLY if it is safe to do so), we should be starting a slow re-opening of students (1 day a week) at the start of 3rd quarter. NOT pushing for a full re-opening at that point.</p> <p>Any committee over-should be done by district employees and a joint effort of our board members. This should not be the sole responsibility of 1 board member with no background in our district!</p>
Anonymous	<p>I have 2 sons at CCA. Distance learning is not working for them on any level - academically they are failing, socially they are willing. Getting them out of bed for "school" is a fight every morning. These are A and B students. These are school athletes. These are creative, joyful, energetic students. Distance learning has changed all of that. Physical health has no value without mental health. Please stop pitting one versus the other. Our students need both. My students need both. My students need a reason to get out of bed, put on clothes, eat a meal - they need to attend school in person. For their current mental health, for their future endeavors, for their safety, please, I am begging you to open the schools for in person learning now.</p>
Nicole Green	<p>Now is not the time to bring thousands of students and all teachers back to campuses. I am a teacher at Torrey Pines High School, and I long for the day that we can all return to our campuses and teach and learn as we did before March 13, 2020. Unfortunately, we are in a deadly pandemic and everyone has been forced to make sacrifices at this time to keep ourselves, families and communities safe. We continue to work tirelessly to make distance learning just as effective as in-person school. I have been able to keep pace and teach all the content in my AP classes so that my students will excel on their AP exams like they always do. Many of my students are thriving in a more relaxed school environment online, enjoying more independence and flexibility and earning higher grades than they have in the past. I have experienced far better attendance in all of my classes during this 2020-21 school year than I have seen in my 20+ years of teaching. Please let us continue distance learning like the vast majority of public high schools in San Diego County. The COVID rates are the worst we have seen over the past 9 months. It is far too great of a risk for our students, their families, myself, my colleagues and our families to open on January 4th.</p>
Laura Minna-Choe	<p>Mr. Michael Allman's December 10, 2020 email to the CCA physics teacher shows a lack of respect for our teachers, our school system and for the office that he has been elected to serve. I repeat: unprofessional. Most notably was the complete lack of any scientific basis for supporting his own "beliefs." This is especially relevant given the fact that: "A record 2,867 COVID-19 cases were reported Dec. 10, bringing the region's overall total to 102,466. https://bit.ly/2KeWqmd." In addition, "The current ICU capacity for the Southern California region is now 6.2%." Id. Mr. Allman clearly has his own agenda in mind and not the safety and concern of staff or students.</p>

Name	Written Comments
Laurie Pani	<p>I'm pretty confused by the push to send everyone back to school full time, especially as CA is now in the purple tier of the pandemic. I'm guessing that families who aren't comfortable going back may have options, but it seems that the push is to get everyone back and those in distance learning will be left on the sidelines. It seems there's just one philosophy that everyone needs to get on board with.</p> <p>There isn't one answer that's right for everyone and while I know many of the board members know this, there are others that are pushing for their own agenda and what's right for them. But I don't believe that's the job of the board. I thought the board needs to accommodate the needs of everyone they serve, to the best of their ability...setting egos aside and really listening to everyone, not just a select few that support their perspective.</p> <p>For my family, my kids (7th and 9th grades) are doing well with distance learning. They are learning and performing well in school, and have learned to grow and shift their perspectives on so many preconceived notions they had before. My kids are happy, healthy, and anxiety levels are low.</p> <p>They are adaptable. We are adaptable. And ultimately we will adapt to what life (and you) throws our way. But everyone's situation is unique. Everyone's thresholds for anxiety are different (and triggered by different things), everyone's health is different, everyone's ability to re-adapt to a whole new way of teaching and learning is different.</p> <p>So I ask that you don't just send everyone back to school 5 days a week because you're sick of the pandemic and you just want everything back to the way it was. We all want everything back to the way it was. But that's irrational in a raging pandemic. Please take a pause. Please stop and listen, with no agenda, to what EVERYONE has to say and do what's in the best interest of everyone based on what they're saying they need, nothing else.</p> <p>I know this is no easy task, but I have faith that you will come up with a model that is more inclusive to more peoples' needs.</p>
Anonymous	<p>As a concerned SDA student, I believe that the plan to reopen schools on January 4th is too risky for both students and teachers. I am worried that our school will permanently lose some of its best teachers who believe that this plan poses too great of a risk to themselves and their families and chose to go on leave or retire. In addition, having to have a substitute every time one of our teachers has to quarantine will greatly lower our quality of education, as subs do not have nearly the amount of knowledge and experience both online and in-person that our current teachers have. This instability of our education is extremely preventable if we wait to make a return to campus until the risk decreases and our teachers have a better option.</p>
Lea C Park	<p>I support Member Allmans' resolution and appreciate his willingness to explore the issue and provide accountability.</p>
Lisa Corsinta	<p>I am writing to STRONGLY advocate for the full 5 day per week, reopening of campuses now! You are failing our students and have caused untold mental and emotional damage to our students. This selfish and shameful learning model is dangerous and not working for our children.</p>
Gurpreet Klein	<p>Hubris, in a district full of it, we get even more. A man who won by 309 votes puts forth a motion to be the spokesperson for board as one of his first items of priority. In spite of even discussing this. This coupled with 9:00am board meetings. What are you trying to do, take the whole district over? Based on the hyperbole, vitriol and thin skinned behavior you have demonstrated online, you are the furthest person this district needs as a "spokesperson." Don't be already paid a person for that? You may have run "the gas company" but it looks like your hot air has yet to be purged.</p>
Patricia Lee	<p>I sincerely hope that we can reopen our schools. However, it cannot be done with subpar safety standards. There is no business, restaurant, retail store, grocery store, or doctor's office that allow people to gather only 3 feet apart. Why are we considering this for students and teachers? Everyone wants to see students back in school, including teachers. But everyone also deserves a safe working environment. A safe learning environment will not only help keep everyone physically healthy, but it will provide the most stability for our students to learn and thrive. There are parents who want the choice to bring their student back on campus-- many with good reason. But let's not put teachers, staff, and our community at risk. Implement optimal safety protocols. Other districts have done it. Show our community that you care for both students and the people you employ.</p>
Anonymous	<p>It is unsafe and irresponsible to reopen schools as cases in California are continuing to rise. An in person learning plan is risky, let alone one that forces all students to return 5 days a week. It is impossible to understand the situation that each individual is in right now. Both students and teachers should have the option to opt for distance learning. Denying this option is a complete disregard for their safeties.</p>
Lily Bolig	<p>Let's look at logistics specific to 1 school site.</p> <p>We essentially have three days to get ready to reopen.</p> <p>There is no app for students to do symptom screening on. How will that happen on the 4th to our 200+ students per site? Who will monitor the hallways and make sure the bathrooms are not above the capacity? Who will escort students to the health office if they have a problem? We have no campus supervisors due to various leaves. Will this be the APs? If so, who will do their jobs? Most sites don't have more than a few campus supervisors, so even if they are all on campus, how will they be everywhere all the time?</p> <p>There is supposed to be a contract families have to sign agreeing to things like symptom checking, but it doesn't exist yet. Once it does exist, who will make sure that all students on campus have that form turned in and signed? It takes weeks to get address verification forms back --and that's with our registrar there! Ours is out on leave and her sub received little to no training. Will we have a long line of students turning in a paper that doesn't exist, screening symptoms on an app that we don't have, and verifying that students' masks are good? Will that happen at every point of entry on campus. We basically need a Taking Care of Business Day before we can reopen.</p> <p>What happens at lunch? Passing periods? Who will monitor that kids are distanced? That their masks are off only while eating or away from other students? Who will make sure when they come back into campus that their masks are back on before entering any buildings?</p> <p>We have 15 tents on campus, but what about the WIFI outside? Are the tents up all day every day or do teachers have to set them up during class? How do teachers monitor the at home kids while setting up a tent? Once teaching outside through a mask to a computer screen, who will hear me? With 15 tents, who gets to reserve them? Will we lug our desks and chairs to the outside spot? How will we all fit under one tent?</p> <p>These are just some of the logistics we need answers to before we can open.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I am a parent of a 10th grader (SDA) and 8th grader (OC). I am supportive of the schools providing an on-campus option for our students. Over the last 9 months my children have not been on school grounds for more than 15 minutes. While for someone at your age (and my age) that may not seem like a long time, for teenagers this feels like an eternity. The teachers and school environment are so important to our youth. While teachers are doing their best to make it engaging online, and I'm grateful there are honest graders (as it would be easy to simply give all As), there is no replacement for in-person learning. I think it is vitally important that teenagers are in a structured learning environment outside of the house where they can move, see, and breathe. Otherwise it is drastically lonely, sedentary, and not all that healthy. I've been watching the deterioration first hand. It has been heartbreaking to watch them go from vibrant, active scholars to screen spectators who may not take more than a few steps a day, unless we as parents pry them out for some solitary fresh air. It is as if we've locked them away in a prison or behind a castle gate as victims of something that only very, very rarely would affect their physical health. They feel forgotten and invisible. We know the needed safety precautions for COVID and in such a wealthy district we will pay whatever it takes to make the facilities safe - let's please get our children, who are our future leaders, back in school. I expect that years from now, when we look back on 2020, we will see school closures as a violation of human rights, a sort of child abuse in California: where we chose to sequester and not properly educate our public school children. These are OUR Encinitas children. Let's please not continue this into 2021.</p>
Lisa Howe	<p>It is unsafe to return to school and puts teacher, staff, students and families at risk. It is beyond me why anyone is not putting health and safety first as our numbers continue to reach records each and every day.</p>
