

Last Name, First Name	Agenda Item No. or Subject	Comment (please limit your comment to 300 words)
Hero, Melissa	Public Comment	<p>We all would love to return back to the normal we shared before March 13, however our future will not look the same. When we return to class in person, with distancing restrictions, students and staff will wear masks, sit 6' apart, face forward, unable to share supplies. Instruction will be radically different. Students will not be able to conduct labs, engage in pair shares or group discussions, or even get 1:1 help. We would only be able to provide direct instruction, such as lecturing for long periods of time, or showing videos. This is not the type of environment that our students find engaging, supportive, or social. Our most at risk students, ALL students, deserve the highest quality of instruction. Teachers in our district, with training and support from our PD department, can provide HIGHER QUALITY INSTRUCTION ONLINE, than in person with safety restrictions, especially now that we're allowed to offer synchronous classes and set schedules. Teachers can create online lessons where students engage in rich live, online discussions, students can participate in meaningful online simulations which mirror what they could do in an unrestricted in-person setting, and can watch short video lectures which will hold their attention, where a long, in-person, masked lecture can not. Online, we can provide students individual feedback throughout the entire learning process and hold office hours in groups, or 1:1, to provide the support that our students need. ONLINE INSTRUCTION NOT ONLY IS THE BEST OPTION FOR HIGH QUALITY INSTRUCTION, LEARNING, COLLABORATION, AND SOCIAL INTERACTION, BUT IT IS THE SAFEST. Please keep our students, staff, and communities safe, and alive. Protect our at risk student's access to quality instruction and support, as they are also our highest risk community in danger from COVID-19. Prevent mass numbers of teachers from going on forced leave, leaving classrooms without teachers. ONLINE INSTRUCTION IS THE BEST OPTION for our ENTIRE community.</p>
Tep, Genevieve	Return to School	<p>Do not choose a hybrid model for our students! Start school with distance learning with a schedule that allows students to return to campus when it is safe to do so without restricting student class choices!</p> <p>The hybrid model restricts student class choice because the county requires all students within a cohort to have the exact same group of classes. Any course that has multiple grade levels becomes impossible to implement. This would mean that in order for your child to take choir, that 30 students have the same choir class, and English class, and science class, and math class, etc. This is impossible. Any program that has students from multiple grades will not be possible in this model. These courses include choir, band, orchestra, drama, language classes, leadership, some AP courses, computer science, many math courses. These restrictions will have a permanent effect on a students' transcript and their ability to get into college.</p> <p>Our community needs to know that if we go with a hybrid model that their choices will be highly restrictive. I understand how badly we all want to get back into the classroom. Teaching choir is my passion and life's work and I want nothing more than to get back into rehearsals with my students. But the hybrid model will do permanent educational damage to students.</p> <p>Teachers can provide much more engaging, rigorous, and exciting curriculum if we use the principal's suggested schedule because allow families to continue to</p>

		<p>choose what the best classes are for their children, rather than being forced into a one size fits all model.</p>
<p>Abdilla, Jaime</p>	<p>Fall 2020</p>	<p>If equity is truly the foremost concern of the board, it should be very clear that the stable cohort with distance learning plan presented by the 4 largest site administrators is the safest, most reasonable plan. Students who need help, internet access, social interactions (from a distance) can come on campus and meet with a staff member, and then the instruction can happen at home. The socioeconomically disadvantaged have been hit hardest by the COVID-19 - coming to school in public or district-provided transportation is going to increase their risk of infection.</p> <p>The board, the admin teams, and the teachers are being given the gift of the summer to research, develop, and realign in a way that is safer to all and will be engaging to students at home. The Superintendent and Board did not act in the best interested of ALL of the students at Sequoia Union High School District in the Spring of 2020, when teachers were given three days to plan 2 weeks of online curriculum, instituted the illegal “hold harmless” policy, advocated for “less is more,” limited the hours of work that could be assigned, disallowed synchronous classes, and provided students wifi hotspots with only 2 GB of data PER MONTH. To add insult to injury, the board and lead administration were not transparent with parents and the community when there were cries of students not being challenged.</p>
<p>Mueller, Tony</p>	<p>Equity in distance learning</p>	<p>It isn't safe to go back to campus and the district hasn't proven itself capable of managing a complex hybrid model starting in August. The majority of students were and can be successful in distance learning, particularly if it's managed more competently than it was last quarter. We need to identify the students who struggled in distance learning and tailor interventions specific to their individual needs. For some, that may be assigning staff members as one-on-one tutors. For others, providing a quiet work space and computer access on campus. For others, reducing their class load or providing mental health interventions will make distance learning more manageable. There is no one-size-fits all model for supporting students, but we have the data to carefully target interventions to make distance learning equitable. The district got in the way of teachers implementing meaningful online learning in the spring, and the last thing we need is more hastily-planned, poorly-communicated “solutions” from folks who've spent little or no time in a classroom in recent years. Especially when those folks don't take responsibility for their errors and leave teachers holding the bag.</p>
<p>Weyant, David WAINT</p>	<p>Equity and reopening</p>	<p>As I enter my thoughts on this form, COVID cases are spiking in many areas of the country due to the loosening of the stay at home order. There is no vaccine, there are no readily available therapeutics, and there are still many vulnerable people with preexisting conditions that could be negatively impacted by this virus. When we talk about equity and getting kids back on campus, we must remember that the underrepresented populations on everyone's mind are very much over-represented when it comes contracting COVID and suffering its ill effects, including death. Is putting an already vulnerable population more at risk a tradeoff that we are willing to make to get kids back on campus? I have heard arguments that getting kids on campus is the only way to insure quality learning and impactful access to the curriculum. As a teacher, I want nothing more than to get back into the classroom and interact with the students in a meaningful way. It is not safe to do this yet. I have many colleagues with pre-existing conditions who are fearful of a return. And think of the pathway that the virus will have when we put kids and students back together in the classroom. Now we are potentially exposing every person that we come in contact at Sequoia with every other person who's had contact with people at the store, church, family</p>

		gatherings, etc. This is a reckoning for education for sure. But maybe the silver lining will be that we can change an old model in a way that is safe and truly equitable for everyone. Rushing to reopen has caused a spike in cases in the US. It will do the same if we rush to reopen the campuses in the district.
Bologna, Sharon	School Starting	Please heavily think of the Certificated & Classified Staff members when making your decision about the starting of school. In normal circumstances students can't even stay home when they are ill. The more students you pack on our campuses the more at risk you put everyone!
Lucca Anthony	Fall 2020 school	These kids need to be back in class and out of their homes. They need to get back to their routines. Keeping them at home "distance learning" is harmful.
Aidi, Rick	Returning to School In-Person	There were 78 confirmed cases of Covid-19 back on March 16 when school closures took place. As of June 19, there are now 4084 confirmed cases in California. How is it safe to return to school under these circumstances? Also, are teachers really expected to endanger their own lives & the lives of their family members at home, when students are being given the option of returning to school or not returning based on their parent's discretion? Don't teachers in the district deserve the same level of consideration as students?
Lucca, Ginny	Return to school in the fall	I want to see the children return to school in the fall. This is a necessity for their mental health. Not all children can work independently they need accountability. Please consider at least 2 days, initially!! Thank you G Lucca
Schulman, Julia	Fall School Opening	We are in a pandemic and it is unsafe to return to school at this time. My health and life are on the line, and there is no way to return to school in the fall in person that makes any sense. Teenagers will not practice safe distancing and wear masks all day. They might come to school sick. What happens when someone is diagnosed with Covid-19? We will have to shut down the school, quarantine at home and pray that we will not die or infect others in our households. The administrators of this district came up with a plan of action that was sensible and realistic. It took into account students who did not have access to technology (creating a safe space on campus, such as the student union, for them to work at school.) It took into account teacher safety and the safety of our students. I understand that there is a vocal minority of parents who want their students back at school and are willing to take a "calculated risk." So, am I being asked to do the same? Should I risk my children and my elderly parents as well? And though I have preexisting conditions, for the benefit of those few who are not following the data, I should also risk my very life? No. If given time, our teachers can create amazing curriculum for on-line learning which could serve our students safely until we have treatment and/or a vaccine. This is a PANDEMIC, and life is not "normal!" Let us do our jobs safely and efficiently, please. I love teaching and I love my students, but not at the cost of my safety and that of my family.
Staff, Faculty	Public Comment	As a faculty member at Menlo-Atherton, I am incredibly anxious to return to work. My workload is tripled by working virtually, my highest need students are going unheard and unhelped, and it's exhausting. I've listened to parents and students about the obstacles that their students face, and I can't imagine how I would cope if I was in their place. But let me be clear, it would be a monumental mistake for you to bring back students and staff without the precautions to keep us safe. You need to listen to the propositions of our principals and IVPs who've been working tirelessly to find solutions. Because when you're asking us to return to our jobs without protections recommended by health officials, you are telling us that we are the

		<p>expendable fodder and our families are as well as we expose them every day when we come home. In addition, there are many families in our community who do not have access to healthcare when they get sick, and their needs are also being dismissed as well.</p> <p>A hybrid model is possible. Part of reaching equity in this situation is upgrading the hotspots that only provide enough data to watch barely enough instructional videos for 4 classes. Imagine how we could teach and students could learn in stable cohorts. Be part of a safe solution, and not a hasty reaction to loudest voices in the room.</p>
Molly McNinch	To Return to school or not, that is the question.	<p>I am concerned about the return to school in the fall. It was no surprise that many teachers did distance learning differently, but this was when we thought it would be temporary. With more time to plan thoughtfully and invest in professional development, the curriculum teachers provide will improve! We need the time to do so. It will be more difficult trying to fit our normal routine into the world of regulations than it would be to just find a schedule that allows for more blended and distance learning. The schedule proposed by admin previously would have allowed for this to happen and teachers could have already started planning. Why was this not chosen?</p>
McKee, Michelle	Opening of School	<p>Now is not the time to pander to voters. Now is the time to listen to the experts, and to be honest, you are not experts (no disrespect intended). Melissa Hero is an expert and when she says that we can offer high quality, engaging distance learning you need to listen to her! We, the teachers, are experts; we are experts in curriculum and instruction and what works best for our students.</p> <p>PARENTS NEED TO KNOW -- the district's ability to clean and sanitize daily is highly questionable. Our dedicated custodial staff has so many classrooms, offices and shared spaces to clean that at best, they are able to sweep and empty the garbage in each classroom. Is the district willing to hire more custodians so that daily sanitizing can happen? The sanitizer that was used back in March to spray classrooms was so strong that I had a headache after just a small amount of time being in my classroom.</p> <p>If you do not listen to anything else, I strongly recommend you listen to the following... TEACHERS WITH PRE-EXISTING HEALTH CONDITIONS AND FAMILY CARE ISSUES ARE NOT GOING TO RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION IN AUGUST!! This is not a threat, it is a fact, plain and simple. As teacher after teacher goes out on leave, who is going to teach their classes? Who is going to teach all of the specialized classes that are offered in our district? I have a feeling schools are going to be stuck finding babysitters for students stuck in a classroom taking classes through online platforms.</p> <p>Think about the students... how are they going to feel wearing masks all day; not allowed to interact with their peers, teachers or curriculum in any meaningful way inside and outside the classroom? Think about the impact of all the potential restrictions on their mental, emotional and cognitive health.</p> <p>I would often tell my AVID students to listen to me, because I am usually right. Years later, I have had many come back and say, "You were right Ms. McKee!" Do not make me say, "I told you so!"</p>
Marten, Julie	Equity	<p>I was amazed by how hard teachers worked these past months with non-stop lesson development, translating, engaging in group and one-on-one dialogue and endless emails and calls home to try to address missing students.</p>

		<p>Regardless, I don't believe distance-learning is equitable. For SPED students and students who struggle with learning because they are new to English or have only recently become proficient, it is extremely important to have as much in-person instruction as possible. Teachers hone the skills of reading the nonverbal cues from these students—expressed differently by each individual—about what they do and don't understand. They need one-on-one checks for understanding and one-on-one reteaching many times a lesson or they easily fall through the cracks. And, during that one-on-one instruction, non-verbal communication through hand gestures, body movements, facial expressions, tone, etc..are particularly important. Without in-person learning there is no way for that support to be adequately given. Our SPED and ELL students will not be equitably taught without, at least, a hybrid plan. Also, this spring, like most teachers, I had to find a way to translate all assignments into Spanish. If we are continuing any distance learning then our district needs a large team of experts to support this and a routine for doing so.</p>
Powell, Lance	Reopening	<p>This is more of a pedagogical request for when we actually have students in the classroom. I'm hearing rumblings about protocols in the classrooms. I hope that the policy will be to allow teachers to use their judgement with regards to what is safe for students to do. Teachers being in the classroom with students merely to support online learning is not equitable. Teachers should be able to do that, as well do instruction and activities that aren't transferrable to online education, but are highly valuable to the curriculum of the course.</p>
Keigher, Kat	Fall 2020	<p>As a teacher, I have no greater desire than to return to my classroom and see my students "like normal." However, we are not in a "normal" time. COVID-19 is still a very real threat, and I worry that the health and safety of staff members Will be sacrificed for the desire for normalcy. Our desire for consistency and normalcy does not negate the effects of a potentially deadly global pandemic, particularly when it is likely to get worse come winter. I firmly believe that the district should focus its efforts on training its teachers in the best practices for effective online curriculum. The scramble to get curriculum online in March is not an accurate representation of the rigorous and engaging curriculum that could be developed if given the proper resources, training, and time. I am a parent, a teacher, and an online student. I know this situation is not ideal for anyone, but we must recognize the extraordinary circumstances that we are in. Please consider the childcare issues, the cost of providing PPE, and the inherent risk of infection when considering whether you ask your staff members to return to campus.</p>
Julie Paoli	Reopening with an equity lens	<p>As the board addresses the issues of equity and distance learning I would like to point out that we now have the data to show where the equity issues are on our campuses. The parents we heard from at the last board meeting were not upset about equity issues, they were upset that teachers did not do "enough teaching" they wanted mandatory zoom classes and for students to have face time with teachers. The lack of communication from the district to parents was evident based on their comments.</p> <p>The board's notion that they want as many kids on campus as possible is not going to address our equity issues and will only make the divide larger. If you expect teachers to be in classrooms full time, remain 6 feet from students, wear masks, and not share any materials, how can we possibly address students in need? Seeing each student once per week in a very restrictive setting is not supportive. By the time we do all the in person lessons, distance learning lessons, take care of ourselves and our own families there will be no time or energy left to help our students who are most in need.</p> <p>If we are proactive and plan for distance learning, use our data to find out what kids need support, build small bubbles of 6-12 students we can provide the</p>

