

**COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 46  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
JANUARY 13, 2020**

<b><i>Call To Order and Roll Call</i></b>	<p>The Regular Board of Education Meeting of the Community Consolidated School District 46, Lake County, Illinois was held Remotely on <b>January 13, 2020</b></p> <p>Vice President Mack called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.  <b>Members Present:</b> Jim Weidman, Stephen Mack, Kristy Braden, Jason Lacroix, Kristy Miller, Tamika Nash, and Steven Strack.  <b>Members absent: None.</b>  <b>Also Present:</b> Superintendent, Dr. Lynn Glickman, Assistant Superintendent, Paul Louis.  Jim Weidman left the meeting at 8:30 and returned at 8:42.  Jim Weidman left the meeting at 9:58 and did not return.</p>
<b><i>Establishment of Quorum</i></b>	<b>A quorum was established.</b>
<b><i>Approval of Agenda</i></b>	<p>Vice President Mack requested a motion for the approval of the <b>January 13, 2020</b> Board Meeting Agenda as presented.  Motioned by Miller and seconded by Lacroix for the approval of the agenda as presented.  <b>Yeas:</b> Miller, Strack, Mack, Weidman, Braden, Lacroix, and Nash.  <b>Nays:</b> None.  <b>Motion carried.</b></p>
<b><i>Public Comment</i></b>	Please see the comments attached to the minutes.
<b><i>Board Member Reports</i></b>	None.
<b><i>Superintendent Report</i></b>	<p>Mr. Chris Wolk, Director of Human Resources, reported that on January 5th the PE teachers hosted their first remote Family Fitness Night. Over 50 families across the district participated.</p> <p>Dr. Stephanie Diaz, Director of EL, shared an update on the English Assessment-ACCESS, which has been postponed until March 15th.</p> <p>Dr. Lynn Glickman shared information regarding a collaboration between Lake County school districts to provide Covid 19</p>

	<p>vaccines for school staff. The hope is that vaccinations would begin the first week of February.</p> <p>Dr. Glickman also talked about the ESSER II Funding from the Federal Government. The allocation for our school district is approximately \$953,000. The district is awaiting further information on what the funds can be used for.</p>
<b>Committee Reports</b>	<p>Community Engagement Committee- The committee discussed specific school priorities and the Avon Food Pantry. Mrs. Kristy Miller thanked the community volunteers for their strong commitment.</p>
<b>Consent Agenda</b>	<p>Vice President Mack requested a motion for the approval of the consent agenda including the personnel addendums follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes from the following meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• December 16, 2020 Regular Meeting</li> <li>• December 16, 2020 Closed Session Meeting</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Personnel Report</li> <li>• FOIA Review</li> <li>• Exception Report as presented</li> <li>• Accounts Payable as presented</li> <li>• December 2020 – Treasurer Report</li> <li>• December 2020 – Student Activity Treasurer Report</li> <li>• December 2020 – Imprest Treasurer Report</li> <li>• December 2020 – Flex Treasurer Report</li> <li>• December 2020 – Budget Report Expenses</li> <li>• December 2020 – Budget Report Revenues</li> <li>• December 2020 – Expenditure Multi-Year Variance Report</li> <li>• December 2020 – Revenue Multi-Year Variance Report</li> <li>• December 2020 – Expense by Object</li> <li>• December 2020 – Student Activity – Monthly Activity</li> </ul> <p>Motioned by Braden and seconded by Miller for the approval of the consent agenda including the personnel addendum as presented.</p> <p><b>Yeas:</b> Braden, Nash, Lacroix, Strack, Miller, and Mack.</p> <p><b>Nays:</b> None.</p> <p><b>Motion carried.</b></p>
<b>Action Items</b>	<p>Vice President Mack requested a motion for the approval of the termination of employment for Jordan Schwamb as an employee</p>