Lori Laroque	<p>My boys like all other students in the SDUHSD district were relegated to the Spring emergency remote learning which was sub par, followed by a 10 week Summer "break" and then Distance Learning through Quarter 1 and now through Quarter 2. On Nov 9, one of my twins started on campus 2 days a week in a learning pod and now the other twin has joined him. It has been an interesting litmus test to compare the two in this home hybrid model of each boy being the same age, grade, AND having the exact same subjects and teachers. Firstly of note was when one son was on campus, still distance learning but with students, teachers and staff around him, he would be on campus being educated, doing homework, getting instruction until 2:55 p.m. My other son was done with school at 1:00 or 1:30 with no further classwork or homework. My one son who was on campus was happy to be in a proper learning environment surrounded by students, teachers and a formal facility in which to learn his academic subjects. My other son was frustrated and despondent because he could not interact with his teachers in a normal fashion thus not nearly as inspired or motivated to learn. Once my second son went on campus, he concurred that while he was not surrounded by the usual number of groups of friends pre-Covid, he was happy and grateful to have his independence and sense of self, student identity and academic structure to help him best learn and thrive. I can personally attest that PTMS has done a phenomenal job keeping everyone on campus safe and following all the proper protocols set forth. This is a first-hand account from me and my boys who have physically witnessed and experienced on campus learning for over a month now. There is strong evidence that with basic safety measures in place that the net benefits of keeping schools open outweigh the costs of keeping students at home in a Distance Learning fashion. The science and data now shows that we need to open our schools full time, in person. The concurrent teaching model seems ideal and gives families the option to choose.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I take this moment to thank the Board for reading my public comment during this meeting. As a mom of three, only one of my children is doing distance learning. My other two children, in private school, have been in-person since after Labor Day and have had no Covid-19 outbreaks. While these private schools spend full-days with the children attending in-person, my at-home student is getting only a fraction of the education she deserves. I know most teachers would like to be teaching their students in-person just as much as the students themselves would like to be in-person. The parents opposed to schools reopening are in so much fear of a virus that has not affected the vast majority of the youth population. As a parent I try to be understanding of why these fearful parents want to keep the schools closed to all. We know schools can offer families a choice to remain online, but that does not seem to be a choice they are satisfied with. I wish for these parents to understand that their choice is not everyone's choice and to call for school closures to continue is simply selfish and wrong. My heart goes out to the students with special needs and IEPs that require in-school services not being offered, or the parents who cannot be home to supervise and support their children during school hours, and especially those parents who have been financially impacted with the loss of work because their child is depressed or at-risk for suicide due to the lack of social interaction. These are real people and real problems. Knowing children are at low risk for Covid-19, but high risk for suicide is all the more reason to reopen schools and bring students back to in-person learning as much as feasibly possible. In addition, I would like to stress that public schools reopening MUST implement continuous communication with students in how they can stop the spread of any virus, not just Covid-19. Washing hands remains the best way to stop a virus, hand sanitizers with 70% alcohol, and before the student enters campus a daily symptom check should be mandatory. Please vote to reopen!</p>
Lucilia Schiraldi	<p>Given the current covid 19 situation I think it's reckless to consider fully opening the schools this winter. I think the plan of letting students who wish so to go once a week is a much more considerate plan, especially if even students who have opted in on the survey can decide to attend from home without being called absent. I believe these steps are important to allow social distancing and to ensure students who may have been exposed stay home for a period of time before returning on campus.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I strongly oppose to open school on Jan 4th when our county is experiencing a spike in coronavirus. I do not think the school's reopening protection is adequate. It is absolutely no sense to bring students back for one day a week on Jan 4th right after the holiday. Some previous articles promoting pre-mature conclusion that kids do not spread virus is no longer valid when cases are surging in an exponential speed! (See CDC's new guidance which does not promote school to reopen in a worsening pandemic). In addition, not giving teachers choices to teach remotely will force many teachers to take leave. It will be difficult to find enough qualified sub-instructors. Also, rush to school reopen will increase spreading at community at large. I would also oppose to full open school on Jan 27th if things do not get significantly better, meaning we get out of the purple tier or teachers are not vaccinated.</p>
Amanda Davies	<p>I have 3 kids at LCC this year. In addition to feeling isolated, lethargic, and unmotivated, my kids are experiencing headaches and migraines for the first time in their life.</p> <p>They are also missing the social aspect of school. They miss actually getting to know their teachers and peers in a meaningful way. Meeting online is not even remotely the same. Most kids have their cameras off. The "break out groups", where kids are supposed to interact in a small group or one on one, are a joke. Most of the kids don't show up and/or have their camera off. These kids have no opportunity to meet new people or form new friendships. A critical part of their teenage years. Kids sitting in their room all day staring at a screen with no real interaction is NOT school. If our kids return in January that will be almost an entire year in distance learning. One quarter of a child's entire high school experience spent in isolation. How far behind are the kids in our district going to be when compared to students across the country who are actually attending school every day and have been all year? What social/emotional and interpersonal skills are our children losing? These are a huge part of the learning process in middle and high school. They are getting half, at best, of the instruction that other kids across the country are getting. Wellness Wednesday? My kids look forward to that day off every week. Zero instruction, zero classwork. So now we're down to 4 days of school per week. How is that even legal? It's been close to a year of distance learning. It is time for our kids to come back to school. We are causing irreparable harm to the children in our district. I am imploring the district to do the right thing and move forward with the expanded reopening. This allows our kids a choice, that many so desperately need, to return to campus for in-person learning in January.</p>
Mark	<p>Should you not be putting our kids first? Our kids are our future and quite honestly are our legacy. I am 48 years old and have already experienced my childhood and a good portion of my life. My #1 priority is my two young boys and allowing them to experience their youth. Under your leadership you are failing them, as they will never get this time back in their childhood. Taking the path of least resistance, allows you to justify your decision because you are not willing to do what is best for our children, which is why you have clearly failed.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Sending out a survey asking if parents want one day per week in classroom learning with computers through the third quarter is pathetic. The fact that you and the school board do not have a solid plan ready to support safe in classroom learning is also admitting to your failure. You and the board have had several months to prepare and be ready to start in classroom learning after the first quarter, but you have made the choice to not prepare and again do what is best for our children. Other school districts and other states are already in the classroom learning every day.</p>
Mark Janis	<p>You will have to live with the fact that you are permanently damaging hundreds of young children who are experiencing severe emotional distress due to lack of socialization. This is 100% completely on you, as you will have to live with that forever. You allowed it to happen on your watch and as a result the kids will never be the same for the rest of their lives.</p>
Matthew DAVIS	<p>Online Distance Learning has been a huge disappointment. My two children in the district have not received the quality education that we had expected AND they are suffering from isolation. Can we not come up with a compromise? The teachers and students that want to be on campus, teach and learn from school; otherwise stay home. Why must almost ALL students learn from home? Our youngest is a fifth grader in DMUSD, and this is their hybrid model, roughly 65% of the students are on campus. It has worked amazing AND it has been safe with the proper protocols despite some positive tests for COVID-19. Let's work together to find solutions to this problem, not more obstacles with the proposed solutions; it's elementary, and we can apply this approach at the higher grade levels too.</p>
Matthew DAVIS	<p>It is difficult to reconcile this resolution with a bedrock democratic process in which elected officials advance to increasing levels of responsibility with increasing experience in office and familiarity with the organization they serve. Mr. ALLMAN - prior to his first Board meeting and apparently without having held elected office, been a SDUHSD parent, or provided near service to SDUHSD - is asking to be appointed the Board's single spokesperson for expanded school opening. With no skin in the game, no embedded understanding of SDUHSD, and no apparent awareness that Boards need to achieve consensus, this appears to be a power grab. It is dangerous because it gives Mr. ALLMAN power to control communication largely unchecked. This enables him to advance re-opening objectives on which he campaigned aggressively and that are not necessarily shared by his fellow Board members or the larger community he serves. It is in direct contradiction to transparency and communication objectives on which he campaigned. Mr. ALLMAN's service on other Boards is impressive and aligned closely with his professional experiences with finance and in the energy sector. I recommend that he show his fellow Board members and the larger SDUHSD community (students, educators, and administrators), with which he has only anecdotal experience, the respect they deserve by approaching this issue thoughtfully and with an open mind. This resolution suggests that Mr. ALLMAN is convinced he has the answers. We all would be well-served if he took time to understand the questions.</p>

Name	Written Comments
Anonymous	I am a parent of a Torrey Pines Freshman and I believe it is our duty, individually and as a community of innovators, leaders and educators, to fully re-open our schools and offer in-person learning option for all students, as soon as possible. It is at the darkest moments that leaders have the responsibility to show us the light, shine like beacons of hope for what we all hold as most precious, our children, our collective future. We must show our children that we are able to find a way forward, no matter what the challenges, displaying our best efforts through action and that time is now! At this point, in our own communities let alone the rest of the country, we see private schools and public districts proving that safe, on campus learning IS possible, IS safe and IS providing children with learning, social and emotional developmental opportunities that our SDUHSD children are being deprived of. As a district, I believe we can put our fears aside and build on a foundation of information, cooperation and trust, in our leadership and in each other. The consequences of not bringing OUR KIDS back, OUR KIDS who are the entire reason schools exist, OUR KIDS who are losing interest in learning, OUR KIDS who are losing their will, their faith, their friendships, their futures, some even losing their lives to the isolation we adults have created out of fear of moving forward. It is OUR KIDS who are losing their developmental experiences to our lack of courage, and it is them who will ultimately pay the price of our inability to find a way forward in the face of challenges. When we look back at how we and our leadership at SDUHSD have handled the education of our children during the time of COVID, we would be well served by replacing the inaction and fear with courage, cooperation, positive, heroic and strong leadership at all levels and hope at the top of our strategy-the kids deserve it and they, just like the world, are watching us right now-what leadership legacy do we want to leave? #kidscomefirst
Anonymous	This proposal is absolutely ridiculous, dangerous, and actually logistically impossible. If you would like to see how fast teachers can leave a district, this is the way to find out. Please do not place someone in charge who doesn't even have one day of experience and openly admits to not knowing how any of this works. He spends his time openly denigrating staff members on public forums, creating a toxic work environment and violating our contract before he is even in office. He has no experience, does not understand education law, is a terrible employer to work for, and will drain our schools of our staff - the resource which, up to now, has been our most valued asset. His motivation is to get teachers to quit so that he can form his own for-profit charter schools with complete control. This is more dangerous than just Covid - this empowers a vile, vile man that many well respected teachers will refuse to work for. You will have a staffing crisis on your hands if you openly endanger the community like this.