		resources and support to help our most at risk students. If we look at the Qualgia 8 conditions for student success we know that kids need to have a mentor or “Hero”, by providing small stable groups teachers can mentor specific students, reach out to their teachers, help them with assignments and be there when they need a connection to school services. Without this personalized support none of the models proposed will help our most at risk groups. You are right that we need to be creative, but that creativity does not necessarily mean getting as many students on campus as possible. We need Creative solutions for support while we ensure student and teacher health and safety.
Bologna, Sharon	School Starting	Please heavily think of the Certificated & Classified Staff members when making your decision about the starting of school. In normal circumstances students can’t even stay home when they are ill. The more students you pack on our campuses the more at risk you put everyone!
Mehta, Jayu	Equity and returning to school in Fall	I have worked as a Special Education Teacher for 16 years and have completed 6 years at Woodside high school. When we pivoted to DL in Spring, I quickly learned that keeping my students engaged was key. I created a google voice number and posted it on Canvas for my students to reach me daily as needed. Conducted regular 15 minutes zoom meetings twice a week for a study skills check in. I usually had above 90% attendance. My Paraeducator was also present at these meetings. This allowed my students to engage with us regularly and used this platform to create one on one zoom tutorials for assignments as needed. At the end of the semester we all felt a sense of accomplishment of completing a strange school year. I feel through my co-teaching lens in Biology I have learned what worked and didn’t work for students and worked hard with my co-teacher to change lessons so all students could be successful in DL. As a teacher and department chair I feel my experience from Spring semester has set the stage well for allowing me to establish a structure and routine in Fall for all students to be more successful with DL.
Pearlman, Rebecca	Equity	The fact that our minority students and their families are being disproportionately effected by Covid 19, coupled with the fact that most of our minority and students from lower socio- economic households have larger commutes, we should not be further endangering their lives by putting these students on buses, district or public, as they commute to their sites. Let’s create neighborhood resource hubs for students to work remotely with distance learning! Let’s be their partners in keeping our most vulnerable students safe and supported!
Nguyen, Dy	Equity	As a POC educator in the District, I have struggled with the ways that our district has fallen short with our students, staff, and community with regard to equity. We serve such a diverse group of people and we say that equity is one of our top guiding principles, but I have not seen that principle laid out in actions that demonstrate our daily commitment and work towards equity. We need PDs with an equity focus, we need to see more hiring of black and brown educators, we need to see more POC leadership. We need to really look at the inequitable structures at our schools and invest money and resources to help students of color access rigorous education. Our IB, honors, AP classes should reflect our demographic, not be a majority White and upper-middle class. Our graduation and A-G stats must do the same. Our disciplinary numbers must do the same. We MUST implement a positive behavioral intervention and support system. One that is collaborative and restorative, not punitive. We must remove the police and the criminal justice system from our schools. The school-to-prison pipeline is very real, and we are guilty in feeding this machinery. As a spouse of a police officer, I am more intimately knowledgeable than most about the irrevocable damage that the police and the criminal justice system can have on young people’s lives. We teach children. Children deserve support and resources when they mess up, even if they commit a crime. There are ways to “dole out justice”

Public Comment 6/22/20

		without feeding this machine of inequity. Please commit to real equity in our schools. Please devote the money, time, and resources to back up your commitment.
Swanson, Kurt	Return to school	I am aware of a concerted campaign to return students to normal in-place learning without regard to the health risks to students, faculty, staff, AND the general public. Much of these arguments have been based upon emotion and not sound thinking. While we would *all* love to return to normal, infection rates of COVID-19 continue to *increase* in California, and any decisions in this area should be based upon sound logical reasoning with a scientific basis, not emotional reactions that disregard the significant risks to the health of everyone in our community.
Gaitan, Addison	Return to school	It is my understanding that the purpose of today's session to discuss equity as it pertains to school. I attended the University of San Francisco's teacher ed. program and went into teaching because of my passion for social justice. I feel extremely protective of all of my students and want what is best for them. That being said, I hope the board recognizes that the Black and Brown members of our country are catching, severely suffering from, and dying from COVID-19 at rates that are disproportionately higher than whites. While I believe that access to a high quality public education is one of the most essential facets of working towards greater equity, ultimately health and lives must be protected first. I am also concerned for how our students with different learning needs will suffer if we are forced to return to in-person teaching. Over 20% of Carlmont's staff members stated that they will be unable to return to campus in the fall due to personal health risks. How will we be able to serve our most vulnerable students if we lose great teachers and need to hire temporary ones or find subs on short notice? Furthermore, many of the strategies we use to serve these kids (proximity, group work and pairings, shared materials and manipulatives, etc.) will not even be possible in person due to guidelines per the health order. While we all long for what school looked like before COVID-19, we ultimately need to protect the lives of students and staff and provide teachers with time and resources to plan for vigorous and personalized instruction via distance learning.
Arambula, Rosy	Return to School	If our baseball and soccer players are back on the field and the SM county is opening up. Why can't our students return to school
Voldstad, Karyn	Equity	When we begin opening the schools, we should provide on campus learning for the neediest students first. A small cohort of special ed students and students who lack technology at home would be safe at school before we allow even 50% of students on campus.
McKinley, Margaret	Math	I am concerned about the amount of work the school district is expecting. They want us to be part time in the classroom with only have 1/2 the students at a time and maintain on-line learning at the same time. The increased amount of time it takes to prepare and assess student learning on-line is incredible. Combine this with having to be in the classroom where we won't actually be able to teach because only 1/2 are there, and we cannot intermingle with students. We would be just "babysitting" during the class time; making sure that the students are on-line doing classwork. The increase in the amount of time it would take to do this type of schedule and overwhelming. It would break me. It would be better just to be on-line.
Jacobson, Ellen	classroom safety/return	Dear Trustees and Superintendent, Where was your the support of the herculean efforts teachers put in on zero notice or training? Was there mention of the lack of student accountability for attendance or work in the last meeting? No one mentioned that many teachers used their own devices to reach students and parents during non-contract hours. Many sacrificed their own family time to help out their students. When the district

		went P/NP, many students stopped engaging. How could we expect success within these parameters?
Lucca, Ginny	Return to school in the fall	I want to see the children return to school in the fall. This is a necessity for their mental health. Not all children can work independently they need accountability. Please consider at least 2 days, initially!! Thank you G Lucca
Robinson Maria	Equity	I am please to see a progressive change towards equity in education. As an educator I believe “effective educational equity” must include the investment of resources and support systems for minority and underrepresented students. As an institution we must show confidence and commitment to their success. We need to encourage students to take risks in taking rigorous classes and provide appropriate support when needed. Investing in them will increase confidence and academic success in their future endeavors. In our institutions invite them as equal participants to the decision making process. We need to extend them opportunities as someone along the way did for us.
Cortez, Oscar	On equitable teaching practices	<p>I'm a teacher at Carlmont HS. From an English Language Arts perspective, I'm concerned that in-person teaching while wearing masks were we will be unable to clearly understand each other from a distance and have only limited feedback capability (e.g. I cannot go near a student to review and provide feedback for a Thesis that they are writing) will ultimately result in us teaching in-person classes through our computers in order to maintain proper distance (sharing documents, providing commentary, online discussions, etc.). A lot of learning in this subject comes from complex discussions (pair-shares, table groups, and full class discussions and socratic seminars) that synthesizes the topics of our texts. I fear that this learning will be drastically reduced in an in-person format that adheres to Covid-related health and safety guidelines, whereas I feel very strongly in accomplishing these activities using a remote-online process using video chat rooms to facilitate discussions, engage in comprehension, analysis, and synthesis activities, and build camaraderie and relationships. Adding to this, an in-person class where students and teachers are in rooms for 40-60 minutes at a time will create an atmosphere of fear and anxiety, precisely the type of environment that is not conducive to learning.</p> <p>I'm also concerned that a hybrid process will make my lessons less equitable because students who miss the in-person classes may miss out on insights and breakthroughs that come from organic discussions or other activities, which is unlikely to be repeatable for the rest of the students who choose to partake only online out of valid health concerns.</p> <p>Lastly, I also stress that enclosed spaces, especially those with poor ventilation, are the sites of greatest infections. This is not based on my expertise but the opinions of experts: https://boston.cbslocal.com/video/4547900-biologist-sharing-enclosed-space-leads-to-massive-spread-of-coronavirus/</p>
TIm Cullinane	School Reopening	In response to the SUHSD teachers who do not want to return to on-campus teaching I say do your job. Your job is to be in the classroom and teach our children. You have a responsibility and duty to give our children the best education you can. It cannot be done remotely. If grocery clerks, truck drivers and other essential workers can do their jobs on site, teachers should be able to as well. If any teachers do not want to teach, maybe they should take a leave of absence, or find another line of work to make way for teachers who want to be in the classroom.

Doyle, Leslie	Return to School in the Fall	I again would like to strongly advocate for a return to a in-person learning in the Fall. The last few months have proven that distance learning did not work for the students. I realize that some students and teachers are not comfortable with returning in-person and those individuals should be offered the opportunity to participate online. However, the rest should be allowed to have a majority of their classes on campus. I believe there are protocols that can be put in place to ensure the safety of the students, teachers, administration, staff, based on best practices from other countries and college campuses here in the US.
Pendleton, Hayden	Back to school in fall	As a student I've lost a huge amount of my high school time to all this social distancing learning. I've lost the important things in life such as important learning subjects that I will need in the future as well as time with my close friends that I will never get back. Not going back to school in the fall would rob many students of important high school experiences and take away some of the most important times of their lives.
Pendleton, Hayden	Back to school in fall	As a student I've lost a huge amount of my high school time to all this social distancing learning. I've lost the important things in life such as important learning subjects that I will need in the future as well as time with my close friends that I will never get back. Not going back to school in the fall would rob many students of important high school experiences and take away some of the most important times of their lives.
Burndon, Leslie	Equity and Distance Learning	I am very concerned about the negative effects of in-person hybrid instruction in the fall on equity. First, didactic instruction will be the only option given the social distancing requirements, and students will not be able to do any of the labwork, hands-on projects, or group work that benefit the learning of all populations even if they are in a classroom once or twice a week. Didactic instruction is particularly difficult for Special Ed and EL students, who could be better engaged through well-designed online curriculum (including at-home lab kits, etc) if teachers are given adequate time and forewarning to prepare. Second, based on my students' experiences last quarter, students from lower income families will likely be less able to attend in-person school due to family childcare responsibilities since it seems likely no schools will be back 100% and their siblings' schedules may not overlap with theirs, thus making them reliant on fully online regardless. In conclusion, it would be much more equitable to put time and effort into quality online and at-home experiences for all students than didactic instruction in-person for some students with very little time for teachers to invest in making the other three+ days a week of online learning high-quality. There just isn't time in the day for teachers to teach four days a week in-person and prepare and deliver three+ days a week of quality online instruction (and additional make-up online work as alternatives to in-person lessons for students who are unable to attend due to family care or health concerns). Students shouldn't be punished with unavoidably low-quality online instruction if teachers' focus is required to be in the classroom four days a week.
Berg, Natalie	20/21 School Year	Our kids need to get back to school! Masks have proven to be effective in reducing the spread of the virus...do we really know the data about positive cases/or increase of positive cases from the SUHSD community? I think we as parents should assume that risk and students and staff alike can take the necessary safety precautions to return to school!
Pendleton, Scott	SUHSD Fall 2020 Return to School Campus Learning	Good evening and thank you for reading my comments, I am a parent of an incoming Junior to Carlmont High School. Over the last three months I watched the affect the distance learning had on my teen and others. At times their was a range of emotions from fear and anger to sadness and grief. This time is critical for the mental development of our high school students and what they need most is back to

		<p>normalcy. Return back to school full time to build and maintain relationships with friends, peers, and mentors. These are the hallmarks of being a teenager and a key developmental task! Distance learning failed over the last three months in many aspects. It is time to go back to school come Fall. The Task Force needs to work on plans to bring students back which has not been presented. Teachers that do not want to come back and instead spend their efforts trying to rally their peers to do the same by submitting comment cards should focus on why they are in the position they hold - the kids. Work on your job, getting back to teaching in front of a class safely.</p>
Karditzas, Jim	5.1 Return to school in the fall	<p>As a teacher in a high risk age group for the COVID-19 virus health and safety considerations for returning to the classroom must be the top priority. Valid, thorough, well thought-out procedures that all stakeholders understand and adhere to must be developed. Without good procedures we will go backwards instead of forwards with our return. Sickness with students and/or teachers will put an undue burden upon our district and schools. The Transitional phase should start with fewest students, onboard them in a classroom with learning distance learning tools in the first two weeks, ensure students and teachers know how to negotiate distance/online learning. Then continue to refine procedures on campus as we open to the students who need access to internet by providing a safe space to learn and get the help they need. Then open to one grade level at a time starting with 9th graders. All the while refining and adjusting our return to full school. Our California institutions of higher learning have health and safety foremost in their thinking about returning to campus (https://edsources.org/2020/california-colleges-and-universities-respond-to-the-coronavirus-a-quick-guide/626396) . Please do not rush to resume without careful considerations for everyone's health and safety.</p>
Zarcone, Karin	Fall Semester	<p>The health and safety of students, staff, and community members should be our number one priority when considering the start of the school year. A close second should be the quality of teaching. A properly complied socially-distanced model would greatly effect the efficacy of our teaching. (Imagine a classroom where each student has a 6 foot radius around them at all times, and each person is wearing a mask. Ask yourself honestly: does that really lend itself to an effective teaching and learning environment? If a teacher wanted to circulate safely in the classroom, students would have to have a 12-foot radius to maintain the proper distance from the teacher. And don't forget about cleaning supplies, plexiglass dividers, temperature checks, enforcement of masks and social distancing, etc.) In contrast, if we are able to devote our time and resources to develop a strong, online curriculum and community, this would be vastly more effective than the socially-distanced in-school model. If the spring online teaching model was not ideal to all, please consider that we were told on March 13 that we would be starting online distance learning on March 16. After some quick adjustments and changing circumstances, we were finally told that we would be restricted by district mandates like not being able to require synchronous classes, only issuing pass/no pass grades, and doing the best we can with students who might not have reliable internet connectivity. (Teachers and staff also suffered from this.) This fall we can address most of these problems to maximize the online distance learning until it is safe to return to school. We would be putting too many people at risk if we return to school before adequate testing and contact tracing and/or a vaccine has been developed. If we return to school prematurely, we risk the community's health and more disruption by having to switch to an online system to mitigate the situation.</p>
Scheetz, Ellen	Kids back to school	<p>My teenager is a shadow of his former self. I am very concerned as he needs the face-to-face interactions with his peers and teachers. He also needs to be in a</p>