Anonymous	People are tired. Students are tired. From Fauci to major leaders across the world, the message is KEEP KIDS IN SCHOOL! Listen. Learn the fact. Get the kids back to normalcy and reality. We are all for 5 days a week after semester break! Get going!!
meghan muir	My children are suffering severely. I have a 12 year old boy at Earl Warren. He has struggled so much with distance learning and has become a little businessman; scanning documents, cramped at a desk for hours and hours a day. He gets headaches from being online all day. He has missed out on very important emotional growth from not being around his peers. His physical activity has gone from a 10 to a 2. HE NEEDS TO BE ON CAMPUS. My 17 year old son is at TPHS as a junior. He is/was? on the football team. He has great grades now because he 'cheats' on all of his tests. He wants to quit football now since there is no real date to look forward to actually playing. MY KIDS ARE SUFFERING. Please put the wellbeing of the children in front of the teachers. The gap you are creating is disgusting. ONLY PRIVATE SCHOOL KIDS GO TO SCHOOL? Shameful.
Anonymous	I am a parent of a sophomore student in the SDUHSD and I plead with you to open our schools to give students the option to return to in person learning as soon as possible. A great deal of time is being utilized discussing teacher and staff safety without much discussion to how unsafe and damaging it is for our students to continue remain distance learning at home. Numerous studies and reports have cited dramatic increases in youth depression. Our students are suffering. They are isolated, unmotivated, detached and disengaged all while losing a significant amount of academic progress. If you take a look outside of California many other states and countries have returned middle and high school students to in person learning months ago. Our local private schools are teaching in person safely and with excellence. We now have research and scientific evidence that shows what is working and how to compound mitigation efforts to make school a safer environment than the general surrounding community. SDUHSD schools even have the added benefit Great San Diego weather, a tremendous amount of outdoor space, outdoor lunch areas, and outdoor passing paths between classes. Our schools play a critical role in students lives and in society as a whole. Our children need the district to advocate for their right to a quality education. In person education is essential. Please vote to get our students learning in person for third quarter.
Anonymous	Dear Board Members, I am a student-athlete and I wanted to give you a perspective from a student during distance learning. Last year I was a multi-sport athlete and with straight A's while taking honors classes. This year however I feel like I am not being challenged academically or given the opportunity to compete athletically. With a slow pace of learning and no sports I am very worried about how it will affect my opportunities for college. All of the colleges I am interested in are out of state and in those locations students have been attending class in person all year and have completed their fall sports seasons. Those students are not facing the same setbacks that we are here. I feel like I am watching my dreams disappear. This year most of my classes have been much slower paced than they would normally be. One of my honors class teachers even told us in class that because of distance learning "we have only finished about half of what we normally would have at this point." In all of my years of school, this year has been the hardest-not because of the classes or the content but because of the loneliness and struggles of online learning. It is a hard and boring way to learn. Being isolated at home without school or sports has made me and lots of other students feel very lonely and discouraged. We have lost all the things that matter to us. In summary, I believe that students need to go back to school to help combat loneliness, loss of learning, and loss of athletic opportunities. Please let us go back to school.
Mia Miesen	If anyone should have a say in the situation regarding sending teachers back to school in early January, it is the students and teachers. We are the people who are actually impacted by your decisions and we are the ones who will be put at risk of contracting COVID-19. As a student, it's very frustrating to see the Board ignoring teachers' wishes, and giving into parents who enforce reckless plans and speak about what is "best" for us students as if we can't decide for ourselves. Forcing our teachers to choose between losing a job that sustains their livelihood or risking their lives is simply inequitable, and I find it quite sad that a 16-year old has to remind you to care about people other than yourselves. I will not deny that many students miss in-person classes; of course we miss sports and our friends. However, it is of utmost importance that our teachers are protected and that we are properly equipped for academic success with competent instructors, not substitutes. The mental health problems some students are facing right now would surely increase with the death of a teacher, especially if students were to feel responsible. We already know that teachers can die from COVID, so why would we risk it? I'm certain many would agree that a teacher losing their life while we are right on the cusp of distributing the vaccine would be most unfortunate. This is a highly infectious virus; it is not a matter of IF someone within our school district, it's a matter of WHEN they will be afflicted. Who are you to tell teachers that they must put themselves in harm's way, or be punished for refusing? To determine the value of teachers' lives? Or to scoff and say "Jesus, did you just say that? Wow. Now there is no doubt, you should NOT be teaching our kids. Period" at a teacher who is pleading for their, their families', and their students' protection? Teachers are not replaceable commodities and we students need them. Respect their wishes and listen to us. Thank you.
Michael Rall	I am a high school teacher in the district, and I do NOT support bringing the general student population back on campus on January 4 when we return from winter break. Under current conditions (limited staff contact on campus and few students) we are experiencing teachers and students contracting COVID-19. This last week, 6 of my students (and 2 staff members) informed me that they have tested positive. If we were back in school, this would thrust myself and my classes (within the contact rules) into quarantine and back into distance learning--in addition to putting life and health in jeopardy. We are far from prepared for full attendance, and are ill-prepared at this time for partial attendance.
Anonymous	10(d) This resolution ignores and disrespects the many months of hard work by stakeholders to create the more measured approaches to safely bring kids back. While there are still serious problems with the proposed plan in 10(b), like not meeting basic safety standards, the proposal in 10(d) amplifies the problems by creating a four to five times increase in campus population over the other 1 day per week plan - full density 5 days a week - during the height of the pandemic, allowing no weekly off to breathe. It lacks any analysis for implementation, safety protocols, teacher training, etc. It has had ZERO stakeholder feedback since no details are presented, the reopening committee has not heard of it, no conversations have taken place in principals' coffees for family feedback, no details are on the district website beyond this page. It demonstrates the disregard for stakeholder communication by Trustee Allman, who ironically wants to handle communication. His caustic remarks to parents & teachers who disagree with his campaign to reopen fast are divisive. His emails TODAY urging supporters to flood comments to the board to pass this agenda item and item 10(b) are unethical. He lacks experience and knowledge of the district and individual sites, as well as its culture. He is new, should first be oriented, and is not yet qualified to lead this effort. Pick Melisse who has experience on the reopening committee, kind interactions, an understanding of the District and its efforts to date, and demonstrates professionalism. Also, do NOT stress my kids out by changing the academic model on Jan 4th when they need to focus on exams, not learning how to do a new academic model.
Anonymous	The teachers need to do their job and teach from the classroom. If a specific teacher is legitimately sick or compromised, and it is best for the district to have them teach from home, then let them teach from home. Otherwise, they need to show up for work like the rest of us.
Anonymous	Dear board, please do not give newly elected trustee Mr. Allman the power he is requesting. He does not know our school district, nor know how to communicate effectively as a public servant. As we all know, he chose to send his children to a local private school and is unfamiliar with how our schools, district, communication, community, and staff work. The superintendent and the president of the board should be the lead voices for our school district, not Mr. Allman. He also needs to be given guidance on how to behave like an elected member of the governing board. There has been many posts on social media, as well as emails to members of the community and staff that are laden with explicative swear words, insensitive comments, and condescending tones. He also regularly blocks community members from his social media accounts who do not agree with his beliefs. We cannot support a member of the board to treat his constituents with such contempt and lack of respect. And thus, that person cannot be the spokesperson for our school district. It is also entirely too soon to have all students given the opportunity to come back to school full time. The capacity of the classrooms will not allow all students to comeback without following social distancing. Vista Unified showed us all that having all kids come back will result in many schools switching back and forth to distance learning and quarantining (and that was prior to the sky-rocketing infection rates we are currently experiencing). Please vote this morning down and keep a slower, consistent, and measured model as that is what kids, families, and teachers need.
Anonymous	Is the district really ready to re-open safely? Here are but a few questions that still must be answered thoroughly BEFORE January 4, which only leaves 3 working days, as district staff are about to head out for two weeks of Winter Break. Where will students eat lunch when it rains? With somewhere between 10 and 20% of teachers taking leaves or sporadic sub days due to childcare issues and health concerns, who will teach the classes? And on and on
Anonymous	Kids need to be back to in-person learning. Too much screen time is very bad. There is no socializing. Minimal instruction. Even if the kids return to school once a week, it's simply not worth it to the majority of the kids. The COVID transmission rates are extremely low in schools. This has been documented. Let's get these kids back into school 5 days a week! Enough is enough.
Marianne Grosener	I believe the plan being offered to families gives them a choice of either distance learning or in-person learning. This seems very reasonable and extremely fair for those that are worried about COVID and would like their kids to remain at home and to those students and families that wish to return to in-person learning. What I don't understand is why in-person learning was proposed to be only one-day a week. I'm hearing from many that say their students don't feel it's worth returning to school for just one day a week. Also, if it's true that they would be returning one day a week to sit in a class getting their instructions ONLINE instead of sitting in a classroom with a teacher, then it seems this effort is inconsequential and if I were a student there I would not want to return either for one day a week. Let's find a way we can get these students, the ones that want to return to in-person learning, back to school full-time, 5 days a week. Peer-reviewed studies are reflecting that COVID-19 transmission rates are very low in schools. It seems that the District is following the science and is prepared for a safe, in-person learning experience. I realize the role of SDFSA is to look out for the teachers but I hope that SDFSA can realize that the role of the District is to also look out for the students. Most students simply want to return to school full time. Other private schools in San Diego County are accomplishing this. I hope SDUHSD can follow suit. Thank you.
Anonymous	I request for our teachers to have an option to teach remotely and to change the reopening date. The UCSD "Return to Learn" epidemiologists, infectious disease and community health experts should review our plans, and their recommendations need to be presented to the parents and the teachers. Currently, our teachers are forced to face the risk of possibly becoming disabled or die from COVID. How am I qualified to say this? Because my husband contracted the virus. He was a healthy individual without any preexisting conditions. His oxygen level went down to below 60, he was on an O2 machine for two weeks, his lungs showed some scarring, he still has shortness of breath, and we don't even know what the long-term effects will be. Some of the board members argue the North county COVID case number is low. The number of cases doesn't guarantee that our teachers won't contract the virus. No one can tell who will be severely affected like my otherwise healthy husband was. Are you ready to be responsible for forcing the teachers to take that risk? Let's talk about students' mental health. Please imagine just one of our teachers falls ill and becomes disabled or dies because she or he contracted the disease from students. Are you ready for our children to be affected by the guilt of being the cause of the loss for the rest of their life? You should have seen the horror on my children's faces when we discussed that possibility. My children understood that through their father's case that anyone could become a victim of the virus. The district is providing a presentation to the parents and students about resilience and compassion. I hope our board of trustees and superintendent to have resilience and compassion also, furthermore, to have critical thinking skills and data analysis skills, to review science-based research and what happened when other schools reopened nationwide, to be out-of-the-box thinkers, and to have empathy. Please use your decision making power correctly for our children and their education, our teachers, and our community's sake.
Anonymous	Communication from the district regarding reopening is vitally important. The person in this role must be calm, fair, and professional. For this reason, I am concerned that new Board Member Allman is interested in this role. I am posting a link where you can read a letter that a teacher wrote with Mr. Allman's responses. His tone and language is not consistent with the values of the Board. His voice should not be the one representing the Board. I hope you will take the time to read this letter. Thank you. https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=12011757353552729&id=29840380546102
Nikki	My son is a freshman at LCC. Distance learning has transformed him from a happy, excited, active teen to a depressed and isolated kid. It is heartbreaking to watch our son lose hope. We clearly understand the risk of covid to a small population in our community and believe the at risk should be protected, but at the same time I see what depression and isolation has done to our kids. I am angry, sad and disappointed that our educators are not doing anything to give our kids the option of in person learning. I am losing hope as well. I am a nurse and I know that teachers can be protected while in the classroom. Masks, plexiglass, social distancing and sanitizing will keep the teachers safe. Please give our children the education and socialization they need and deserve.
Nate Neustadt	I'm a freshman at CCA. When I envisioned my first year of high school I dreamed of on campus learning with friends and actual classrooms. What I got is a virtual classroom in my room with no friends. When I'll reflect on my freshman year it won't be about how many friends I made or how many amazing memories I created. My reflection will be how I sat, alone, in my room for 5 hours Monday - Friday wishing to be somewhere else. I don't want my freshman memories to be like that. I want my memories to be filled with joy. And this is where you, the board, can help me and hundreds of other students get back to in person learning. I'm begging you to vote for in person school. Vote for the kids in our district who's mental health is struggling. Vote for the kids who feel safer at school than they do at home. Vote for the kids who want to have a semi-normal life again.
Niki BÜRGER	Being the parent of a freshman at LCC who has been in isolation for 9.5 months I find the excuses of delaying opening based on teachers unions over science, data and health order approvals to be criminal, cruel and longterm damaging. I've seen patterns of depression, rage, sadness and anxiety over not having face to face instruction, peer socialization, physical activity or campus sports. My son has headaches and vision issues for looking at small screen all day. SDUHSD should be ashamed of robbing children the right to equal education instruction and environments. You have had the tools and protocols in place for safe opening. Enough with the excuses.. OPEN FULLTIME

Name	Written Comments
Oliver	My name is Oliver and I am a 10th grader at Canyon Crest Academy. I first would like to thank the teachers for doing such a great job this year with Distance Learning. I recognize the challenges that have come with it and am very happy with the consistent and significant steps my teachers have made to make the classes engaging, instructive, and fluid. I also believe the classes have remained rigorous and we are covering the material well, at the same pace and level of in-person learning, based on my experience last year. With group projects and breakout rooms, I also feel that I am keeping in touch with my classmates. Without a doubt, teachers have made great progress through the year and I am very pleased with their devotion and commitment towards the students. A change right now that would leave the student body split between distance and in-person would only cause further disruption among the teachers, and the in-class balancing act that would have to take place would only damage the very strong progress we have made as a school. Many experts have said that students learn best in a space free of discomfort or stress. That leads me to believe that a full in-person set up, as suggested by representative Allman, would only serve to hurt the student's education, as we would spend too much time worrying about staying safe and protecting ourselves, and not enough time focusing on our education. If everyone is on campus how could we stay far enough apart in our classrooms, during lunch and in the restrooms? And what happens when it rains and we all need to get indoors? For these reasons I ask the Board to maintain Distance Learning until the virus is under better control and the school invests the money to make reopening safer. Thank you very much for considering all students and teachers.
Anonymous	I am the parent of a Sophomore @SDA. Though her teachers have tried their hardest to make DL work. I am in full support of the 5day reopening CHOICE for every family to happen ASAP. I hope the board will continue to follow the science and medical advice that kids should have the choice to be back in person learning. With all guidelines and mandates met and the safety measures in place by our district for kids and staff, there is no excuse this choice is being withheld. The board was elected to support our kids and giving them the option for in person OR DL is the best support mentally, emotionally and academically for everyone dependent on their circumstances. I Hope SDUHSD board will uphold the best interest for our kids choice and move forward with the 5day back plan. Thank you!
Sduhsd staff	This whole document is based off of dated covid infection rates and completely defies current government orders of stay at home orders and purple tier. No school may open if it hasn't received a waiver to open prior to the purple tier. We are not open, small cohorts of students with special academic needs is not defined as an open school. Local private and schools (La Costa Heights and Christ Presbyterian PS) surrounding LCC are shutting down due to outbreaks, Encinitas hospitals are over capacity... so why are we even discussing opening in January? Why not wait until we are on a decline in the county. Vaccines are on the way. *The senate bill 98 referred to was adopted in June. Since that date our county has risen to 2,837 positive covid cases, hospitals are overflowing and we are all on a state mandated stay home order. How under logical thinking can anyone even suggest it's safe for anyone students or teachers to return to campus? This agenda item starts with students returning once a week on Jan 4th, teachers would have contact with an estimated 80 students a week if just half of our students returned. Then just a few weeks later a full return to campus for all students on Jan 27. Crazy! So the number of students in class jumps from 15 to 42. in no way is that safe or legal under current governors orders. *It is also extremely concerning that one singular board member is trying to appoint themselves as the one in charge of this very important plan. Especially when he makes it publicly clear how one sided he is on the subject. All board members voices need input, not just one.
Anonymous	Mr. Allman's resolution for expanded reopening is reckless and irresponsible, considering the county's COVID statistics. I am appalled that Mr. Allman would like to be the "representative to directly participate in facilitating the planning and implementation of the directives..." and to "review progress, create new tasks, discuss issues, and make decisions in support of the Board's direction provided herein." In addition, to designate "Trustee Allman as the Board's spokesperson for matters addressed by or arising from this Resolution" when Mr. Allman, on his social media posts, has so blatantly shown his ignorance of the school district's policies and procedures. Mr. Allman's resolution is an obvious and blatant power grab. I urge the board not to be fooled.
A Very Mad Parent	I am 100% in support of getting all kids back on campuses asap. Why? Well, here you go: My daughter is a straight A Honors student at Earl Warren. Some would say she is "thriving" in this distance learning environment, but she is not. She will tell you that her English teacher only assigns 3 sentence summaries of books they read...when they read books. Otherwise, they are watching the movies about the books they are supposed to read. She will tell you that she needs more education. She needs to be in the science lab dissecting, experimenting. She needs to not have all her tests be OPEN BOOK. ALL of them are - even math! With all of that, and with the dire concern we have that San Dieguito School District will not get their stuff together anytime soon, we have started investigating private schools that are in person for her for next year, which, honestly, we cannot afford, but we feel like we have to RESCUE her from this school district. As part of the private school application process, she did a practice entrance exam, which is required, and scored a TWENTY PERCENT! That is 20%! A big fat F! In the state she saw her score, she started crying and saying over and over that it isn't her fault. It isn't her fault that she isn't getting an education. It isn't. It is the school district. It is the teachers. It is Robert Haley. Get your stuff together and get these kids back in school. THIS IS RIDICULOUS! You will soon become the worst school district in the state once you see the results of upcoming PSATS, SATS, college admissions, etc. THE LEARNING LOSS IS REAL. I want to repeat that - THE LEARNING LOSS IS REAL! Get your " together and go back to work! The rest of the world is! Just wear a mask and use common sense. Please. For the sake of all students, not just mine. Or, give me my tax dollars back for your salaries. Seriously.
Anonymous	I think my junior year is pretty messed up. I miss my friends and I know I am not learning as much as I would if we could go to school. What really bothers me is that we were told a couple of times that we would go back to school, when we help flatten the curve or when we are in the red tier. Then this was not an option anymore, even when our numbers here in San Diego were low enough and our schools were allowed to open. Then we were told we would come back for the 2nd quarter and I was really looking forward to it. Again, it did not happen. I know that a lot of my friends don't believe that we won't be back in school for the entire school year. They have given up hope, but I have not. Please let us have a choice and find a safe way for students and teachers to come back on campus. I am 16 years old and a student at TPHS.