		<p>school environment. His mental health has taken a deep dive. His motivation and ambition have also taken a deep dive. I am extremely concerned about the impact this is having on his ability to engage in life, his development, his interpersonal skills, his intrapersonal skills, and his ability to apply himself to school. He needs to be back on campus asap. Even some on-campus time will help. There are ways to do this safely. People in leadership can make this happen if they actually want it to happen. When there is a will, there is a way.</p>
Heritier-Kerby, Claire	Next Steps	<p>If we reopen schools in the fall, classrooms will look like police states. We as teachers will be tasked with policing students' bodies and behavior to an unprecedented extent, forcing them to stay at their socially distanced desks and wearing uncomfortable masks. At least some students are sure to resist this, and teachers will be forced to manage these students while being afraid ourselves of being infected by these students.</p> <p>If you really do care about equity, think about how militarized and unyielding a classroom environment like this will be, and think about the effect of that on our students and their education. Collaborative learning will be impossible. Teachers will not approach students but be static figures at the front of the room, unable to make any good teaching "moves" that help students with their learning. Students will struggle in their seats, frustrated by the mask, unable to get the degree of help from us they need, and in response will act out or give up. There will be no flexibility or innovation. There will be no space to express compassion for students when approaching them becomes a potential life or death choice for myself, my family, and the families of other students in the room.</p> <p>This would not be a physically or psychologically safe environment for any student, and particularly students from our most vulnerable populations who are already dealing with many traumas. Instead, returning to distance learning while ensuring every student has unlimited internet access and a device will allow teachers to make personal connections with students online, to reach out to them with compassion and understanding, and to allow the classroom community to grow through small zoom sections.</p> <p>Returning to the classroom would not be a case of making sacrifices for our students' education. Students will be more equitably and rigorously educated next year by distance learning.</p>
Avila, Michelle	Send Kids Back To School Fall 2020	<p>Please send our students back to school in the fall 2020. It's only fair to offer an option for those students and teachers who want to get back to a normal life. If our community is up and running why can't our schools (following all safety precautions) be? We can not allow this to damage our kid's lives any further. Teachers who are not comfortable going back to school should not have the right to take away our kids education!</p> <p>That is unacceptable. Please do the right thing and allow students back on campus. Thank you.</p> <p>Michelle Avila Carlmont Parent</p>
Hodges, Cynthia	Fall schedule	<p>I understand that the issues with online learning in the fall deal with equity for low income students and lack of interaction. If students had a stable cohort and a live teacher on campus using the hybrid model, these issues would not be resolved. They would be worse.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students would not be able to interact 6 feet apart. The teacher can't help much being 6 feet away. 2. Students would be stuck with their cohort, not meet others and wouldn't talk much with a mask on.

		<p>3. There is no way we can force teenagers to follow these rules and they will be miserable having all these restrictions.</p> <p>3. Classes with multiple grade levels would have to go away, which means most electives. Many students, including low income, ELL and Sped thrive in these classes, which are often a major stress release for them. I know as an AP Art teacher that some of these students need the class because they want to go to art schools.</p> <p>4. Teachers could basically only lecture, which is the worst teaching practice. Teachers would have to abandon great lesson plans and start from scratch.</p> <p>5. Many students and staff will choose to not come on campus due to safety and/or being high risk. That makes consistency impossible and equity worse. We also don't have enough subs.</p> <p>6. Teachers would have to figure out lesson plans and communication for on campus and online learning. There are literally not enough hours in the day.</p> <p>7. The administrators have already made the schedules. It would be a nightmare for them to have to make this all work. The hybrid also makes it impossible to move easily to shelter in place or fully come back to campus.</p> <p>With online learning, there are so many staff members that would work with students in need to make sure students don't fall through the cracks. There could be on campus support for all groups in need, including tech support. There are so many tech resources that teachers can use to make online learning the best choice. Thank you!</p>
<p>Braunstein, Patricia</p>	<p>Equity and Distance Learning</p>	<p>It has been an honor to teach 28 years for our district; I have committed my life's passion to Empowering ALL students through education. It is not an accident I taught at risk students in our business technology academy, 7 years with under represented students in AVID and our BUILD program. I have also taught in EL and AP classes - I Support ALL students. I know that with distance learning we are concerned about equity and access for ALL. However I need to tell you from the front lines that we cannot assume that better access to education during the pandemic has to come from the traditional "in school" model. As a history teacher we learn that nations have to respond to different conditions; those that rest on the status quo, have failed. Under present pandemic conditions, conditions "in school" will actually prevent us from close 1:1 and interactive contacts that help us especially with at risk students. Instead, technology tools are rapidly expanding and actually allow much closer and direct interaction. I have 2 children of my own with IEP plans and learning needs. I watched last week as my daughter was 1:1 with her learning specialist online using interactive screen tools. Online offers us whole class, breakouts, small class, pair work and 1:1 contact plus new apps with student interactivity. This isn't possible under current conditions at school. Please try to detach from normal assumptions and realize we must teach to ALL students ONLINE For now, not in a hybrid model with limitations. Being in school may seem logical under non pandemic conditions but please believe the frontline educators that hybrid in school models will hamper our efforts. Please support the teachers and trust that we CAN teach more effectively under these conditions, online</p>
<p>Kilty, Erin</p>	<p>Re-opening for school year 2020-2021</p>	<p>Educators like to use the phrase "a teachable moment." Let us use this moment in history and show our students that the classroom education is not their only key to happiness or success. Let us show them that prioritizing your family and community should be the primary goal at all times. Let us show them the importance of emotional, psychological AND physical health. We can do this with a structured 100% distance learning model that allows for more access to space, time, and resources for our students. Do not endanger the health of all staff and students simply to pretend that the world is no longer different. This is a teachable moment- let's use it.</p>

Kuttan, Laetitia	Equity	<p>I highly doubt the district is capable of implementing the cleaning/sanitizing required to keep us all safe if we return to school.</p> <p>Most students were successful in distance learning, especially if it's managed more competently than it was last quarter and if the district communicates with parents with the same messages it sends to teachers. We need to identify the students who struggled in distance learning and help them with their individual needs (tutoring, mental health, work space at school...) The district did not communicate with parents what it expected of its teachers, (expectations set without asking for our input) hence the many complaints received.</p> <p>In order for the return to school to be equitable, we also need to keep in mind that minorities are more at risk to be exposed, shouldn't we be focused on keeping those kids safe and getting them the education they deserve?</p> <p>Finally, we should also consider equity among the staff, as many people have health issues or are taking care of vulnerable population.</p>
Eaton, Alan	Public Comment	<p>Thousands of people await (an inanely) slow Board response to EVERYTHING; kids were left in suspense for "public comment" on grades in May, doing harm to many for the delay, and now this due deliberation threatens all again. If you have rabbits in your hats, by all means summon them; otherwise, follow health code, make a decision, stand by it, and support those who personally and professionally support our communities. There is no hybrid model that does not burst the bubble of quarantine; it's all in or all out, but for the love of democracy and all that's holy, make a decision and show some clear leadership or at least let our principals, whom we trust for knowing the lay of the land, do it for us. You will not make all glad but you can at least be leaders, and show support for those who cannot follow the route you map for age, medical predisposition, or socioeconomic disadvantage. All delay is a cataclysm of either will or brain; we are all on the clock though only some of us will be charged with appearing Monday-Friday should that be the bidding. Until we share the space of the classroom period again, no one will teach or learn to their potential, nor will bonds and culture (academic, interpersonal, and institutional) be (able to be) cultivated. Without access to authentic testing experiences, no true evaluation of accomplishment or growth exists but the hours that go in to facilitating digital "instruction" are so significant we teachers will need to know in advance if the start of the year demands them, especially if we are language teachers who furnish five or more distinct curricular levels (I worked from 7 am-2am five or six days a week during this last term JUST for digital curriculum creation, student/parent support, and feedback). Think well, hurry better, and decide promptly for the best, please, Board; otherwise permit authority to devolve to the principals and leaders we trust for quick, fair, and right decisions, but most of all necessity's quick.</p>
Jacobson , Joel	Classroom safety with COVID-19	<p>Dear Trustees,</p> <p>Dividing a class of 35 students into stable cohorts of 12 means either 3x as many classes or packing 3x the curriculum in the same amount of time. There is no funding (staff) or facilities for 3x the classes. Are you suggesting the latter approach? This also presumes all students have exactly the same class schedule, which is infeasible. Lastly, it leaves no possibility for push-in / pull-out support for IEP/504 as it would break the cohort of 12.</p>
Pethan, Sandy	Equity	<p>I've dedicated the past 5 yrs to helping students with emotional disturbances persevere. COVID has increased our student's stress and anxiety and I remain committed to their service. However, being immuno-compromised, I cannot risk my life to appease families that demand schools be "opened up". Schools ARE open - just differently. With community dedication, we can make distance learning or a hybrid program successful by having more IA's like myself hired and assigned a caseload of students to check in on daily so teachers can focus</p>

		on building engaging curriculum. It worked for our STARS program this last quarter, it can work again. We need to be given a choice.
Nozik, Michal	Equity during Distance Learning	<p>One of the main challenges this past quarter was that students were not required to attend live, synchronous, online lessons. Because of that, many special education students were not engaged in the learning, and fell behind.</p> <p>If we require students to adhere to a schedule and attend live sessions, students will be able to participate in group work, partner work, and will be able to receive 1:1 support from their teachers, all online, and in a timely manner. These types of interactions will not be possible if we learn in class. Until we have a vaccine, everyone is in danger of contracting the virus. If distance learning is done right, it will be rigorous and supportive for all students.</p> <p>Thank you!</p>
Rojas luis	Distance learning	If we go In To distance Learning people will have really bad emotional years
Secrist, Ame	Fall 2020	<p>I won't repeat the many thoughtful, articulate, and fact based letters my colleagues have sent you; my statement here is to echo the specific reasons provided in support of returning to school this fall utilizing a 100% online platform.</p> <p>The reasoning at the board and district level to return in any kind of hybrid model appears to be only based on uniformed desires and a systematic need to be aligned with outward appearances, loosely veiled with statements about supporting high risk students. There seems to be a lack of understanding about what a school day looks like and how we function within normal parameters for you to be pushing for an onsite schedule in the fall. What you are asking is literally trying to fit a square peg into a round hole. All of this energy would be much better spent trusting the faculty and staff with how to structure the best educational experience for students under the health threat of Covid.</p> <p>The stress of battling for what we know is the best path forward is counter productive to the district goals and the cohesive relationship needed between faculty and management.</p> <p>Whatever the fall looks like, there is a glaring need to have an honest evaluation of the symbiotic roles between the faculty, management, and board. Our students deserve a harmonious, transparent, and empowered group of adults leading them through their high school years.</p>
Godina, Bertalicia	Equity and reopening schools	<p>Forcing teachers to return to the classroom for in-person teaching during a worldwide pandemic with no viable vaccine is to endanger our lives, our co-workers' lives, our students' lives, and the lives of our families and loved-ones. This "sacrifice" is asking for too much of teachers, and demonstrates lack of empathy and common sense.</p> <p>In addition, my classroom has the worst situation because the windows don't open at all, and the only door leads into another room. My classroom door opens into another room only, which also has poor air circulation. The only way to get fresh air is at the end of the corridor which is over fifty feet away. This is the worst classroom situation because it lacks good air ventilation or fresh air circulating in my classroom. My classroom is a room within another room with no air ventilation, and this is one of many reasons which makes it an unsafe work environment. Bad airflow makes the droplet transmission of Coronavirus spread from person to person.</p> <p>Lastly, in response to some very vocal parents concerning their dissatisfaction with the spring distance learning, please remember that teachers were constrained from delivering ideal instruction by directives to not require synchronous meetings, to not count attendance, to "hold harmless" as well as</p>

		<p>"less is more", and also to issue pass/fail grades.</p> <p>As teachers, we are now using the summer to re-tool and prepare for distance learning in the fall. I strongly urge FULL DISTANCE LEARNING be maintained throughout the Fall 2020 semester by adopting the schedule that the IVPs and Principals proposed. This is the only viable and safe option for our students, ourselves, and our communities.</p>
<p>Duarte, Jonathan</p>	<p>NO Distance Learning</p>	<p>As a parent of a Carlmont High School student, I am adamantly opposed to any planned Distance Learning schedule. There should be NO intended plan to go to a Distance Learning plan as the primary method of learning, unless the California Governor requires it.</p> <p>Distance Learning is not a proven "Fair and Appropriate Education" (FAPE). It failed in Spring, and there is no new evidence that it would work in fall. Planning to provide a failed education curriculum will put cause significant harm to students, parents, and the community, and will invoke numerous law suits.</p> <p>While the health and wellbeing of Students, Teachers, Administrators, and the community must be the highest priority, abdicating the responsibility of a providing a "Fair and Appropriate Education" (FAPE) to a solution that has already proven to be ineffective, is not only inadequate, but illegal under California law.</p> <p>Regardless of the loud voices of teacher union members, the SUHSD is required under law to provide a Fair and Appropriate Education to it's students and tax payers.</p>
<p>Dequina, Jefferson</p>	<p>Distance Learning and Equity</p>	<p>I am a Special Education Teacher. I care about my students and I'd love to see us back in the classroom when we can be sure that none of us can get infected with Covid19.</p> <p>Considering my students, I don't believe I'll be able to effectively meet their special needs in a highly restrictive physical environment without gravely exposing all of us in danger. The majority of my students have health issues and can easily get infected. Others require 1:1 aides and physical prompting in order for them to navigate the classroom/campus without getting too close to others.</p> <p>I'm currently implementing Distance Learning in Summer School for a Credit Recovery class. We are using an online curriculum to supplement the other teaching materials we have. I'm not restricted by the "Less is More" approach, therefore, I am able to place more reasonable academic expectations on my students. This leads to better engagement and students are passing classes they failed in the regular classroom.</p> <p>Distance Learning works when done right, not only by teachers but also by students. I can better implement it this time while students are also more familiar with how they'll go about it.</p> <p>It's safer and more effective to do Distance Learning this coming school year than have it in a risky and physically restrictive environment. It only takes one student or staff to get infected, suffer, and possibly die before others start fearing coming back to school. The idea that "This won't happen to me" does not sink in until it happens to oneself or someone we know. Let's not wait for this to happen to any of us. Let us all be safe, be responsible, and be respectful of each others' lives.</p>