Paola Tempesti, MD	I am in favor of the district reopening for in-person learning, and I respectfully request that the Board approve Item 10d.
Anonymous	It is insane at this stage we are considering expanding the reopening plan when it should not be happening in the first place. You are putting the entire communities lives at risk. There is a stay at home order to try to control the current Covid surge. ICU beds are scarce and the doctors and nurses are working at capacity and begging everyone to stay home to not cause preventable deaths. And the amount of teachers we will lose and literally replace with people you are grabbing off the street because of a shortage of subs. Even a qualified sub is not qualified to teach many of the AP classes that our students take. Allow the teachers to teach from home if they need to do we can keep our quality teachers, at least until there are enough vaccines for teachers and high risk individuals to have access. A reopening should not be happening. You are using a technicality to push forward an agenda in bad faith.
Roger Zeman	Dear San Dieguito School Board. My comment is in support of item 10d. As a front line health care provider at Scripps Hospital, I understand the necessity of essential services. Hospitals are essential. Our schools are essential also we can't adequately care for our patients remotely, and our students are not getting adequate education and socialization remotely. At our hospital, with proper protection, incidence of Covid is no higher than the general public. With proper planning, our schools can do the same. Those families that choose to continue to learn from home can do so. Alternatively, we, who want our students in class, can opt for in-class education. My daughter is not receiving the education and experience she needs for her future, and I worry that many if not most other students are in the same dilemma. This is a societal issue, one that may have repercussions for years to come. I know, as a board, your responsibilities are great and the decision is difficult. but I implore you to please reopen the classrooms. Sincerely, Roger Zeman, MD
Romi Neustadt	It's time to get our kids back to school, not just one day a week, but full time. The data doesn't support keeping kids home, and other schools and districts locally and nationally are providing kids and teachers with a safe and engaging experience. The negative repercussions to our children are too great, and it's an embarrassment how woefully stagnant our district has been on this.
Anonymous	107,372 and rising. That's the current number of COVID-19 cases in San Diego. 107,372 people. Enough to fill Michigan Stadium -- the biggest stadium in the country. 107,372.
Anonymous	The current policy of one day a week in-person school day is already dangerous enough when you factor in risks outlined by the CDC: attending large in-person gatherings, staying less than six feet apart (where the current SDUHSD plan is to distance desks by three feet), and staying indoors for long periods of time. However, the idea of going BEYOND the one day in-person plan is, in simple words, irresponsible, reckless, and dangerous. Speaking as a current high school senior, the assumed risk that accompanies a full five day in-person learning experience is NOT worth the superficial attempt at creating the senior year I am missing. I am content with not having traditional rite-of-passages if it means protecting my loved ones, my teachers, and my peers. According to the CDC, our cases are rising on a national, state, and local level. It would be extremely irresponsible of this school board, whose vision is to provide a "world-class education for all students through quality programs that engage students," to even consider an in-person learning plan right now, for it would be risking the health and safety of its students, faculty, and their loved ones. All the temptations this reopening promises are futile in the current environment. Teachers will be stretched left and right trying to accommodate for in-person and distance learning students, students in-person will be sitting at a computer screen, and the current learning model will be tarnished for a newer, more disorganized one. In summary, I strongly urge the school board to postpone its January 4 reopening. I urge the board to compile a mediatively composed plan backed by credible, experienced health and educational experts and statistics. I urge the school board to formulate a plan that offers fair accommodations for all students, teachers, and faculty's economic and health backgrounds in the district.
Anonymous	The hybrid system is a completely ineffective method of in-person education and is dangerous for every single person involved, both educationally and physically. Firstly, the hybrid model would completely fail to carry out its intended purpose of providing a better education for students. Any complication that arises from in-person students would be magnified for the entire class, even those who opted out of returning physically. For example, if a teacher is infected with COVID-19 and is required to quarantine, a substitute would replace them and the entire class would be affected. This as well as many other scenarios would greatly reduce the quality of education for the class. Additionally, the actions taken against the teachers are incredibly unjust and do not respect their value in the school. The teachers are justified in not wanting to return to campus because of the rising infection rates and forcing them to take an unpaid leave for not returning undermines all of the educational value of the school. Teachers are the entire reason that schools are able to exist in the first place, and they are likely unable to find another job in the current state of the virus, directly harming them. This decision is useless and harmful to everyone involved, and any form of in-person class should be delayed until the vaccine is able to reach educators.
Lets do right for our kids!	It is time that we do right for our kids who are NOT learning virtually.
Anonymous	I disagree with appointing Mr. Allman as the designated board delegate representing the planning and implementation of the schools. Mr. Allman in his weeks before being sworn in has not shown his ability to work with the staff as per Board Bylaw 1. His only goal seems to open schools with disregard to the concerns of parents, students, and staff. He continuously insults teachers who have contacted him through email with concerns and he has a Facebook page where he blocks anyone who disagrees with his point of view. If he plans on representing our school community he must be engaged with those who disagree with him and be open to their concerns instead of being petty and insulting. His lack of decorum does not show him as being someone who could lead such an important process.
Anonymous	What is the district's plan for having students back in the classroom? How is it going to be possible to fit 40 students socially distanced back into our small classrooms? Is it really safe to put students/staff in danger in order to go back for one day/week, and to have students still be taught online within the classrooms?
Kathy Macon	People are not looking at the long term gains we have achieved, since students finally started taking on-line learning seriously in September. They have learned so many skills to work on-line, which will help them succeed in the greatly increased on-line world of their future careers and lives. In their different professional fields, my son-in-law and daughter have discovered they are able to work very effectively on-line, in a way previously never thought possible. This strength will propel our on-line students ahead of other workers who have not yet conquered it. Keep a perspective, this year is a moment in time, nothing compared to what other generations have endured, World Wars, epidemics that went on for years. We need to teach our children resilience and responsibility. Students are able to socialize on weekends and Wednesdays and often in online groups meets. Most are doing very well and many love the independence. Meanwhile, we are not demonstrating a responsibility for the adults working in our district. Taking 2 more months now to insure their safety and that of their families, letting the vaccine have time to work, is a minor price to pay. Please put the current situation in perspective for the next generation and show your respect for those that are working so very hard to provide great materials for our students on-line.
Anonymous	REJECT THE EXPANDED REOPENING PLAN - ALL PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS IN THE WORLD recommend PHYSICAL DISTANCING OF AT LEAST 6 FEET BETWEEN STUDENTS, as a MAIN INTERVENTION to prevent the spread of COVID-19 inside classrooms. CDPH: "establish separation of students through other means if practicable, such as, six feet between desks, where practicable" CDC: "To practice social or physical distancing, stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from other people who are not from your household in both indoor and outdoor spaces." WHO: Maintain at least a 1-metre distance between yourself and others to reduce your risk of infection when they cough, sneeze or speak. MAINTAIN AN EVEN GREATER DISTANCE BETWEEN YOURSELF AND OTHERS WHEN INDOORS. The further away, the better. WHO: "The risks of getting COVID-19 are higher in crowded and inadequately ventilated spaces where infected people spend long periods of time together in close proximity. These environments are where the virus appears to spread by respiratory droplets or aerosols more efficiently, so taking precautions is even more important." This, or any, 5 day a week expanded reopening model for full in person learning does not follow the universally accepted 6 ft DISTANCING GUIDELINE and puts students at even more risk than teachers - that is inequitable and dangerous. Please make a hybrid model that in good faith honors the 6ft distancing between students.
Anonymous	I have a Senior at CCA. He is in bed more than he is out of bed. He shows every 3-4 days. He is severely depressed. He is not doing well in his classes and is having trouble filling out his college forms. On top of it, the teachers do not update Aeries so I always find out way too late that he is in a 20 foot hole. He needs in person classes - please do what it takes to make it happen.
Anonymous	My teachers have indicated to me that in the odd chance we are to re-open, it would not be as we left it. It would be as if we were simply doing online learning while on campus, so that we could have fairness between those who chose to stay home and those who came back. That is why we need expanded reopening. If everyone were to simply return to school, no special consideration for cross-platform fairness would be necessary, and we could go back to how school was before. I want to go back to being with my friends, making new friends, doing experiments, and being free from my current prison cell.

Name	Written Comments
Seema Burke	I want to address what I believe is a misunderstanding regarding those who advocate for reopening schools. We care about the entire SDUHS community, and that absolutely includes teachers. No one wants anyone to be put at unnecessary risk of physical harm. And that includes our children. The science shows that distancing with masks and proper PPE, as well as a community commitment to being safe and enforcing protocol on campus, help protect the school community. Our relatively lower disease numbers in north county San Diego support reopening. I would ask that all of you look into your hearts and consider a few things: 1) parents advocating reopening are also weighing the risk of children bringing home COVID to them and still believe that the mental health impact and learning loss for children outweighs the risk, 2) the fear and anticipation of what could be is often more than what actually is. For example, in Carlsbad, the elementary school teachers were concerned about going back to school even just 2 days a week. After a few weeks, they saw how well it was going and went to their board to ask for 5 days a week. Another example is a middle school teacher in Escondido who very candidly documented her high level of fear starting in the summer with coming back to school in the fall. She found her fears were more than reality. Protocol was followed well and the schools enforced it. Despite not being technologically savvy, she was able to teach students concurrently. She now looks forward to on campus teaching, and 3) we must speak for those that cannot — our students. I've read hundreds of comments in emails and on Facebook about the serious impact on students from DL—severe anxiety, suicide ideation, disengagement and lower grades. How can we whitewash these stories with a sweeping and erroneous statement that the kids will be fine? I cannot in good conscience do so. We must work together and put aside the all or nothing rhetoric. We CAN reopen school safely. I implore the community—teachers, parents and students, to support reopening schools.