Schoenst ein, Greg	equitable student outcomes	<p>I understand that the focus of this meeting is to address “institutional and instructional practices which perpetuate inequities in student outcomes.” The board is also in the process of considering what form the return to school will take in the fall, and is apparently quite set on the idea of getting as many students back on campus as possible. It is a well-established fact at this point that COVID-19 has impacted minority and low-income communities the hardest, especially in terms of hospitalizations and deaths. With this in mind, requiring students to return to campus, especially those who are already at greater risk for hospitalizations and death from COVID-19, will greatly increase the chances of exposure for these students and their families to COVID-19. This is an institutional practice which will perpetuate inequitable outcomes for our students by increasing the risk of hospitalization and/or death for some of our most vulnerable students. As it stands, with current staffing and funding, let alone anticipated funding shortfalls, it is unlikely that the district and sites will be able to do enough to properly mitigate the danger of COVID-19 transmission. Thus it would seem that if you are truly interested in “bolstering student outcomes by addressing institutional practices which perpetuate inequities in student outcomes,” then an easy place to start would be to not expose our students to greater mortal danger by requiring them to be on campus. Instead, you could support a return to school that would bolster the outcome of keeping ALL of our students alive. As long as the COVID-19 pandemic continues out of control, distance learning should be continued until you can provide a safe environment for ALL of our students.</p>
Roisen, Patrick	Start of Instruction 2020-21	<p>There's been a strong push by parents to have a return to 'normal' instruction. Given the number of staff in the District (approximately 1300) and current estimates of the lethality of the virus (0.4%), that would suggest that something like 5 staff members would be killed if there's not significant safeguards put into place. That risk is even higher for the large number of staff that are 50+ and have other underlying health conditions. This ignores the risk posed to staff family that may also have risk factors. What special provisions will be taken to protect us and/or provide for our family if we are killed? While teens are at much lower risk, what liability do we face if a student or family member is hospitalized or dies?</p>
Avila, Michelle	Send Kids Back To School Fall 2020	<p>Please send our students back to school in the fall 2020. It's only fair to offer an option for those students and teachers who want to get back to a normal life. If our community is up and running why can't our schools (following all safety precautions) be? We can not allow this to damage our kid's lives any further. Teachers who are not comfortable going back to school should not have the right to take away our kids education! That is unacceptable. Please do the right thing and allow students back on campus. Thank you. Michelle Avila Carlmont Parent</p>
Rojas luis	Distance learning	<p>If we go In To distance Learning people will have really bad emotional years</p>
Livesay, Corey	Return to school plan	<p>I am writing this with the urgent request that we get Sequoia Union High School students back on campus this Fall. Distance learning was ineffective to say the least this past Spring. I strongly believe that the majority of students DO NOT flourish with Distance Learning. It seems to me the majority of parents, students, administrators and even Scott Morrow of San Mateo County Public Health want students back IN the classroom. It is ESPECIALLY important for the incoming freshmen to be on campus to make a smooth transition to high school. Our students deserve to be taught in the most effective way possible. They need to interact in person with</p>

		<p>their teachers and peers to learn and for their social and emotional well-being. Employees in every sector are now returning to work, lets get teachers back in the classroom. Shouldn't our kids education be Essential? Please make this decision based on what is in the best interest of our children and their learning, not on the drastic lobbying of a union.</p>
Leeper, Mark	Reopening school in the fall	<p>Dear Board Members,</p> <p>Given the herculean efforts of our administration, certificated and classified staff to make distance learning work last quarter, I find the dismissive comments of so many of our students and parents to be disheartening, depressing and, frankly, insulting. I would expect that you, as Board members, would stand behind our efforts when responding to the public. Your requests for the site administrators to "work harder" to open the schools to 50% of the students in the fall seems short-sighted and reactive rather than thoughtful. Is this 50% threshold based on directives from county health and the CDC? Or is it based on the comments and demands of disgruntled parents and students?</p> <p>Given this time of stress, polarization and unrest; our district's primary goal should be the health and safety for our staff, students and communities. And this goal should be approached in the most compassionate (and not contentious) way possible. I encourage you to be visionary and look beyond the critical comments the district has received. If we are not thoughtful and measured, we may be faced with having to shut down and start this process all over again at the expense of everyone involved.</p>
Nguyen, Diana	Distance Learning	<p>My name is Diana Nguyen, and I am a Social Studies teacher at Sequoia High School. I am writing to strongly urge you to implement distance learning throughout the fall semester.</p> <p>I do not teach in isolation; I also take care of my elderly parents, one who has a severely compromised immune system and another with severely inadequate health insurance. The possibility of exposure to coronavirus is not a sacrifice that should be decided by the board and administration while a chorus of teachers call for distance learning in the fall.</p>
Robinson Maria	Equity	<p>I am please to see a progressive change towards equity in education. As an educator I believe "effective educational equity" must include the investment of resources and support systems for minority and underrepresented students. As an institution we must show confidence and commitment to their success. We need to encourage students to take risks in taking rigorous classes and provide appropriate support when needed. Investing in them will increase confidence and academic success in their future endeavors. In our institutions invite them as equal participants to the decision making process. We need to extend them opportunities as someone along the way did for us.</p>
Todd, Kelly	Item 14.1 is the Action Item "COVID-19 Response Action Plan to Reopen Schools for the 2020-2021 Academic Year."	<p>As a parent, I understand wanting our children to return to school, but I am also an educator in this district living with a person identified as high risk. I have not heard anyone address the needs of the staff members. I am not convinced that our sites will be safe for an in-person return in the fall. Our needs and safety must be valued as well!</p>
Woolf, Ruth	Faculty classroom	<p>I am an 83 year old woman living in and supporting the Sequoia Union High School District. I entrusted the District to educate my three daughters and my taxes go there. My daughter is a teacher in the District. Although I live on my</p>

Public Comment 6/22/20

	safety during Covid 19	own, she is my primary care taker by shopping for me, driving me to appointments, helping me take care of my home and seeing to any emergencies. If she goes back into the classroom I will need to be quarantined from her. In other words, I will be completely on my own. Please consider this when you decide whether teachers need to be in the classrooms. Thank you.
Avila, Michelle	Send Kids Back To School Fall 2020	Please send our students back to school in the fall 2020. It's only fair to offer an option for those students and teachers who want to get back to a normal life. If our community is up and running why can't our schools (following all safety precautions) be? We can not allow this to damage our kid's lives any further. Teachers who are not comfortable going back to school should not have the right to take away our kids education! That is unacceptable. Please do the right thing and allow students back on campus. Thank you. Michelle Avila Carlmont Parent
Lucca, Ginny	Return to school in the fall	I want to see the children return to school in the fall. This is a necessity for their mental health. Not all children can work independently they need accountability. Please consider at least 2 days, initially!! Thank you G Lucca
McCaughy, Sarah	Fall semester	SUHSD students and parents aren't voicing our quote "angry" opinions about school in the fall, but our genuine concern. We are vocal because our childrens' future is at stake-academic and mental well being. Students made their sacrifice by staying at home this spring, of course we all want to protect the health of our community. We hear the teachers' union, and want to compromise. To vote on 100% distance learning is ignoring your most vulnerable stakeholders, the students. They need to be back in school, plan for a hybrid curriculum.
Cullinane, Debbie	I want to see the kids go back to school in the fall.	I am a parent of an incoming sophomore and a senior a Sequoia. I am also a teacher in the San Carlos School District. I was very distressed when I heard that the high school was thinking about doing all distance learning next year. I am not sure how this is an option when everything else is opening up in the state. The elementary schools have come up with a hybrid plan to go back to school in the fall. I haven't seen any plan for the high school kids go back to school at all. This fall would be the time to try out a hybrid plan and see how it works. We should be easing into some sort of normalcy like everyone else. It is unclear why this would not be an option. My concern is if we do distance learning it will be like this for the remainder of the year. When you are making your decision I implore you to have the children's best interest in mind. The kids need to see their teachers in person and to get the education they deserve.
Hernacki, Andrea	Distance learning for the fall	I am against all online learning in the fall the students need to have sometime at school. Online learning in the spring was not affective or challenging and it is unfair to have all the students stay online
Debra Cullinane	All Distance Learning should not be an option	My name is Debbie Cullinane. I am a parent of an incoming Sophomore and Senior at Sequoia High school. I have been very happy with the high school up to this point. Distance Learning did not go very well and I felt my kids learned very little if anything. I do not blame the teachers, we were all thrown into distance learning with no training and very little to go on. I was very hopeful for the fall when I heard that we would start the year with a 50/50 schedule. I assumed they would start with a hybrid and continue to slowly open the schools as more orders were lifted. When I heard that the plan had changed and the high schools were thinking of going to all distance learning I was shocked. Just as everything was opening up they wanted to keep students away from the classrooms. This makes no sense! Why would students be denied their

		education? Please don't let this happen. The children need to be back in school so that they won't fall any further behind then they already have.
Crum, Carter	Return our kids to the classroom	Distance learning at home has been an economic catastrophe for parents. Parents have had to say no to new job opportunities and going back to work because they need to supervise their school age kids who would otherwise be in school or playing sports. Many parents are running out of money and cannot return to work solely because of the thoughtless district policy and selfishness of teachers who are not trying hard enough to find a way to get kids back in the classroom. Other districts have figured it out. We must.
Pedrotti, Anthony	10-1	Dear Sequoia Union High School Board Members: When you sent us home in March with the message that we needed to stay home for a few weeks with the goal of flattening the curve, we did what was asked. Now the bars, restaurants, shops, spas and gyms have all started opening. We did our part, and now it's time to get students back in the classroom. We can not have a plan of waiting this out, when there is really no end game. The virus risk is low and uncertain, but the lack of education cost is definite,
Kanadjian, Sherry	Oppose distant learning	I plead to have our children physically go back to school. The distant learning in spring semester was not a good experience for our child. In addition, socialization with their peer is important for the mental health. We believe with face masks and social distancing, our children and staff will be safe.
Ayers, Shawn	2020/2021 school year virtual learning	I cannot find the agenda but I understand that there is proposal to have 100% virtual classes for the 2020/21 school year. I strongly oppose this proposal and would like my two children (juniors at Carlmont) to go back full-time or as close to full-time as possible. Virtual learning was a disaster at Carlmont in the spring of 2020 as the teachers gave up and did next to nothing. The schools are capable of taking the measures necessary to keep the children & staff safe and, as noted, I'm greatly concerned that Carlmont cannot teach virtually, certainly not full-time. We would be happy to help pay whatever is necessary to ensure the teachers feel safe. Please do not pass this proposal to have 100% virtual classes.
diTargiani, Cheryl	return of school	Dear Board Members, Please understand how important it is for our children to get back to school as normal as possible. How can our society open with restaurants, bars, salons, spas, parks, etc. and then make a decision for our students to have 100% distance learning in the fall? This makes no sense and does not follow the guidelines of the county. If there are families who want there to be distance learning, then let them, and pair them up with TEACHERS WHO WANT TO STAY HOME. We want our teenage children back in school learning and enjoying school the way they should, in person. When we shut the schools down in March, we were asked to shelter in place to flatten the curve! We did it, and still continue to proceed with caution. Our children deserve better- they deserve to be back in school at least 50% for the first few weeks, and FULL TIME for the rest of the year. If there is anyone in the school district, families, or educators who want to stay with distance learning- let them. For those who want to be back, we can and will make it work. It will be VERY detrimental to keep our children home. It is unfair to them, and to families, and to the dedicated teachers who want to show up in school and do their job. Our health care workers showed up to save lives, working endless hours during the worst part of COVID 19 for people who were very sick. Imagine if they just stopped showing up to work. While distance learning was new for everyone, most of us can agree that it wasn't the best situation. It seems that every step of the way, starting with the pass/fail grading situation, we have to go through so much, stress so much about what the next decision will be. It's bad enough to be dealing with ALL the craziness our world is going through and now, pleading to

		<p>have a normal start of school for our child. Please make the decision to get our children back to school, in person. Thank you!</p>
Rubina Boldi	Please open schools full time Fall 2020-21	<p>We respectfully ask schools to re-open FULL TIME since during SIP there was minimal teaching from teachers, no assessment of student skill level or progress. Even when kids turned in assignments or tests, they were not graded and only "P" was placed for pass. Teachers did minimal or no teaching with zoom, and most would be social chats. If teachers know how to use zoom, then why were they not using zoom to do their usual daily instruction as they would if they were in class?</p> <p>I had one child in elementary, two in middle school, and one in high school, and I observed the same lack of teaching for all of them. Only exception was my two middle schoolers did receive regular math instruction, for which I am grateful (Ms. Frink, and Ms. Klinker). My freshman at Carlmont said Biology teacher did no teaching via zoom, and rarely gave any assignments. With four of my kids, little, if any, social studies, history, or English writing was taught. This is cheating them out of the education they deserve! My freshman's only regular instruction via zoom was from his jazz teacher, Mr. Switzer (thank you!!).</p> <p>Is there any accountability of the job teachers are doing?</p> <p>Shelter in place was reasonable for a month or two, but continuing throughout next year is unacceptable, especially if Pass/No Pass is implemented. During SIP there was very little motivation for teachers to teach, and little motivation for students to strive to do their best since they would only be receiving "pass". This is cheating our students of education, and cheating them of their future! This is not distance learning. This is for the most part teachers getting paid to relax at home!</p>
Shea, Ellen	Plans for 2020-2021	<p>Hello, It has been brought to my attention that there's a proposal for 100% online/at home learning for the upcoming school year. Obviously, everyone's health and safety is a priority, but there *must* be a way to accommodate some at school learning. The spring semester was a joke! I understand we were all caught off guard and unprepared for the pandemic, but we need to make adjustments for the new normal. The relationships that students, faculty and staff develop is vital. Our kids need interaction, connection and activity. Sitting at home in front of a computer for another semester- or year- will be devastating. Even if they are only on campus 2 days/week or if they have zoom classes with open discussions, it's better than a packet of work and a blind assignment on google classroom. I implore you to find a solution. We all miss school.</p>
Baisch, Cynthia	Kids need structure	<p>Kids need a sense of normalcy and structure in their lives. Their education is lagging, their mental and social health is being affected. At risk kids are disproportionately being affected because their services were hindered. Some students did not have WiFi</p> <p>Or computer access or an adequate space to study at home. I often wonder whether their technical issues were resolved or if they were able to concentrate or get any school work done at home because there was no room to study. We understand that this public health issue affects the whole community. But there needs to be a common ground for the safety of students and staff. We need to agree on compromise by having a combination of at school and distance learning. Thank you!</p>
McGlaughlin, Janice	2020-2021 school year	<p>100% distant learning does not work in high school. Although some teachers held up their end of the bargain and tried their best to teach under the given circumstances, others were nowhere to be found and the students learned nothing on those subjects. Why would we believe distant learning will be different for next school year? The rising seniors have already lost so much learning last semester due to SIP order. They need to be ready for college. How can they learn and continue with a good foundation if they do not have a normal school</p>