Anonymous	I am a parent of two kids at SDA. I am perplexed as to why SDUHS does not have a reopening plan? I'm sure you've seen the pictures being circulated of Santa Fe Christian classes being held live/in-person. I strongly advocate for re-opening our schools for in-person learning as quickly as possible. Why can't we do it? We CAN. Being online on Virtual calls all day is depressing, causing a low self esteem and social skills, and isolating...not to mention the poor grades. The mental health far outweighs the risk. Why is this not being addressed? I am at a loss as to why the teachers Union, Dr Haley, and the board are not representing the kids. PLEASE RE-OPEN SCHOOLS. My little bit of hope is having a new board of trustees who will have our kids best interest at heart. Studies show that the transmission rate is lower while kids are in school. The CDC noted it's safe for kids to go back to school with PPE. I know there are teachers that do want to go back. Teachers are essential workers. Those who don't want to go back; take a furlough or retire.
Shiva Kansagara	Given the current environment, it is NOT safe to go back to school. Cases in California are rising and the response is to reopen school sooner than before? Coming from a student's perspective, I do not have a problem with staying home for the rest of the school year if online learning is the safer option. We've been doing it for more than 7 months now; many of us have gotten used to it. While it has been difficult for me, and many others, to adjust to this new way of learning, I will not risk my health, the health of my teachers, the health of my friends, and the health of my family. Based on class discussions, if chosen to go back to in-person learning, at least three of my teachers have made it clear that students cannot go within 8-10 feet of them due to medical conditions. However, my teachers have also expressed that they do not want to stay home in fear of giving their students a substandard substitute teacher for the rest of the year. Additionally, for in-person classes, students will still be joined into the class on a computer, as teachers need to accommodate those opting to stay home. This is exactly the same format students are learning in now. Going in person would just be more dangerous as people will be in a closed space together. Finally, many people have made the argument that students are pushing to go back for social aspects. On the contrary, going back to school does not in any way guarantee that students will be able to see their friends depending on the way students are split up. A better alternative to all of these issues would be to keep everyone home while the school board can make a final decision that is backed by science, data, and statistics. I urge you to appoint credible health experts, provide extensive research based on other schools' return, and take a slower, more deliberate approach to schools reopening.
Anonymous	I am a parent of a Lo Costa Canyon Senior. I am in support of an immediate full re-opening of campuses for in-person learning. I have seen multiple schools in this County, State, Country and other countries doing full-time classes in person, and they are doing this safely. So can we, and we are responsible and obligated as adults to do what is best for the students in this district. Give kids a choice, stay at home full-time or go on campus full-time. They have nearly lost one year of in-class learning and there is no way the online model gives our kids the well-rounded education they need and deserve. It is also not right that homes are expected to be used as classrooms indefinitely. This is unthinkable and unnecessary. State officials, federal officials, the US president/president-elect, doctors, scientist, other schools, all declare, and it's been proven that children need to be in school and that this can be done safely. The damage caused by being alone and online all day will be permanent. It needs to stop ASAP. After reading the letter from the teacher's union to the teachers I was in tears, disgusted, and in utter shock. It is gut wrenching to think we will continue to put our kids through this. There are many, many options for working together to safely get our kids back in school. What is the example that's being shown, more divisiveness from a place the kids have trusted as much as their own home. This is a time where the school, teachers and teachers union need to band together and be there for our kids. Please, let's do what's best for our kids.
Anonymous	I am writing to express my concern about the negative impact on education and health in our community due to the SDUHS's plan to reopen January 4th. First of all, teachers at high risk for severe complications of Covid-19 will have to choose to work on campus full-time or take a leave of absence. Some can use their sick pay until it runs out, and then an unpaid leave of absence without healthcare. Where is the humanity in all of this? Someone has serious health issues and will have their health care taken away from them even though they are completely equipped to deliver robust instruction from home. Obviously, teachers are not being valued here as humans, but rather as employees that are dispensable and can be replaced with substitutes who lack the experience or talent that our district's educators are famous for. Furthermore, the comment by Mo Muir suggesting employed intelligent parents could come in and pick up where veteran teachers left off was demeaning and offensive to the teaching profession. Losing these teachers will devastate the quality of instruction and integrity of education as an institution. For what? What is worth making life-long educators choose between their health and their families and a profession they love and students whom they truly adore? Are educators and the teaching profession really that dispensable? Are the people who make up our towns and cities dispensable as well? Does our district value the community it serves? Studies are beginning to show that many infected young adults do not show symptoms of Covid-19, yet are very efficient at spreading the virus to their families, friends, and the community. In Europe, scientists are realizing that schools are starting to become major places of community spreading. We cannot risk that happening here and to our community members. We must all do our part to keep all safe and healthy. We must follow our governor's order to stay home and not to socially gather in public until it is safe to do so. Losing even one member is too many because none of us is dispensable.
Skye Curley	As a student I believe that if SDUHS decides to go forward with the decision to reopen the schools it will only hurt our education. The teachers have worked out a schedule on the best way to educate their students in this pandemic if we force all of them to go back and teach it would have all gone to waste. It will also lower the level of education for the students that have chosen to learn online for the following year. Overall we do not have a safe plan to reopen January 4th.
Anonymous	I am a sophomore at TPHS. When I went home on March 13th I thought I would be back in school in 2 weeks. 9 months later I still haven't been back and I miss my friends and teachers at school, my field hockey and lacrosse teams and most of all my social life on campus. Distance learning was okay for a little while, but now I have enough. My little sister goes to school every day and it works for her and for her school. I can't understand why our school can't open safely when so many other schools can. Please reopen our schools as soon as possible. Thank you.
Anonymous	We cannot continue on this path. Our children are suffering. There is very little learning going on, cheating is rampant and our middle and high school students have lost all motivation. My 8th grader and 11th grader lay in their beds all day and only turn cameras on when required. They stare at a computer screen and only come out for food. After school hours they have to stay up in their rooms and work on homework. Day after day... this has got to stop. How is it that schools in our neighboring county are back 2 days a week? Saddleback Valley, Capri Unified, Irvine, Tustin... all middle and high schoolers are back. Friends in Orange County say they have seen immediate change once students were allowed back on campus in classrooms with peers. Even 2 days a week would be great. They are thriving while we flounder. We can do better. I'm embarrassed for our once "renowned" district. Please give parents and students a choice to go back or not! We are damaging these kids.
none student	Please vote to return our students to school full time with the choice to continue DL for the families that wish to. Our families/students deserve a choice. DL is not working for everyone. I can assure you many students are struggling and are not being noticed. Thank you for your time. Dear Board Members, I am a student athlete in our district. I used to get straight A's and play sports. Since online school started, this has changed. I continue to maintain good grades, but this is hard to keep. Some teachers make it extremely difficult to learn. It is also hard to sustain your exceptional grades when your head constantly aches from staring at a screen for hours on end, listening to recorded lecture after recorded lecture. This doesn't even include the hours of homework that are loaded on each student each day. After school each day, all I want to do is lay back down and go to sleep. I know for a fact I am not the only one having trouble. Many friends of mine are struggling, some more than others. I would also just like to remind those reading this, just because a student is getting good grades, does not mean that they aren't struggling. For a lot of students, sports are crucial to mental and physical health. Their sport is a rare time where they feel stress-free and are genuinely enjoying themselves. I have already lost a season and I am not looking forward to losing another season. These sports and teams give an outlet for students to give them a break from work, stress and worries. Instead they are stuck with even more work, stress and worries. Although my mom signed me out for one day of in person school a week, I am not looking forward to it. This will only create more problems. I want to go to school 5 days a week, but only one day will create confusion and conflict. I understand this is a tough situation, but I am convinced the district is not doing all they can to help their students. Please consider those struggling. We are trying our best. Thank you.
Susanne Kias	I am very hopeful that the new board of trustees will finally put our students first. My two high school students have been out of school and in front of their screens for distance learning for the past 9 months with no end in sight. In the meantime they had high hopes when schools were officially allowed to open in September and then again, when the district told them they would come back for one day in November and for two days in December. All those promises were broken and our students' hopes for a return to campus crushed. It's devastating! How many more times do you want to disappoint our children? When do you start to put their education and mental, emotional and social well-being first? If this goes on much longer it will be disastrous for so many students. Our students have taken on their fair share of responsibility, they stayed home in front of their screens all day long (which is - according to a friend of mine who is a neurologist at Scripps - "the absolute worst for a developing brain") to keep their communities and families safe. It's about time this award-winning school district lives up to its reputation to be engaged-inspired-prepared. So far I have not seen any of this. Schools around us have opened - elementary schools and private schools mainly- and continue to stay open. I understand this is a different situation, but it's about time this school district is creative and solution orientated enough to give our public school students what they deserve: at least some normalcy, at least some in-person instruction, at least some time back on campus, at least some hope. Giving them nothing is simply not enough!
anonymous	My child has been going to class on campus two days a week since Oct. He has gained so much, just from the personal connections he has made with peers and teachers. But distance learning on campus is still distance learning and it is not the right learning model for kids with learning disabilities. It's not how they learn, they benefit from learning in person on campus. I want him back on campus five days a week because that's how he learns best.
Nesbitt	Regarding the CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF EXPANDED REOPENING RESOLUTION part 4 spokesperson. If you are appointing a spokesperson to speak on behalf of this resolution it should be Trustee Mossy. A neutral spokesperson, with experience on the board and familiarity with the history of this issue as it pertains to this district is best for this role. She is a former educator, experienced board member and respectful. She encourages different viewpoints and demonstrates fairness. Appointing Melissa Mossy as the spokesperson is the right choice.