		<p>life next school year? We can not fail these students. They are our future. We need to give them all the tools they need in their last year of high school so they can be successful in their college years and beyond. We should not push these students out of the system and hope for the best. Please give all students their future and let them return to normal school life next year. Thank you.</p>
<p>Boldi, Armen</p>	<p>Open Up SUHSD for Full-Time Traditional Classroom Instruction</p>	<p>We support the total re-opening of SUHSD - students returning to school full-time, every day. Modified schedule with reduced teacher contact will only continue to hurt student education and futures. We will have two children in 9th and 10th grade at Carlmont who will suffer with no traditional classroom instruction.</p> <p>The teacher/student relationship is the most important factor in student education. Without personal daily contact with teachers, students are disconnected, unmotivated, and feel lost. They are glued to their computer screens all day long. This will have a direct impact on college acceptance rates as students will fall behind. Distance Learning does not meet student needs.</p> <p>Already students have suffered with months of limited instruction and no graded classes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There was minimal virtual classroom instruction. Daily virtual instruction did not occur during this past semester by nearly all teachers. Teachers did not respond to multiple emails. - Teachers assignments and assessments dropped off. We expect work evaluated and graded comprehensively for a letter grade. This is their job. - AP and honor classes must receive letter grades. Otherwise, there is no motivation to learn. Credit work is passing (C-level work) and there is no incentive for students to work hard to achieve A-level work. Many private and some public schools provide the option for graded classes. Grades are a key factor for college admissions (~50% of admission criteria). <p>Students who want to return to school full-time should be allowed. Students who feel they need to stay home should stay at home and be supported, but this minority should not dictate to the majority.</p> <p>We have no confidence in Distance Learning. Keeping students home is not the best solution for students. We expect traditional classroom instruction by teachers 5-days a week, every week.</p>
<p>Lucca Anthony</p>	<p>Fall 2020 school</p>	<p>These kids need to be back in class and out of their homes. They need to get back to their routines. Keeping them at home "distance learning" is harmful.</p>
<p>Stattenfiel d, Joshua</p>	<p>Distance learning</p>	<p>Almost all students that I have talked to, including myself would dread the return of distance learning. It is not true learning, it is simply busy work. I am going into my senior year, in math I am scheduled for ab calculus. If distance learning is put in place, I will force my councilor to change my schedule to stats because I feel that I will be unable to learn calculus properly at home. I can not explain to you how little I learned during the time of distance learning. If it continues next year, Carlmont students will be much further behind than students at other schools. Please take a step towards returning to real learning.</p>
<p>Braunstein, Noah</p>	<p>Going back to School</p>	<p>I am a student at Carlmont High School. I understand right now that a large reason the board and district want us to return to school at least part time, is to make sure that kids in special education and under-represented groups, are getting help. I hope to offer you some insight. I have an IEP plan and am in study skills. I have a lot of trouble with math, and in other subjects, it can take me awhile to understand some concepts and to practice them.</p>

		<p>I would like to tell you that I did not have trouble learning during distance learning. My teachers in academic subjects were very good at reaching out to me during the past three months, which speaks a lot of them since none of my teachers planned for distance learning. However, they learned to zoom, to record lessons, to use some really great online media sources, and how to best reach all of their students. My biology teacher met individually with every single student. When I personally struggled, my math teacher and biology teacher both spent individual zoom time with me. As the weeks went by, I saw my academic teachers get better at using online tools. At this time, I think some of the online tools and how they record and share their screens with us is really helpful - even better than some times we spend.</p> <p>In conclusion, it is better to skip through the trials and tribulations of temperature checks and excessive cleaning. Let's stay home and save lives. I don't want to become a statistic.</p>
Heist, Adrienne	Distance learning vs in person	<p>Please come back to school. Our students need you. We value the in person connection. Our children are young and impressionable and vulnerable. They need not only your academic expertise but support which they can get only from Seeing you face to face. You can lecture behind a mask or glass or from a distance. But nothing replaces personal interaction with you and with their classmates.</p> <p>We, as humans. are social beings. Children need adults as role models. They need each other to keep going to feel strong. We survive as a society because we belong together. These children are the next generation. They will live side by side with your own children. Please help them learn and grow and mature in a natural environment. Otherwise our hope for the future is gone.</p>
Chon, Jen	2030-21 School year	<p>Please do not opt for 100% distant learning. I have 2 students at WHS and they desperately want and need to go back to school and learn in a real classroom setting. Their courses are too difficult to learn on line and there are many precautionary measures both the kids and the teachers can take to avoid getting Covid19. As we're striving to teach our kids, please don't just take the most convenient way out! 100% distant learning is detrimental to our kids, academically, psychologically, emotionally and socially. My boys are anxious and highly stressed just thinking about another round of distant learning. We don't need to reinvent the wheels, we can look to other places like Norway, Taiwan, Germany and garner ideas as to how to safely reopen our schools.</p>
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<p>Stalder-Skarmout sos, Scott</p>	<p>14.1 COVID-19 Response Action Plan to Reopen Schools for the 2020-2021 Academic Year</p>	<p>I was dismayed to read the comments that families from mostly one sector of our community had submitted prior to the previous meeting. As a teacher with school age children, I have seen many sides of the distance learning and know that there is much more than meets the eye. Obviously, parents want their kids in school. It seems like the news cycle has turned from Covid-19 to Black Lives Matter and Racial injustice, but families haven't moved their focus to recognizing that their situation is not similar to families in North Fair Oaks, East Menlo Park, or East Palo Alto, and that all students need what is best for them. Advantaged students will continue to excel and students in "disadvantaged" areas, will continue to have extra challenges and not soon catch up.</p> <p>Please consider, not only the vocal and socio-economically powerful families' views and desires, but what would be best for all students and for their loving, caring, and passionate teachers. Included in that consideration, please also think of the teachers who are imuno-compromised, who care for infant and very young children, who care for elderly family members, and how your decisions coincide with the county and state needs, along with our specific community of learners and teachers.</p> <p>It would be great to hear a statement to the families reiterating your commitment to racial and socio-economic equity and not simply reacting to the squeaky wheel.</p> <p>I appreciate your time, effort, and dedication, now and always.</p>
<p>Baisch, Cynthia</p>	<p>Kids need structure</p>	<p>Kids need a sense of normalcy and structure in their lives. Their education is lagging, their mental and social health is being affected. At risk kids are disproportionately being affected because their services were hindered. Some students did not have WiFi</p> <p>Or computer access or an adequate space to study at home. I often wonder whether their technical issues were resolved or if they were able to concentrate or get any school work done at home because there was no room to study. We understand that this public health issue affects the whole community. But there needs to be a common ground for the safety of students and staff. We need to agree on compromise by having a combination of at school and distance learning. Thank you!</p>
<p>Turkis, Martin</p>	<p>Proposed hybrid schedules for Fall</p>	<p>It has been beyond disappointing to watch the board and district officials kowtow to the complaints of a group of vociferous parents (many likely quite privileged, to boot) and in so doing push to literally put as many lives on the line as they can get away with next fall, in order to keep up appearances.</p> <p>If one is paying attention, the U.S. has not even come out of the 1st wave of the pandemic yet, to say nothing of a possible 2nd wave, which would likely be compounded by the onset of next year's flu season.</p> <p>Consider that in places like Israel, hastily reopening schools has brought on a wave of new coronavirus infections among staff and students.</p> <p>Furthermore, as experienced classroom teachers like myself know, the hybrid model pushed for by the board is an unrealistic and unworkable (to say nothing of non-contractual) disaster in the making.</p> <p>Site administrators don't need to get more creative, as the board admonished at the last meeting. Rather the board members and district officials need to pull</p>

		<p>their heads out of the Trumpian clouds, where viruses spontaneously and miraculously cease to replicate in hosts, and deal with the realities at hand.</p> <p>The way to go is to implement fully functional distance learning, with some synchronous instruction, increased accountability, grades, etc. - vastly different from what we implemented on the fly this last semester.</p> <p>Distance learning is not ideal, but it is the best, safest option for everyone.</p>
Lana Greco	Re-entry to school in Fall 2020	If it is deemed safe by the SM County Health Department, I feel it is best for students to return to school physically 2x per week, following all safety protocols. I feel this is best for our children socially and academically.
Larios, Ellen	Kids need to go to school in Fall	My children need to be in school, I have an incoming Sophomore. I am opposed to "home schooling."
Hernacki, Brian	Return to school	I want to strongly advocate for a fall educational experience that includes some in person learning and, as needed, a far better online experience to what our children endured in the spring. Their education is a very high priority to us and a pure online form fell far short of what they need. Their futures are at stake here. As other schools across the country return to better learning, our children will fall behind if we do not. It's hard to believe we would prioritize schools behind opening restaurants, retail and hair salons. The state and county have been clear this is permitted. I believe the board should work to adapt to or remove whatever barriers prevent this in consideration of the clear direction of the community.
Holmes, Jennifer	10.1	It is imperative that our kids go back to school in the Fall. They need in-school learning for a variety of reasons including social, educational, mental health, and many more. My kids have suffered from distance learning or I should say the lack of learning. Other schools in other states and even in our state are going back. Our local kids will suffer. Let's get creative and make this work with health and safety measures in place.
Magallanes, Jessica	14.1 Fall Instruction/	I am a teacher and science department chair at Sequoia. There is no way we can offer students a rigorous and engaging science course in-person while also adhering to appropriate health guidelines. However, I am SURE that the science department and district science teams can and will provide relevant and engaging curriculum if we start the school year with the full distance model. It is insulting to see how little emphasis has been placed on teacher health and safety in these proposed plans for the fall. Even if we are on campus we will not be able to do any lab or group work activities. Students can participate in group work and lab simulations at home via distance learning. The best and only option is to start the year with full distance learning. I (and many others) will not be safe until there is a widely accessible vaccine.
Jacobson, Diane	Returning to school Fall 2020	I strongly support returning to in person school in the Fall. I am grateful and impressed with how SUHSD managed school in the Spring. I believe there is no substitute for in person learning. Face to face, or mask to mask as it may be, is the best way to ensure students are active and alert when learning. They are able to do hands on learning (e.g. labs, exercises) and ask questions and learn from other student's questions on the fly. And maybe most importantly, they are able to form stronger relationships with a group of smart, kind people who expect them to do their best, their teachers. I believe that the students will successfully follow the safety processes, whatever they may be, to keep the SUHSD community learning and educating safely.
Lip, Akiko	Back to school in fall	Please consider students returning to school this fall. My daughter has eating disorder and has been very difficult to control her urge as she is physically

		isolated from the world. My support to push kids back to school is not driven by data but rather watching how my own children have responded to SIP (I have three teenagers). I know my daughter is struggling and I'm sure there are a lot more of them.
Redmon, Kelly	6.1	When it comes to reopening schools this Fall with an equity lens, it is imperative that the schools have the necessary resources and they don't have to beg someone to get help. We also should not make sweeping decisions without including the people that are implementing any new procedures and practices. There's a reason for the experts at the district, it's to help guide the board in the decision making process. We also need to remember that the virus will continue to harm all populations, and we need a much easier way for everyone to get help when they need it.
Iglesias, Eva	Return to school	We all want our students to return to school and I appreciate how hard the teachers, the district, and the board are working towards this goal. In particular, I am proud that the issue of equity is of top concern. And I encourage the board to continue to look at avenues to close the gap between our diverse student community. My children want to go back to school too, but, unlike other students, they are equipped emotionally and technologically to learn from home for some more time. I suggest that the board give priority and more support to at-risk students in our efforts to return back to school. I have to hope that, if presented in the right way, families that do not have at risk students, will understand that it is our joint responsibility to care for all the youth in our community. Thank you.
zweiger, gary	distance learning and school opening	Please find a way to enable students and teachers to attend classes in person for as much time as possible
Berg, Natalie	20/21 School Year	Our kids need to get back to school! Masks have proven to be effective in reducing the spread of the virus...do we really know the data about positive cases/or increase of positive cases from the SUHSD community? I think we as parents should assume that risk and students and staff alike can take the necessary safety precautions to return to school!
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Ramroth, Karen	5.1 (Equity and School Reopening)	In terms of equity for, especially, our socioeconomically disadvantaged students: 1) Students may need to provide childcare for younger siblings or work in order to help support the family, which they would not be able to do under the hybrid model. 2) Socioeconomically disadvantaged Americans have been disproportionately affected by the negative effects of COVID. Asking a population that is disproportionately at risk to come back to school and assume more risk is not equitable. 3) Board members have cited research that students benefit from in-person teaching. While that is usually true, the teaching possible given the health guidelines is not the same teaching that helps our students. In-person teaching would be limited to lectures and supervised computer work, with students unable to interact in the ways we know are effective. 4) Distance learning allows me the time and resources to focus on and support my at-risk students in a way I wouldn't be able to while juggling the responsibilities a hybrid model requires. The ramifications of how the hybrid model will impact the time we have to give personalized attention to our students haven't been fully considered.

		<p>Most importantly, who is ensuring that the voices of these students and their families are being heard? There is a lot of conjecture about what is best for these students; however, I have heard very little from this group directly. If I am advocating for my students incorrectly or in opposition to what is best for them, it's important to know that, and I would ask that all parties consider the same when making their decisions.</p> <p>I wish this was over and we could be with our students. Unfortunately, the pandemic isn't over, and we have to do the best we can to support all our students until we can be safely and effectively together again.</p>
Ravella, Sarah	10.1	Send the kids back to school.
Braunstein, David	Equity Discussions	<p>I am a teacher in SUHSD and the parent of 2 Carlmont students this past year. I have committed 18 years to providing ALL students high quality education.</p> <p>I adapt curriculum for EL students, assessing their needs, and creatively making my lessons work for them. My son has learning disabilities and I observe his struggles, and how his teachers work to assist him.</p> <p>As you address an "equity lens to bolster student outcomes," I encourage you to not focus on "Where" this happens, but "What" is provided, and "How." There is tremendous focus on returning students to campus so ALL students can receive quality education. Unfortunately, given persisting health threats, returning kids to sites is not a panacea itself. The strategies we use with vulnerable populations, rely on 1:1 engagement, as well as inter-personal interactions. However, with social distancing requirements many of these strategies are ineffective and poor cost-benefit return.</p> <p>"Where" equitable education is provided is less important at present than "what" -- students need engaging/interactive instructional strategies. "How" this is best accomplished under present conditions, is through online capabilities. My colleague and I have been improving lessons, using screen sharing and interactive applications that allow more engaging interactions to ALL students, than can be provided in small social distanced clusters at school.</p> <p>After being limited by P/NP grading and restricted, non-mandatory teaching times, your frontline teachers feel set up for failure again with proposed hybrid models. Forcing us to develop lessons for small groups on campus while also attempting to teach effectively online, will constrain us from providing quality lessons equitably for ALL students. Limited resources means that spreading ourselves too thin by being focused on teaching on site and at home, will degrade our efficacy rather than allowing us to focus on quality, engaging, on-line lessons.</p>
Lee, Lena	Regarding the children if going back school at Fall	I do want the kids going back school even if 2 half days. I watched my kids not learning too much and not working during SIP in 21/2 months. I felt bad for the kids wasted too much time in that period. They also loss social skills. It was bad and sad for children. I think that they are looking forward to going back school sooner
Erskine, Camille	14.1	I am a teacher because I am dedicated to empowering all students of our community and to actively working to walk back some of the injustices that are harming our students as a result of the opportunity gap. However, a return to school in the fall will only perpetuate this issue. With the current guidelines, there would not be an opportunity for meaningful interaction between students. Why force our most vulnerable populations to return to a setting in which they can not do much more than attend lecture and complete individual work? In addition, to

		<p>make this system work, teachers would require microphones to amplify voices with use of a mask, increased cleaning measures. Students would need 1:1 chromebooks, increased resources to also reflect a 1:1 especially when it comes to lab classes, and much more. Additionally, all school community members would need availability of COVID testing. This pushes teachers and students alike (as well as those who they live with) who are at high risk of contracting COVID or of having intense complications into a situation that may threaten their lives, without much benefit. Not to mention that our most vulnerable populations tend to also represent the most vulnerable in terms of this disease--those who come from low income backgrounds, or are BI&POC. This actively and blatantly works AGAINST our goal of equity, and perpetuates injustice against these populations. If you go through in making this choice, you are catering to the needs of those in positions of privilege to be most heard, and ignoring and pushing away the voices of our most vulnerable. Please consider that everyone wants to be in the classroom in the fall, but it will mean putting lives at risk, which is not a compromise that those claiming to have the best interest of the community should feel comfortable making. Do not push teachers, students, and the larger school community members to enter a potentially life threatening working environment.</p>
Vanoncini, Katherine	Opening Schools for in person learning!	<p>Please allow students to attend school 5 days a week. Over 62% families want their kids to go to school, to Learn More, Families need kids to be at school, as many families cannot have a parent at home to help watch and keep kids safe. Teens should have structure and they can follow safety protocols if needed. For best supporting teens and families wellbeing, mental health, Emotionally, Socially, teens need to talk with and see peers and teachers, art instructors and coaches and counselors.</p>
Rubina Boldi	Please open schools full time Fall 2020-21	<p>We respectfully ask schools to re-open FULL TIME since during SIP there was minimal teaching from teachers, no assessment of student skill level or progress. Even when kids turned in assignments or tests, they were not graded and only "P" was placed for pass. Teachers did minimal or no teaching with zoom, and most would be social chats. If teachers know how to use zoom, then why were they not using zoom to do their usual daily instruction as they would if they were in class?</p> <p>I had one child in elementary, two in middle school, and one in high school, and I observed the same lack of teaching for all of them. Only exception was my two middle schoolers did receive regular math instruction, for which I am grateful (Ms. Frink, and Ms. Klinker). My freshman at Carlmont said Biology teacher did no teaching via zoom, and rarely gave any assignments. With four of my kids, little, if any, social studies, history, or English writing was taught. This is cheating them out of the education they deserve! My freshman's only regular instruction via zoom was from his jazz teacher, Mr. Switzer (thank you!!).</p> <p>Is there any accountability of the job teachers are doing?</p> <p>Shelter in place was reasonable for a month or two, but continuing throughout next year is unacceptable, especially if Pass/No Pass is implemented. During SIP there was very little motivation for teachers to teach, and little motivation for students to strive to do their best since they would only be receiving "pass". This is cheating our students of education, and cheating them of their future! This is not distance learning. This is for the most part teachers getting paid to relax at home!</p>
Cuschieri, Carla	Back to school in the fall - normal	<p>I would like to see our kids back in school full time. If full time is not an option I vote for at least 3 days face to face on campus for the families that are comfortable sending their kids to school. These kids cannot learn when they are basically teaching themselves at home. If teachers are not comfortable going back - consider plexiglass screens. Similar to what the grocery stores are doing</p>

		<p>and the kids can wipe down their areas like in kindergarten before going to their next class. There has to be more solutions than taking the easy route and not at least trying to make in class learning an option. Our kids need their education and socialization. Distance based learning in not a healthy option!</p> <p>Teachers are essential and so are our children's education and mental health! Normal Schedule for the Fall!!!</p>
Rubina Boldi	Please open schools full time Fall 2020-21	<p>We respectfully ask schools to re-open FULL TIME since during SIP there was minimal teaching from teachers, no assessment of student skill level or progress. Even when kids turned in assignments or tests, they were not graded and only "P" was placed for pass. Teachers did minimal or no teaching with zoom, and most would be social chats. If teachers know how to use zoom, then why were they not using zoom to do their usual daily instruction as they would if they were in class?</p> <p>I had one child in elementary, two in middle school, and one in high school, and I observed the same lack of teaching for all of them. Only exception was my two middle schoolers did receive regular math instruction, for which I am grateful (Ms. Frink, and Ms. Klinker). My freshman at Carlmont said Biology teacher did no teaching via zoom, and rarely gave any assignments. With four of my kids, little, if any, social studies, history, or English writing was taught. This is cheating them out of the education they deserve! My freshman's only regular instruction via zoom was from his jazz teacher, Mr. Switzer (thank you!!).</p> <p>Is there any accountability of the job teachers are doing?</p> <p>Shelter in place was reasonable for a month or two, but continuing throughout next year is unacceptable, especially if Pass/No Pass is implemented. During SIP there was very little motivation for teachers to teach, and little motivation for students to strive to do their best since they would only be receiving "pass". This is cheating our students of education, and cheating them of their future! This is not distance learning. This is for the most part teachers getting paid to relax at home!</p>
Cuschieri, Tom	Fall School Schedule	<p>This fall I would like to see our high schoolers get back to the classroom. I believe this is very important on many levels. Nothing beats going to a class and sitting and learning. Not to mention the extreme importance of interaction that takes place with teachers and students, electives, and sports. We can utilize precautions such as plexi-glass in front of teachers, daily health checks including temperatures and text blasting daily health questionnaires. We can also provide sanitizing stations throughout the school.</p>
Ravella, Sarah	10.1	Send the kids back to school.
Vanoncini, John	Distance Learning for fall semester	<p>I do not agree with distance learning for the fall semester. I think the more days the students are in face to face classes with their peers the better off it will be for them academically and socially. This is a critical time for their development into adulthood, and being separated from friends and mentors will have a life long negative effect psychologically for them. The educators and administrators know this too. Do the right thing and bring face to face instruction back for the fall semester.</p>
Vanoncini, John	Distance Learning for fall semester	<p>I do not agree with distance learning for the fall semester. I think the more days the students are in face to face classes with their peers the better off it will be for them academically and socially. This is a critical time for their development into adulthood, and being separated from friends and mentors will have a life long negative effect psychologically for them. The educators and administrators know this too. Do the right thing and bring face to face instruction back for the fall semester.</p>
Villagrand, Michelle	Fall return to school	<p>Our teenagers need to have in class/ on campus teaching in the fall. It is vital that they have the interactions and social contact that teenagers need for their</p>

		emotional well being, as well as face to face teaching that cannot be replicated online. The effects of social distancing will have a long term toll on teenagers mental health, and they need to be physically at school with their peers/ teachers to reduce loneliness, anxiety and stress.
Villagrand , Jack	Fall School Return	We need to go back to school. we can't sit at home to develop as humans. we have to go to school
Villagrand , Brett	Kids need to return to school full time	Kids need to return to school full time if not part time. Distance learning does not work. The overall benefits outweigh any potential risks if we plan accordingly by keeping social distance rules and face masks mandatory. Keep vulnerable populations safe by isolating from general population.
Villagrand , Brett	Kids need to return to school full time	Kids need to return to school full time if not part time. Distance learning does not work. The overall benefits outweigh any potential risks if we plan accordingly by keeping social distance rules and face masks mandatory. Keep vulnerable populations safe by isolating from general population.
Mueller, Kari	14.1	<p>I have spent hours pouring over COVID19 data and articles. Given what I've learned from the Department of Health from 12 top COVID19 states, our kids should be back on campus 100% this fall. Here are 3 groups to consider in how we successfully do this.</p> <p>Group 1: Students: With over 1-million positive cases across 12 states in the US, there have been 27 deaths for those <19 years of age. Young people are less likely to contract the infection, they are more likely to be asymptomatic/experience very mild conditions, and less likely to transmit the virus. The overall risk to kids under the age of 19 is less than the risk from influenza (<0.05% case fatality rate, see table below).</p> <p>Group 2: Teachers & Staff: With increased age comes increased risk for infection. However, we have learned these past 3 months that there are ways to protect and minimize the risk. We have also learned that underlying conditions (UC) play a very significant role. Looking at the same 12 states, with over 1M positive cases, the case fatality rate (e.g., deaths/tested positive cases) is 1.97% for those <70 years. According to the CDC, just 7% of COVID19 deaths were patients with no underlying condition. If you look at the case fatality rate and adjust for no underlying conditions, the rate is 0.06%, less than influenza. So for those Teachers and Staff that are healthy and under 70, in-person learning is incredibly low-risk (0.06%).</p> <p>Group 3 - Compromised: For this group, my recommendation is to video-conference that teacher into the classroom with students and an aide. If the person is a student or a student who resides with a person with an underlying condition, then allow the student to join in via the same video-conference option.</p> <p>6/19/20 Data from 12 States (NYC, MI,CA,CT,MN,IL,PA,TX,LA,MD,GA) <19 yrs Cases 55,231 and Deaths 27 Case Fatality Rate = 0.05%, CFR adj for no UC = 0.001% <70 yrs Cases 841,230 and Deaths 16,561 Case Fatality Rate = 1.97%, CFR adj for no UC= 0.06%</p>
Ravella, Sarah	10.1	Send the kids back to school.
Maria Luisa De Seta	Next Steps/Adjournment:	Based on the graphic displayed in the last Board meeting, it seemed like the answers to the survey about reopening the schools came mostly from the same demographic group and we assumed that the underrepresented groups (also the most socioeconomically disadvantaged and academically fragile) had the same needs and requests. However, when planning the reopening, we must consider

		<p>how the pandemic might affect different groups in different ways: if some of our students are needed at home to care for siblings or other family members (please, consider the plan to reopen preschools and elementary schools - which might affect staff as well), they might not be able to attend school regularly and if we do not provide also an online alternative, the gap might be even deeper.</p>
<p>McGlaughlin, Janice</p>	<p>2020-2021 school year</p>	<p>100% distant learning does not work in high school. Although some teachers held up their end of the bargain and tried their best to teach under the given circumstances, others were nowhere to be found and the students learned nothing on those subjects. Why would we believe distant learning will be different for next school year? The rising seniors have already lost so much learning last semester due to SIP order. They need to be ready for college. How can they learn and continue with a good foundation if they do not have a normal school life next school year? We can not fail these students. They are our future. We need to give them all the tools they need in their last year of high school so they can be successful in their college years and beyond. We should not push these students out of the system and hope for the best. Please give all students their future and let them return to normal school life next year. Thank you.</p>
<p>Schneider, Meredith</p>	<p>Fall High School Distance Learning</p>	<p>Students 100% at Home is Harmful. Do Not Mistake it as an alternative for an Education, Learning, and Development.</p> <p>Using technology at home for a long duration does not magically make up for what is lost from in person exchange of ideas. Students have suffered and will continue to suffer with long term negative impacts to the following: Education Mental Health Social Development</p> <p>Let's focus on keeping teachers safe. If medical staff can treat known infected patients, interact with them in a much more intimate way, and continue to do their jobs, then certainly teachers can do their job safely working with students at a 6 foot or more distance. Let's get the proper PPE to teachers.</p> <p>100% Distance Learning does enable teachers to stay away from students, just as prohibiting all future car driving prevents all car accidents and deaths. But banning all car driving is a similar solution that 100% distance learning is. Instead of prohibiting all car driving, we have modifications: speed limits, seat belts, etc. Let's protect the teachers with reasonable effective means and still provide an in person education.</p> <p>The evidence supports that outdoor activities are very low risk. Conduct more classes outside. This is California. Open air classrooms have taken place in far less fair weather places. Not all classes can go outside, but many can.</p> <p>Every other industry is coming up with modifications to continue. Industries with far more intimate interaction are getting back to business: dentists, hair salons, etc. 100% Distance Learning is not a modification. It is an abdication.</p> <p>I urge you to support an education for students and protection for teachers. Proper protocols and PPE for teachers in the classroom, especially if outdoors, does both. 100% distance learning does not.</p>
<p>Villagrand, Michelle</p>	<p>Fall return to school</p>	<p>Our teenagers need to have in class/ on campus teaching in the fall. It is vital that they have the interactions and social contact that teenagers need for their emotional well being, as well as face to face teaching that cannot be replicated online. The effects of social distancing will have a long term toll on teenagers</p>

		mental health, and they need to be physically at school with their peers/ teachers to reduce loneliness, anxiety and stress.
Drayer, Elizabeth	Distance Learning	When making your decision about what the 2020/21 school year will look like, please consider the needs and desires of the students who want to learn. If we can't have full-time in-class learning, you must consider the desire of the majority of respondents to have a hybrid model with some in-class time and some distance learning. The students want and need some time in class to coordinate with their teachers and other students. Also, with the distance learning, there needs to be a focus on "distance teaching". The teachers need to teach their students every day (either in-person or via zoom). Just assigning some on-line learning assignment or having the students watch on-line videos, as was done by many teachers in the spring semester, is not teaching and will impact the ability of thousands of students to achieve their full potential.
Lip, Akiko	Back to school in fall	Please consider students returning to school this fall. My daughter has eating disorder and has been very difficult to control her urge as she is physically isolated from the world. My support to push kids back to school is not driven by data but rather watching how my own children have responded to SIP (I have three teenagers). I know my daughter is struggling and I'm sure there are a lot more of them.
Drayer, Glenn	Distance Learning	<p>I am concerned with the continued debate about Distance Learning. Live instruction must be maximized to ensure equitable and quality learning. Such teaching is possible given the approaches taken by other districts and private schools.</p> <p>Continuation of the practices from the last school year are unacceptable as there was no "teaching" being done. My child was assigned reading and work, received no lectures or instruction, and left on her own. This "work" was not challenging and consumed 2 hours per day at most.</p> <p>If teachers are unwilling to perform this essential service, the Districts should use alternate teachers or provide me a refund for educational services NOT provided to aid in funding the transfer of my child to private school. Asking teachers to teach in classrooms and via readily available video technologies is not a burden and consistent with what is asked of employees of numerous industries.</p>
Klar, Elizabeth	Returning to school in fall	Given the low infection risk amongst children and the recent school experiences in other countries, I would think it is safe for our students to return to school and also engage in athletic activity this school year. Teachers could teach behind plexiglass rather than all students wearing masks etc. The Bay Area guidance seems stricter than even compared to other areas in California and I think the current plans will be very detrimental to their learning and emotional development.
Duarte, Ella	No Distance Learning	I am a student against distance learning and pass/ no pass system. I was on track to get 4.0 this semester with A in 7 classes, which no doubt already will effect my college applications. I did not get a proper education for the remaining semester and it will probably be the same again. This directly effects my future and is by no means fair. The education system is supposed to support students and this program does the opposite for all students, successful or not. Next year I'm planning on taking a variety of AP courses and these methods will stunt my learning abilities and success.
..	Distance Learning	Went very well, teachers were not prepared in the beginning, made it better later. Pass/No Pass did not work well as it does not allow higher working students to exceed.