Tara Curley	I plead with you to make your decision on an expanded school reopening based on what is best for the MAJORITY of our SDUHS students. If 10-20% of our teachers don't feel it's safe to return to teach from campus ALL of our students are affected and will academically suffer if taught by substitute teachers. Right now students are learning from home, and for the majority of students, this provides a safe and stable learning environment with experienced teachers that are subject matter experts and have had adequate technical training in remote teaching technology to achieve success. We run the risk of losing 10-20% of our teachers that do not want to teach in person at this time due to health and/or family concerns. Will substitute teachers have any proper training in remote teaching or knowledge in the subjects they will suddenly be creating lesson plans and teaching for 30 days at a time? In-person teachers will also have to face quarantining for a minimum of two weeks when they've been exposed or test positive for Covid-19. Why wouldn't the district allow them to do this remote? With a shortage of substitutes, it seems an experienced remote teacher is the best and most affordable option. Will substitutes know how to teach AP classes? Who will prep the Fall semester AP students (CCA & SDA) if the teacher has gone on leave or early retirement? The list of questions goes on and on. If you still insist on opening up for in-person learning at least GIVE TEACHERS A CHOICE to teach remotely. They are doing this elsewhere. My niece and nephew attend Miami Beach High in Florida and go to high school every day with about 50% of in-person students and the other 50% are online. The majority of their teachers are in the classroom with them- but all teachers were given the option to teach remotely. For those teachers, the students attend their classes from a gymnasium or auditorium with staff observers. It has been working. Do not jeopardize the future of SDUHS's quality education for years to come!
Cherie Heid	I support a reopening plan for in-person classes. It is important that all students be given the option to return to campus in January if they choose. Our students are not thriving in mastering the curriculum as is evidenced by some students earning grades lower than they usually do. There is also a negative impact on their mental health as students are suffering from stress, anxiety, and loneliness from being isolated at home and staring at a laptop. Please return students and teachers to school classrooms. Everyone can wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) which is easy to do for a pandemic - Wear a Mask.
Anonymous	San Dieguito High School District should be moving forward to immediately implement and adopt a plan for students to return to campus for in-person instruction immediately. The students have suffered and will continue to suffer with a "distance learning program". The best distance learning program is not as good as in-person instruction. If the teachers don't want to return, then either terminate their employment or let them go without pay and hire a long-term substitute teacher. If a student doesn't want to return, then allow them to continue with the "distance learning program", but stop punishing those who want to return to in-person instruction just because some people don't want return.
T. Smith	We need to return our kids to in-person school. Distance learning is simply not an effective way to learn. Almost 40% of the kids in our district are having real difficulties. The inequality gap between the "haves" in private schools and the "have-nots" in public schools is widening by the day. Those who say "it is just not safe" to return to school are not telling the truth. Each and every day living in this world is just not safe. If that is your baseline that it is "safe" before I can participate, you would never leave your house. Ten months in and we now have the data, science, research and experts stating that returning kids to school is SAFE. UNICEF, country health officials, local pediatricians, studies from Europe and Canada all show it is safe, with precautions. Time is of the essence—an entire generation of kids is at stake. Hundreds of thousands of kids are in school across the state, country, and world. The teachers and administrators at those schools are doing their jobs, just like everyone else across the US. They are learning how to live with the virus, and they are succeeding.
Gedulin Bronislava	Open schools now, for the benefit of the kids. Please vote yes on this resolution.

Name	Written Comments
Timothy Stiven	At what point did we, the teachers, become the enemy? Isn't Covid the enemy? I have taught two generations of students- half in private college prep, the last 15 years here at SDUHSD. Teachers are members of your community. If the school is in your neighborhood, so are we. If the community is in Purple tier, so are we. I would appeal to the Board to not reopen until the community spread has dissipated, and vaccines are widely available. During this season of service and family, the agenda should celebrate the students in our community. My Humanites students signed a MOU to write curriculum for 80 schools in Liberia. I am meeting with school officials in Tijuana and Panama to collaborate on an international comic book. DL has not held my students back; the new technology has in fact enhanced their experience. They miss each other, but to say Distant Learning is falling is disingenuous. Distant learning, even with its challenges, remains the best solution to this crisis until the widespread infections subside and vaccines can be distributed. For those teachers who are requesting a no vote on returning to school, please understand that we want to teach your children both safely and successfully. CCA is still ranked #1. Our AP scores didn't drop under DL. That success was due to the teachers working with parental support, all achieved during DL. If we do proceed in good faith and not expediency, every teacher who can, will gladly return. I often use my family to illustrate a point. 75 years ago, my great uncle was killed on Iwo Jima. My grandfather, after the war, became a public-school teacher. He asked for a leave of absence to retrieve the remains. It was not granted. He still went but he never forgave them. However, he eventually became that District's Superintendent. Why ask us to do similarly? Today, expanded return will not allow a teacher of your children the right to teach and still nurture the child in her womb while her husband is serving in the Marines. We're on the same team.
Anonymous	Please delay the opening of SDUHSD's middle and high schools on January 4th. It is unconscionable to put our community at unnecessary risk as the number of COVID cases continues to increase and the entire geographic location is in the purple tier with stay-at-home orders in place. The number of Covid cases has skyrocketed with 2,000 new cases per day in San Diego. Friends and family are beginning to share stories of loved ones and neighbors who are suffering from Covid. Most of the state is under lockdown and San Diego was part of the first region to move into lockdown due to our dismal numbers. Death rates are soaring. ICU beds and hospital beds are filling up. Dr. Fauci warned there could be "a surge upon a surge" as people gather for the upcoming winter holidays. "If] we don't mitigate well... we could start to see things really get bad in the middle of January," he said, predicting a "really dark time for us." (ABC News) And The Atlantic reports that the "Pandemics Final Surges Will Be Brutal." I am begging you to delay reopening until San Diego County is out of the purple tier and infections are under control, as recommended by protocols set forth by UC San Diego Return to Learn program. Let's join San Diego Unified and Escondido in their plans to delay reopening and keep all of us safe and alive. My daughter is thriving with remote learning at SDA, all of her teachers have worked hard to connect with her and her peers and provide an outstanding educational experience. Please allow the teachers to continue to work remotely and safely and delay the return to face to face teaching, to ensure the safety of all of us. Furthermore, as teachers are forced to take leave to protect their health or care for their own families, many students will be taught by substitutes. If the district allowed flexibility, at least to those with documented health or childcare issues, to teach from home, it would ensure the continuity of education for all students.
Tracy Cereghino	Please develop a plan that is safe, provides families options (no one wants to force kids back on campus) and puts education quality and the welfare of the students FIRST. And stop pretending that Distance Learning is doing that. Please prioritize in person learning. My 9th grader wants to go back to school. We support returning to school. Thank you.
Travis Lucero	Children > Unions. Facts > Fear. Its time for the leads to lead and not be influenced by the unions pressure.
vanessa zeman	Dear San Dieguito School Board, I am a student at CCA and I would like nothing more than to go back to in-person school. It is extremely difficult for me to learn online, even though I have tried hard to adapt to this system of learning. I have fallen behind in my classes, and am often confused. When I am confused on something we are learning and try to get in contact with my teachers, there are many times when I don't get an answer, and this leads to not doing so well on quizzes/tests. Emotionally, it sucks too, not being able to interact with friends and classmates. Seeing people online through a computer is not the same. Please allow those who want to come back in-person to have that chance. Sincerely, Vanessa Zeman
Anonymous	Dear School Board Members, To be completely frank, it is concerning and disturbing that you would consider putting the health and safety of thousands of people at risk by reopening schools at this time. Why do parents, students, teachers and staff have to write these letters, and beg and plead, for our School Board to take this latest surge in a very deadly pandemic seriously? I fear that some board members are still under the false assumption that this virus is not that dangerous. I would urge those board members to take some time and talk with our local Hospitalists, E.R. and Urgent Care physicians for on-the-ground, real-time perspectives and data. If the thought of possibly causing permanent health damage, or death, to a single person involved with schools isn't enough to be concerning, then let's go at this from a different angle. Consider that 20% of teachers may go on leave if you force them to return to an unsafe work environment. That's severely disruptive. What percentage of students do you think will also drop out of the district if you force on-campus instruction? Some of those students will end their education prematurely, some will pay for private schooling, but all of their departures will result in less funding for the schools. This is also severely disruptive. Please do not splinter the education of so many students in such a needless manner. Of course online schooling isn't ideal - but it's working. My child is learning, thriving, and safe. The teachers are teaching, engaging with students, and safe. Staff are managing and maintaining the schools, and safe. Allow families in the district to have faith in you and know you are making choices to protect our children. Please, be conservative and cautious right now. Listen to medical professionals. All of them want students to eventually return to school - we all do. Regardless of where it takes place - at school, a restaurant, a library - not one health expert thinks it's a smart idea to increasing contact and exposure while infections rates and hospitalizations spike.
Anonymous	I am a senior at LCC. Distance learning is not good for me because it makes me not care about school and it makes me feel like school is not real or important. I was able to learn more in class where I had to make an effort to pay attention. In distance learning I do not have to try very hard and I don't have the chance to work with other students. I have a lot of free time and I mostly just play video games because I am not the type of person who will study or read on my own if I don't have to. I am missing my senior year and I am worried that I will not be ready for college.
Anonymous	Reopen the schools! Students' needs should be the first priority in education. And please teach concurrently, both to students who attend in person and students who remain home. This is being done successfully in high schools and colleges. There are enough models and examples of schools who have successfully reopened.
Justin Davis	My name is Justin Davis, a junior at Canyon Crest Academy. There is no reason to even be thinking about a full-time, 5 day a week reopening plan at this point. The whole idea of reopening ought to be doing it in a safe way that benefits both students and staff. Even going back one day a week would have untold consequences on our community COVID-wise. Returning to normal is something we all want. I would give anything to have even one more day of normal, in-class learning like we had in early March. It's a dream we all share, but we can't be too hasty in returning to it. We are currently seeing spikes in cases with deaths the likes of which have magnitudes that can be compared with the bombing of Pearl Harbor and 9/11. People will die if we reopen. That's the harsh reality of the repercussions of the actions proposed by Trustee-Elect Alliman. Students are currently thriving in an environment the likes of which CCA has never seen: suicides are down, people aren't in school until late in the afternoon/evening and staying up until 3 doing work every night, and we are still learning just as well. Furthermore, the stress of giving someone in your family COVID is nonexistent in this environment, and most importantly, we are staying safe. The only way to minimize the amount of life lost to this disease is to be considerate and sensible. Alliman has no kids in our district and this decision won't impact him at all, but we will all feel the harm that a reopening would bring, be it the loss of a parent, a grandparent, an aunt, or even a sibling. He doesn't believe in the virus and his privilege blinds him from what it can do. Please be sensible and think of the loss of life and misery that would happen with a reopening the likes of which he proposes.
Item #10e - CONSIDERATION OF INCREASE IN CERTIFICATED SUBSTITUTE TEACHER COMPENSATION DURING THE COVID EMERGENCY	
Ann Cerny	Thank you for recognizing that pay is an important factor in recruiting and retaining quality staff necessary to provide a high-quality education. As a teacher, that premise shows respect for our education and training and experience - thank you. I support the sub-pay increase. However, I hope your board discussion reflects on the other factors that, despite the pay increase, contribute to the continuing shortage of substitutes. I hope you discuss in-depth the numbers described in the executive summary of this agenda item. One must conclude that this increase does not solve problem--the academic chaos that will inevitably result from a rushed, poorly-planned return to in-person learning. I hope somewhere there is room for a few minutes--just a few minutes--brainstorming and guiding district administrative staff to also brainstorm ways to RETAIN our teachers. Might there be a way to provide a large place on campus for in-person students to go if a teacher needs to teach from home? Wouldn't sub be more willing to accept a job of facilitating students learning online than actually directing coursework they don't understand using unfamiliar tech tools? Just a few minutes... not discussing banners advertising the not-too-high SAT scores one needs to become a sub...not assuring yourselves of the fantasy that many unemployed community members would flock at the chance to fill those roles...just a few minutes on how to retain the highly-qualified, experienced teachers that want to teach our kids. Ask any kid: would they rather be on-line with their teacher or in-person with a sub.
Adam Fischer	Rather than focus on substitute teacher pay, the district should focus on retaining the teachers it already has so that subs are not needed and those existing teachers aren't lost, perhaps permanently. Has the district considered all ways to keeping our existing teachers, perhaps by improving safety plans and by offering telework options? If the pay increase voted in on November 19 only yielded 6 applications, perhaps substitute teacher pay increases are not the way to ensure staffing needs are met. Keeping teachers is in the interest of students, regardless of the model -- especially when there is a recognized and severe statewide teacher and substitute shortage that won't be solved by increasing pay.
Evan Sorem	This is a complete waste of time, effort and energy in the midst of a shortage of substitute teachers. How about this -- don't create an unnecessary need for substitute teachers by requiring all teachers to return to the classroom for no good reason in the midst of the height of the Pandemic.
Anonymous	This is a complete waste of time, effort and energy in the midst of a shortage of substitute teachers. How about this -- don't create an unnecessary need for substitute teachers by requiring all teachers to return to the classroom for no good reason in the midst of the height of the Pandemic.
Glenn Collins	I am writing to stress my concern over the reopening plan and the effect it will have on the quality of education in our district. As has been well documented in past meetings and elsewhere it is anticipated that the district will lose 10% or more of the current teachers who will take leave and/or just leave the district. One of the main reasons Canyon Crest Academy is #1 overall on Niche.com and #3 for college prep is the amazing group of teachers who have put in a tremendous effort to adapt to distance learning. As has been shown publicly their work and their concerns are now being met with a complete lack of empathy and outright derision. It seems to me that you simply think you can plug gaps with any substitute teacher you can find. I understand the last call led to such a small number of applicants that you wish to raise the amount again.Perhaps it's not just money but the environment that is giving them pause. And perhaps the parents of this district who contribute so much themselves to make this one of the best in the state should ask themselves if this board is truly committed to the high level of education that we have come to expect.
Anonymous	If the pay increase voted in on November 19 only yielded 6 applications, perhaps substitute teacher pay increases are not the way to ensure staffing needs are met. Has the district considered other ways of retaining our existing teachers? Maybe improve your safety plans? Maybe offering a telework option for existing Teachers? Keeping teachers is in the interest of students, regardless of the model -- especially when there is a recognized and severe statewide teacher and substitute shortage that won't be solved by increasing pay.
Jen Charat	The last time you authorized a pay increase for subs, you received 6 applications. Maybe a raise of the amount you're proposing will yield 6 more? 12 more? Is the only qualification a willingness to be indoors with students in unsafe buildings? These questions are not designed to offend. They are designed to sincerely ask how you plan to run our students' instructional program. Will these be subs who can cover AP language classes? Will they have the tools and experience to inspire AVID students to apply for college? Will they conduct award winning music, art, and theater programs? The teachers we have now are worth the time and investment you will spend on trying to attract substitute teachers. Please offer teachers adequate filtration, ventilation, testing of students. Let them know, at the very least, when there is a COVID+ student in their classrooms. Most importantly, please offer teachers the option to telework.
Anonymous	The terrible way you are treating teachers will lead to many of them taking jobs in another district, a district making reasonable safety offers, and one that lets teachers with health concerns teach remotely. Not ours. This is going to hurt my son! He needs his teachers, not some temporary sub, he needs HIS TEACHERS. Please stop attacking them, my son is getting a really good education still, and that won't happen if your policy forces good teachers out.
Anonymous	I do not want my kids to be taught by a brand-new substitute in their high-level honors/AP classes. Shame on you for even suggesting that this would be a realistic option. Their current remote teaching has been excellent, and I am dismayed to have you disrupt what is working well. Stop trying to lure substitutes and instead support your current teachers. If you did not force teachers back into an unsafe environment, you will not need so many substitutes.
Anonymous	You keep admitting there is a sub and teacher shortage in our state and community. Why would a sub want to deal with the lack of safety in this district? It's not worth putting their health at risk for the pay. The district has put themselves in this precarious situation of needing subs (who are NEVER as good as our district teachers) since they won't support teachers and give teachers a choice of teaching in person or teaching virtually. Support your teachers and staff members!
Anonymous	Instead of raising the pay even higher, costing the district a lot of money since so many of our staff members are going on leaves of absence or taking time off for illness and to care for loved ones, why not put that money to greater use in supporting the teachers with Distance Learning?
Anonymous	Regarding the district's recognition of the statewide shortage of substitute teachers in item 10(b), voting yes to increase pay for subs is important but will be undercut unless: (1) the Board affirmatively acts to retain teachers -- and not take steps known to promote teachers leaving (like denying teachers choice to physically return to classrooms) - otherwise, it makes a bad situation worse; and (2) the Board addresses teacher working conditions like lacking campus safety precautions relative to other districts competing for subs with SDUHSD. Teachers are leaving over safety not pay. Specifically: 1. RETAIN TEACHERS. ALLOW THEM TO CONTINUE TEACHING EITHER FROM SCHOOL OR REMOTELY. Knowing that there is a sub shortage, the Board has a duty to NOT act in a way that will result in greatly increasing our reliance on scarce subs. In a tight labor market, the focus must be on RETAINING the quality teachers you currently have so that you don't make the demand for teachers worse and offset the effect of the pay increase. A forced return to classrooms is anticipated to cause a loss of 10%-20% of talented teachers who have relationships with our kids, are subject-matter credentialed, lead clubs, sports, and award-winning programs and deliver top academics. They're not easily replaced commodities. Loss of subject matter credentialed teachers degrades academics, clubs, sports, culture. This loss may extend past Covid if our outstanding teachers are poached by districts willing to grant remote work. 2. FIX WORKING CONDITIONS LIKE SAFETY. SDUHSD Needs to Increase Safety Measures to be In Line with other Schools Competing for Subs. Teachers say they are LEAVING OVER SAFETY, NOT PAY. Teachers are walking away from a steady paycheck and health benefits because they don't feel safe on our campuses. Subs also consider safety when deciding which sub job to accept. If our district remains at the bottom (least safe place to work) compared to major school districts like San Diego Unified, we won't be competitive in attracting subs to our less-safe schools.
Anonymous	Increasing the pay for substitutes while minimizing the requirements to become one doesn't seem like the best thing to do for instruction of our students. While it is important to be competitive to attract good teaching talent, what about using funds to implement measures to help keep our most qualified teachers in the district instead? For example, using the funding to increase safety measures or decrease class size or help clear parent volunteers or classified staff members to be in classrooms with in person students while teachers with compromised health situations teach from home? These all seem like better educational and instructional choices than putting potentially inexperienced substitutes with students, especially when the news suggests that there is a shortage of good substitute teachers at this time.
Anonymous	While it is nice that you are considering raising the rate for substitute teachers, I believe you should actually be spending your time and effort on how to keep all the teachers who would gladly continue working from home if given the opportunity due to their given situation. Just as you are giving students the choice to go to school or learn from home, the same option should be given to those teachers. Losing 20% of your teachers and having students be left without educated instructors seems like a bigger loss than having the teacher continue to teach through distance learning.