Public Comment 6/22/20

Cooney, Emily	Distance Learning	Although I would love to back to school as much as anyone else, I believe the people complaining about continuing distanced learning are coming from a place of privilege as they may not be worrying about things such as money, rent, or jobs during these COVID-19 times. I believe that many people in our district are struggling to even eat dinner and don't need to added stress of school at the moment, therefor distance learning would be ideal since so many people are in such different socioeconomic places, although many people of privilege don't realize it.
Dunlevie, Lisa	Return to school	I am a parent of an incoming senior at M-A and feel strongly that the students must return to 100%/primarily in-class learning for their academic and emotional development. The case data supports students returning to school and to do otherwise is far more detrimental to students in this critical time, especially for seniors and juniors. We support reasonable safety measures to help prevent exposure, such as wearing masks and requiring hand sanitizing at each classroom entry and exit. I will adjust my own work hours and volunteer in a classroom to help a teacher with compromised immunity who may need to teach by video. Secondly, I am dismayed that while students, parents, non-teaching staff, district trustees, county and state officials, and the AFT president support in-class instruction, the Sequoia teachers' union is possibly given the stronger, yet minority voice, in making the decision against it. We must require the union collaborate with the district majority to work our way toward a solution that serves the students best with as much in-class instruction as possible. There are many parents who will help to make this happen; but if you go to 100% distance learning, you can watch the volunteer and financial support disappear. Let's work together as a community on this unprecedented challenge. We need communication and transparency with the union and we need the trustees and superintendent to listen to data and the majority to try to get the students into the classrooms. Please do not repeat taking the choice (and vote results) away from students and the majority (i.e. Superintendent Streshly's decision to only allow trustee voting on pass/fail and hold harmless when students and parents preferred choice or grades and voted for hold harmless). This goes against the principles of democracy and harms the students more than anyone else.
Carter, Avery	No distance learning	With distance learning last semester, I felt like I never completely learned anything the teachers were trying to teach and therefore I feel unprepared for my junior year. As well it is hard to find a quiet place to study because my whole family is home.
Panisset, Isabela	no distance learning!	I honestly really did not enjoy last semester's distance learning system. I found myself having trouble fully understanding a lot of the material due to the difficulty of communicating with instructors at given times and I know of people that turned to plagiarizing work to get it done rather than trying to do it just because it was so easy to. Additionally, the lack of socializing that comes with being at school drastically impacted me and doing the required work was more of an obligation and there wasn't any fun to it like there would be if I was at school. As soon as it's safe to do so, we should resort to going back and I would be very upset if the entire next year became online, and so would many others.
Tillier Lea	no distance learning	I don't think doing distance learning for this coming school year is the answer to our problem. As a student at Sequoia I feel the distance model is not affective as it consisted of mostly worksheets. I feel a better alternative would be to have students attend school in the fall but put in place distancing protocols such as wearing masks.
Smith, Julie	School in the fall of 2020	Students need to go back to school with classroom learning and sports—giving them back some degree of normalcy. They learn better in a class room with a teacher and peers present. They also need this for their mental health!! If restaurants and stores can serve the public then our schools can teach our kids!

Smith, Julie	School in the fall of 2020	Students need to go back to school with classroom learning and sports—giving them back some degree of normalcy. They learn better in a class room with a teacher and peers present. They also need this for their mental health!! If restaurants and stores can serve the public then our schools can teach our kids!
Smith, Michael	Fall 2020 High School	Kids need to be back in school and sports in the fall. There is no substitute for classroom teaching with teacher and peer interaction. Our kids need this for their mental health as well as their education. If the state can reopen restaurants, then the schools can reopen to educate our children!
Federighi, mark	Fall school opening	<p>As discussed in the last meeting, we have many reasons to get our children back to campus as much as possible. It was clear that after the last meeting, the 962 comments that were 99% in favor of getting back to campus should be the guiding light for the board to vote to get the kids back to campus. The board had the courage to ask the focus group to go back and figure out the way to maximize time on campus and that is the right call.</p> <p>Our kids are suffering mentally and physically from being at home. They are thirsting for structure and interaction with others in their class. We must do what's right for them and not capitulate to special interests or the unions. It was clear at the last meeting that the Union rep thought this board would rubber stamp the recommendation for distance learning in the fall vs maximization of on campus time.</p> <p>I recall the story the Carlmont math teacher shared last meeting. His student that raced to beat him to class who was engaged and curious beyond belief that went dark on him. When he called the parents to check in her, they told him she slept all day and was disengaged. That's a prime example of losing a student. It brought tears to my eyes when I listened to that story and I know there are many more just like it. The board has to be courageous and take charge and do what right for the kids. Dr Morris's June 15th note clears the way for the board to set their own direction. Let's do what's right and get these kids back to school before we lose any more.</p> <p>I also want to comment on the focus group. There were 88 people on the group and only 68 responses counted. What was strange to me was that of the 88, only 8 were students and only 4 of the 68 that were counted were students. It was no wonder why the results showed more prep time and teacher safety came out on top. Please ask the hard questions and don't be fooled by flawed results. This board is wise and I'm confident will do what's right.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
Lamperskii, Allison	Distance learning	Please have kids go back to campus as much as safely possible. They need to get back into routine and their education is getting compromised.
Reeder, Janina	Reopening schools	We would like to appeal to the board to allow some in-person learning at the high schools next year. The social and mental impact on our daughter has been devastating and we feel that onsite education is essential to our daughter's future and well-being. While there are risks associated with the disease, we feel that these do not justify denying our daughter an education. (Distance learning is not education in my opinion.) They only get to spend four years at High School and already lost half a year. No one knows how long the situation will be as it is and it is imperative that the generation affected by this gets to have a future. Distance learning has not been effective for us and keeping them home full-time will endanger not only their mental, but also their physical well-being due to inactivity.

Public Comment 6/22/20

<p>Wang, Carolyn</p>	<p>COVID-19 Response Action Plan to Reopen Schools for the 2020-2021 Academic Year</p>	<p>100% Distance Learning next fall will be very harmful for students. This semester, I was extremely disappointed by the lack of learning during the school closure. My teachers had very limited zooms and no personal instruction. Some didn't have a single Zoom, did not respond to Canvas discussions, and had only optional weekly assignments. The workload and content covered decreased drastically. By going to Pass/Fail many of my peers, even those in AP classes, stopped learning and putting in effort.</p> <p>Distance learning has proven to be disastrous during this short period. By extending it, the negative effects will only grow. Some classes like ASB and dance cannot be done without in-person collaboration and instruction. Language classes need discussion and practice with conversation. AP/Honors classes with complex concepts simply cannot be taught solely online.</p> <p>Distance learning also has negative effects on students' health. Many of my peers are isolated, upset, and lonely. Levels of stress have increased because of the lack of social interactions. I understand that there is a health risk to coming back to school, however, if we don't work towards a solution, we will never go back, and us students will continue to be left behind and failed.</p>
<p>Wang, Emma</p>	<p>COVID-19 Response Action Plan to Reopen Schools for the 2020-2021 Academic Year.</p>	<p>I really think that we should NOT have 100% online learning. Most teachers slacked off during the online learning last year. We changed from 1 assignment a day to 1 assignment a week. I had barely any zooms with my teachers. One of my teachers only checked in with the class twice the whole distance learning. As a student, having 100% online learning is really harmful to our social lives. Many of my friends seemed sad and anxious that we couldn't see each other. Having 100% online learning is detrimental to our learning and our mental health.</p>
<p>monzalvo evelyn</p>	<p>distance learning</p>	<p>i enjoyed distance learning because i could work at my own paste without feeling pressured and for people who have social anxiety like me i think it was really nice working by myself at home rather then working surrounded by people</p>
<p>Zhi, Jing</p>	<p>Plan to reopen schools in fall: please NO 100% distance learning</p>	<p>Continuing 100% distance learning in fall is NOT acceptable for our students for the sake of their mental health and quality of education. This will NOT be in the best interest of our students. While the rest of the world (many countries in Asia, Europe and Australia) have started to reopen their schools FULLY and other districts in the US plan to reopen their schools in fall and bring normalcy to students without harming public health, here in silicon valley the district is considering 100% distance learning. Can the district make an effort to learn from the other districts and other countries and do our best to provide the quality education our kids deserve? There are plenty of studies out there for re-opening school without jeopardizing public health. Will our kids continue to do distance learning until the vaccine is available which may take a few years? PLEASE PLEASE don't choose an easy way out or short term "solution" when encountering this challenging situation. Our kids only live their childhood once. I understand it would be different if they are allowed to go back to campus - more hygiene practices and symptoms check etc but at least they get to see and interact with their teachers and peers. Distance learning in the last 3 months at our schools has already proved a failure - little accountability from our teachers and school admins. As a result, the majority of students were checked out school earlier, especially after pass/fail grading was implemented. To be honest, I am extremely disappointed with the way the district to handle the pandemic situation.</p>

Waddell, Jenny	No 100% Distance Learning in Fall	Ask the board for on-campus, direct instruction as much as safely possible, with synchronous instruction for any times students or teachers need to be remote. This can be recorded for students who can't join at a specific time.
Steven Taylor	Returning to school	My perspective is that the risk of infection is not commensurate to the current return to school measures being presented. The distance learning experience this last semester was very poor and I don't have confidence it can be improved on much. Yes, teachers and staff health is important - and I still believe there are better options than the current ones for our student's well being and learning. I'm concerned the current approach will be half baked and not effective. Also look at other parts in California or the world - their measures are not as extreme. As an example I saw a CVS worker in Orange County sitting behind a ceiling to floor plastic curtain, effectively separating her from the shoppers, not wearing masks. Teachers could use something like that to be protected (with fresh air flow).
Cuschieri, Carla	Back to school in the fall - normal	I would like to see our kids back in school full time. If full time is not an option I vote for at least 3 days face to face on campus for the families that are comfortable sending their kids to school. These kids cannot learn when they are basically teaching themselves at home. If teachers are not comfortable going back - consider plexiglass screens. Similar to what the grocery stores are doing and the kids can wipe down their areas like in kindergarten before going to their next class. There has to be more solutions than taking the easy route and not at least trying to make in class learning an option. Our kids need their education and socialization. Distance based learning in not a healthy option! Teachers are essential and so are our children's education and mental health! Normal Schedule for the Fall!!!
Oakes-Hauf, Susan	Sequoia Union High School District, Instruction Style, 2020-21 school year	Our children need as much face to face, in person instruction as possible in the upcoming 2020-21 school year. COVID-19 has made education a huge challenge; we can all agree on that. Safety is critical, however our kids NEED at least some in-person face to face instruction. Many kids do better with hands on learning and many subjects demand it. We cannot continue to live our lives in total isolation. I am confident that, with the measures taken and ideas suggested, some face to face instruction can be accomplished safely. PLEASE don't isolate our children with 100% remote instruction.
Clavel, Ed	E-Learning vs. On-Site Student Learning	50/50 - a combination of e-learning and on-site is preferred. When on campus, have students stay in one classroom and for half a day.
Sichlinger, Brian	On Campus education	For the start of the school year, please allow on site education. i'm seeing my kids lose interest in schooling with distant learning, it is not working. most places of businesses are doing on site workplace with some changes, and this should be what the school is doing also
McKeon, Maggie	SUHSD Remote Learning not an option	Please read this article - https://www.yahoo.com/huffpost/the-first-data-on-covid-19-and-teens-mental-health-is-here-and-its-not-good-202153280.html?.tsrc=daily_mail&uh_test=1_02 Hello school-reopening committee. I hope you are all well and safe. I am writing to voice my concern about schools not opening with students on campus and attending classes. I understand these are un-precedented times and we all need to proceed with caution. However, I run by Highlands and every day I see pick up soccer games, softball/baseball practices, etc.. As well, San Mateo County has just re-opened bars ~ and our kids cannot got to school. Group settings of less than 50 are now allowed. Our kids can safely attend school while socially distancing and proper precautions in place.

Public Comment 6/22/20

		<p>I can only speak from my own experience but no school nor athletics has had an obvious deleterious impact on my daughter's mental well being. If bars, restaurants, hair saloons, churches, etc.. can open our kids should be able to attend school. From what my family experienced, learning from home was a disaster ~ and we live in a house where I work from home and can participate in the process. I worry even more about the kids whose parents have to work outside the home and maybe don't have access to adequate internet connections.</p> <p>Thanks for hearing my concerns and hopefully this can be resolved soon so our kids can get backing to some form of normalcy.</p>
Stattenfield, Jeannie	Distance learning	<p>The school district needs to do what is best for our students. Focus on having in person instruction for the core classes so the students can catch up after the lack of instruction in the spring. Students need to have engaging, mentally challenging curriculum. They need a schedule. They need consistency. They need in person learning.</p>
Kettwig, Jennifer	Education	<p>My daughter Claire Kettwig will be attending Carlmont in the fall. She is very excited to start this new chapter in her life. She has always excelled in school and had a horrible experience with distance learning. She shed many tears of frustration as the lessons were not organized and there were very few zoom lessons. Education BELONGS in the classroom, not through a computer screen. Claire also misses the social interaction with her teachers as she always developed positive relationships with her peers and teachers. I am very excited for her to start at Carlmont in the fall. Our children are our future and look forward to in school learning in the fall.</p>
matuzek, kathi	Return to school	<p>We would like on-campus, direct instruction as much as safely possible, with synchronous instruction for any times students or teachers need to be remote. This can be recorded for students who can't join at a specific time.</p>
Sarrail, Michelle	NO 100% Distance learning in the fall	<p>I am against 100% distance learning. Children, especially those who are in compromised living conditions and marginalized communities, are suffering the most by not having access to equitable learning environments. A hybrid model can work and be safe for all parties involved.</p>
Magner, Steve	Return to school in Fall	<p>I am in favor of returning to On Campus Learning. It is important for the kids to get back into the classroom with their peers and teachers</p>
Miller, Megan	Return to school/scheduling	<p>Please ensure our children are able to return to campus for in person learning. I respect the need for a safe, measured approach adopting the four pillars. We support that. However, we insist that in person instruction is critical and must be resumed to ensure the curriculum is delivered and absorbed appropriately by our students. Please don't let more months of learning loss occur that started in the spring. We would like to see our students come to campus for in person learning several times a week at least until it is safe to resume full time schooling. Note that anything less will result in a larger gap of inequity as families with more resources will hire tutors and families who can't, won't be able to.</p>
Kenyon, Cynthia	Remote Learning Detrimental to Students	<p>My son missed fundamental concepts in math due to distance learning. His math concepts were assessed by a private company because he voiced concerns over not understanding all the material during SIP. The private company reported that he has serious gaps in his most recent mathematics class (algebra 2/trig). It's hard to assess the other subjunctive but I'm concerned the same issue exists.</p>
Waddell, Ainsley	No 100% Distance Learning In The Fall	<p>Please board consider on-campus, direct instruction as much as safely possible, with synchronous instruction for any times students or teachers need to be remote. This can be recorded for students who can't join at a specific time.</p>

Paluska, Karen	Distance Learning	REMOTE LEARNING IS NOT WORKING. Our children's education, especially in high school, is way too important for us to sacrifice an entire year to remote learning. My child is a good student, but even he struggled over the past few months with remote learning. Even in classes where he used to excel, such as math, his grades dropped because he could no longer follow the concepts. Of his 6 classes, none of them (NOT ONE, out of SIX!) ever had a SINGLE instructional class by video conference. Video meeting were only used as supplements, as a time to answer questions. To learn the content, kids were expected to watch videos and read things to essentially teach themselves. We know that our kids are not prepared to teach themselves subjects like Algebra 3 or Chemistry—this is why we're sending them to school in the first place. Of course, kids who don't learn as easily are put at an even stronger disadvantage when they need to teach themselves a complicated subject. Remote learning has not been the equivalent to in-person teaching, and we can not continue along this path and expect our children to thrive.
Tang, Eva	Public comment	The board needs to consider that with the rising amount of new cases per day in California and with the reopening of businesses contributing to this rise, reopening schools in the fall will lead to an eventual exposure of students and staff to COVID-19. Regardless of bubble groups or small cohorts, this will lead to mass exposure as staff interact with other staff. We will need to shut down again, anyway. We're wasting time talking about reopening when we could be training teachers to engage students more fruitfully in distance learning when everyone can be safe at home.
Wagner, Lisa	COVID-19 Response Action Plan to Reopen Schools for the 2020-2021 Academic Year.	In addition to being a parent of a SUHSD student, I am a faculty member at a local university and we are struggling with the same issues that SUHSD faces. We need to manage risk with COVID-19 to reduce the harm to all groups. A one-size fits all (everything online or everything in person) will harm too many students/faculty/staff. Please work to have as much in-person education as safely possible. Science labs and hands-on arts (ceramics, culinary, wood shop) are all things that must be in person and yet can be safely done with social distancing and masking. Now is the time to think outside of the box and assess what must be done in person (e.g., science labs), what can safely be done in person (e.g., working through math problems in small groups), and what can effectively be done online (synchronous discussion with relatively small groups) and some limited asynchronous lectures (limited to 20 minutes at a time with quizzes/short assignments following each segment). Only through working together (faculty/students/administration/families) can we maximize both education and health and safety.
Peccei, Jasmin	Reopening school	We implore you to please start fall with a hybrid model. 100% distance learning is not beneficial to our students academically, socially, and mental health wise. Thank you for listening to your students.
Wagner, Todd	School schedule next year	We would strongly encourage the school board to have in-person schooling next year. This is very important for the academic growth of the kids. The issue of safety should be weighed, of course, but there are a number of options that preserve the ability to have some synchronous, in person education.
Fort merrick	Distanced learning	I believe that committing to a full distanced learning schedule would not be beneficial for most students at carlmont, it is harder to learn new material and this will be even harder coming into a new year rather than an end of one
Wagner, Jessica	Online in the Fall	Hi, I'm a rising sophomore at Sequoia. I completely understand all that you're taking into consideration when determining whether or not we'll be online in the fall. My mom is a professor, and I've been watching her go through the same challenges. I urge you, however, to reconsider your decision. Sequoia's arts and hands-on activities such as the woodshop or ceramics are unmatched in the district. I would be absolutely crushed if I never got to try them out. While some

		classes can be taught entirely online, others require the physical presence of being there. Please, please, please make some classes in person. If we're completely online, motivation goes down, and learning goes with it. I value the health and safety of all students and staff greatly, but didn't I come to Sequoia to get a good education?
Velasquez, Irene	Back to School Learning	I am a parent of an rising senior and feel that some amount of on-campus learning is necessary to meet my child's education needs. Being in the classroom gives him a healthier environment with which to engage with the teacher and with the content being taught. He doesn't get this level of engagement and focus when learning is 100% virtual and at home where he is not monitored. Also, there is a social and emotional benefit to being exposed to his peers in class and on campus. Last, I feel that the faculty has honed their skills for in-person teaching and this is when they are most effective. In contrast, there hasn't been time to adequately train faculty on how to be effective teachers in a virtual class environment. I also haven't seen any research that prove teens can be taught effectively and/or learn in a purely distance learning environment. Absent this data and training for our faculty, I think the right thing to do by our students is to have a minimal amount of on-campus learning.
Do, Khoi	Back to School	Our rising senior at Carlmont has not had a good experience with remote learning. His feedback is that many of the teachers are just assigning homework but that there is much less teaching going on. This has not been an effective learning approach. If his last year of high school will be conducted only with remote learning, we feel he would be better off taking classes elsewhere. Other school districts have been able to figure this out and have some in person classes and some remote learning. Why should our students be disadvantaged compared to the experience of students in surrounding districts?
Joshi,Rajesh	School Fall re-opening	We would like an in-person class for our child. Not all kids are equally motivated to work from home and we experience that with both our kids during this lockdown. Also, subjects that require lab (Sciences) or other hands-on experience such as Music cannot be replicated at home setting. We also feel that not all teachers are equally trained or equipped to successfully teach online. Parents are either not equipped to tackle higher complex class subjects or not have extra time or resources to help out. I hope the board will consider other alternatives to 100% distance learning.
Almgren, Melissa	Fall 2020	As a Sequoia Union High School District parent, I am extremely concerned about the possibility of 100% remote learning this fall. It's become clear that the quality of teaching/learning is dramatically reduced and the kids are really suffering from the lack of interaction with their peers and their teachers. While I certainly appreciate the very important task of making it safe for students, staff, and teachers to return to campus, I would hope that the teachers and administrators also value our concern for the social and emotional well-being of these teenagers. To that end, I would hope that consideration is given to some sort of hybrid approach as well.
Whittaker, Cara	On Campus for the Fall!	Please consider our choice for on-campus, direct instruction as much as safely possible, with synchronous instruction for any times students or teachers need to be remote. This can be recorded for students who can't join at a specific time.
Stattenfield, Jeannie	Distance learning	The school district needs to do what is best for our students. Focus on having in person instruction for the core classes so the students can catch up after the lack of instruction in the spring. Students need to have engaging, mentally challenging curriculum. They need a schedule. They need consistency. They need in person learning.

Crum, Kirsten	High school opening in the Fall	Students gain so much from seeing teachers in person. They are motivated to complete assignments and work hard when they can look the teacher in the eye. The same is true of seeing peers. Some part of school needs to be in person this fall or it will not be meaningful. Give our students a chance for in person instruction- they deserve it!
Stiefel, Sarah	Plan to Reopen Schools 2020-2021	I am concerned that a plan that calls for 100% distance learning in school year 2020-2021 will adversely impact students like my child who requires specialized academic instruction in order to access the curriculum. Like most students, my child also has social/emotional needs that distance learning cannot adequately support. I implore the Board of Trustees to carefully consider the need that many students have for in-person learning, particularly when meeting their new teachers and being presented with new concepts/material. Please develop a hybrid plan that will safely allow students to return to campus with as much consistency as possible. Thank you kindly.
Downs, Laura	Fall Instruction	I understand the teacher union is pushing for 100% online instruction next year. I STRONGLY support having instruction in the fall be a hybrid of online AND on-campus learning - something similar to the Phase 3 proposal. With strict safety rules, there is no reason this can't be a great solution. There are many compelling reasons to have at least partial on-campus schooling (as outlined in the June 10th recommendation document), but for me the strongest is that complete social isolation for another semester will have terrible mental health consequences both short- and long-term for our kids. Thank you.
Zoe Dovydaits	Distance Learning	It is important to me that the schools have at least modified schedules as opposed to 100% online learning for the whole year. As a rising Junior at Sequoia, I'm worried about my IB classes. I came to Sequoia for an education. Not to be homeschooled. I understand we want to be careful, but I believe there is a way to keep our distance and still learn. Please consider. Thank you.
Goodman, Rebecca	Instruction for the fall semester	As a parent of a rising freshman and a rising senior, I am advocating for thoughtful, intentional in-class instruction. Students' emotional and physical well-being is very much at risk with continues distance learning. I was a teacher for a long time. I have put myself in their shoes when considering my position. It is imperative that teachers and students put on protective gear, and that the district figures out a creative solution to getting teachers and students back in the classroom this fall.
Peoples, Valerie	June 22 board mtg	<p>We are the parents of an incoming Woodside 9th grader and are very distressed by the prospect of 100% asynchronous distance learning. Based on our experience last year and our discussion with many Woodside High School families, this model does not work well at all. It significantly compromises student learning, motivation and mental health. It is our sincere hope that the district will be able to come up with a SYNCHRONOUS HYBRID MODEL.</p> <p>We believe STRONGLY that a synchronous learning model is essential to true learning. Ideally this would involve some time on campus (socially distanced and with masks) and hope the district can find a way to do that! But in the event that some portion of the year needs to be completely off campus, it is essential to have learning stay SYNCHRONOUS with live classes via Zoom (or some other video platform). Ideally the classes would be taped as well since the inevitable connection issues will often require students to watch classes asynchronously. But PLEASE make an effort for synchronous/live video learning! We were truly shocked at the drop in motivation we saw in our own child (normally an A student) once asynchronous distance learning started last year.</p> <p>Thank you SO MUCH for all your efforts on our children's behalf.</p>

Stattenfield, Kevin	Fall 2020 Semester planning	<p>We have 2 Carlmont students (2021&2022). We have discussed the options for schooling for next year & how this past Spring “distance learning” went. We feel strongly that there needs to be a significant portion of “in school” learning for next year for various reasons (academically, socially, emotionally,...) & it would be very detrimental to start out the next year fully “remote learning”. We understand the challenges & balance needed to keep everyone safe (facemasks, social distancing, cleaning, arranging co-hort schedules...), but still believe strongly that the advantages of “in school” learning outweigh the disadvantages. We believe that the best option is a “hybrid” approach with some “in school” & “distance learning”. We believe that at least 50% of the time the students need to be “in school” learning. This past Spring 2020, fully remote teaching was ineffective. As part of the planning for Fall, it is CRITICAL that the SUHSD develop detailed planning/training for the teachers. At the last board mtg discussion, there was TOO MUCH focus on “remote learning” & not enough progress on how to implement the hybrid approach. In my work with teams all over the world, we have joint meetings with people “on-site” as well as remote on Zoom. Something similar to this model is how the Fall semester could be taught by the teachers. There are “online whiteboards” used with Zoom so a teacher, could teach half the class in the classroom while simultaneously having the other half listening on the SAME exact class lesson. In this way, the teaching approach would be similar to how teachers taught in the classroom prior to Covid-19 & would not require additional teacher prep time for lessons. Teachers could teach each of their classes 4 times a week using a similar schedule & lesson plan). In addition, we feel strongly that a hybrid approach with co-hort groups should be focused primarily on the CORE academic subjects (Math, Science, English, & History) with electives more remote. Thank you.</p>
Marc Arnold	High School education plan for fall	<p>Please do not consider 100% distance learning to start the year. From going through it the last 3 1/2 months, it's very clear this method is failing our students. Please put students first with a high school start on campus. 10 years from now as these kids are trying to start careers, we don't want people saying, oh these are the ignorant covid generation that couldn't get an education</p>
Crum, Kirsten	High school opening in the Fall	<p>Students gain so much from seeing teachers in person. They are motivated to complete assignments and work hard when they can look the teacher in the eye. The same is true of seeing peers. Some part of school needs to be in person this fall or it will not be meaningful. Give our students a chance for in person instruction- they deserve it!</p>
Breen, Michele	Returning to school in the fall	<p>As a member of the Health and Safety committee of the AOTF, I have spent weeks researching health updates and policies. Our subcommittee has consolidated the best practices from many resources to create a guideline for the new safety protocols for school. I am sad that the task force has been disbanded and our work disregarded. Our subcommittee believes that we should focus on our student's education by committing to distance learning in the fall and phase in a gradual return to the classroom once safety protocols can be ENSURED. It is the board's responsibility to ensure that all students and all staff are safe. You are asking us to run before we can even start to crawl. Our focus in the classroom will be on social distancing, sanitizing and mask usage rather than quality instruction. The board should not concede to a few vocal families who are demanding a return to a status quo that puts the health and safety of the entire school community at risk. At the last board meeting we were also asked to BE BRAVE. I ask the board to be BRAVE and make sure that we are not rushing back to school without resources and a clear plan for safety.</p>
Wall, Wendy	Distance learning	<p>Please seriously consider as much in-person, direct learning as possible for students, while still making school safe. For those who do not feel comfortable, please consider making synchronous instruction available.</p>

<p>Dutta, Debolina</p>	<p>Fall 2020 school plan</p>	<p>As a parent of two students I understand the strong desire to send our kids back to school ASAP. However, knowing what I know as a teacher, it will be irresponsible to return to the classroom in the fall of 2020. Currently, there are no clearly laid plans to ensure the safety of students and staff. How are classrooms going to be cleaned between classes? Are there touchless hand sanitation stations in each classroom, office and all spaces? How are rooms going to be disinfected daily? How will students be mandated to keep 6 feet distance at all times? What about bathroom use? How will face coverings be managed? What are the equitable and non-racist measures used to address consequences of a student refusing to wear a mask or wash hands? How will materials be supplied to students? There are countless other questions that have not been addressed. Until we have a solid plan for safety that is vetted by the parent and staff community, it is irresponsible to return to school at all. We don't want the epidemic to hit home.</p>
<p>Dutta, Debolin</p>	<p>Covid and restrooms</p>	<p>Additional information regarding the concerns of the spread of NCovid19 and restrooms: https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/2020/06/could-flushing-public-toilet-plume-spread-coronavirus-cvd/?cmpid=org=ngp::mc=crm-email::src=ngp::cmp=editorial::add=SpecialEdition_20200619&rid=5B9CE5E736E43B9AF29A8389CE46A64B</p>
<p>Baird, Travis</p>	<p>Please let us learn at school this fall</p>	<p>Please let us come back to school this fall. We need to be in class with out teachers as that is the best way to learn. I have an IEP, I learn best when I am at school with my teachers and I have access to my accommodations. Trying to learn on line last spring was very hard and it was hard to get my accommodations. My teachers did they best they could this spring, but it is not the same as learning from them at school and I am afraid I will not do well this year if we have at home school again. We will wear masks, wash hands, take temperatures...whatever you need us to do, but please let us come back to school. Thank you.</p>