	<p>of the School District, effective immediately.</p> <p>Motioned by Lacroix and seconded by Nash for the approval of the termination of employment for Jordan Schwamb as an employee of the School District, effective immediately.</p> <p><b>Yeas:</b> Miller, Mack, nash, Braden, Lacroix, and Strack.</p> <p><b>Nays:</b> None.</p> <p><b>Motion carried.</b></p>
<b>Unfinished Business</b>	<p><b>Hybrid Plan update-</b> Dr. Glickman shared the proposed Hybrid Plan timeline and explained in detail the changes in guidance on the Lake County School Decision Dashboard. Each Board member was then given time to express their thoughts on moving forward with the proposed timeline. The outcome was a 4-3 Poll in favor of delaying the start of the Hybrid Plan until February 16th. This delay would allow time for staff to get vaccinated before returning.</p> <p><b>Strategic Planning update-</b> The committee will be comprised of administrators, staff members, Board members, parents/guardians, and community members. The first meeting will be held remotely on Wednesday, January 20th.</p>
<b>New Business</b>	None.
<b>Topics for Future Agenda Items</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Preliminary Staffing Plan</li> <li>•Student Fees</li> <li>•2021-22 Calendar</li> <li>•Assistant Superintendent of Finance</li> </ul>
<b>Adjournment</b>	<p>There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, it was motioned by Braden and seconded by Nash for the adjournment of the January 13, 2021 board meeting at 10:08 p.m.</p> <p><b>Yeas:</b> Lacroix, Nash, Miller, Mack, Strack, and Braden.</p> <p><b>Nays:</b> None.</p> <p><b>Motion carried.</b></p>

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Jim Weidman, Board President

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Kristy Braden, Board Secretary

### **Public Comments**

What happens when we have teachers choose NOT to take the vaccine? That is THE reality of THE situation. Not matter when we return, Covid is not going away. We need to start dealing with it, instead of running from it. All other districts are being proactive, while we sit here going back and forth! As someone said there is already another variant, so we have to figure it and return to in person. Public schools ARE not set up to support virtual learning long term.

D46

Parent

Hybrid

Sue	Murrow		<p>1) If we are going to be compared to other schools/districts, then please compare plans as well. 2) It's not about whether to protect teachers, it's about protecting the community. 3) Not all jobs are the same and don't all include such close contact. 4) Grayslake teachers are still doing our jobs, we are just doing it differently as many others are. 5) I haven't heard much about mitigation efforts such as air purifiers. I would like to hear about that.</p>
			<p>Covid is a potentially deadly, life altering disease. Scientists learn more every day as to the possible potential effects. Recent studies show an increase in hospitalizations in children (<a href="https://www.usnews.com/news/health-news/articles/2021-01-12/more-than-5-300-pediatric-hospitalizations-for-covid-in-22-states-study-shows?fbclid=IwAR11-DxM0DC9AJFuYr-LZLA0joY8i3TsUZIWKprPuli9OV1aNqB5MDK1B5k">https://www.usnews.com/news/health-news/articles/2021-01-12/more-than-5-300-pediatric-hospitalizations-for-covid-in-22-states-study-shows?fbclid=IwAR11-DxM0DC9AJFuYr-LZLA0joY8i3TsUZIWKprPuli9OV1aNqB5MDK1B5k</a>). WHY are we in a hurry to return to school when our numbers are so high? Are we that undervalued as teachers that it does not matter if we suffer long term effects or die? Does the community feel that those who want to return regardless of numbers should have the choice to decide about MY safety and well being? In the interest of everyone's health and so that decisions can be trusted by the majority it would be good to be certain the latest science is duly considered.</p>
Michele	McCall	Returning Hybrid	
Woodview Mom	Woodview Mom	We need the CHOICE for hybrid.	<p>Today, I learned that 21 of the 26 school districts have returned to school. Grayslake is not one of them. How is it safe for 81% of districts in lake County but not D46. We need to find a way to move forward. Enough is enough. The fear mongering has to stop. We cannot stay in remote learning indefinitely.</p>
C	D	Hybrid	<p>There have been several comments about what other districts are doing. I think we need to think about the saying we have all heard and used. "If they jumped off a cliff should you" We need to think and worry about ourselves and what is the smartest/safest route to take. Not what others are doing or what is the easiest. This is about LIFE AND DEATH!!</p>

D 46 Staff  
Member

Staff are forced to work with young children in an unsafe environment. You cannot compare school to the grocery store. If you don't comply with the rules you can be denied access to the store. No one wants to deny access to children. Yet, how do we handle when children cannot or do not comply with social distancing and mask wearing? How is it reasonable for staff and their families to count on young children complying with the safety measures? How can staff trust that families will not send their children to school sick as has happened pre-pandemic. Staff AND THEIR FAMILIES are at significant risk. Allow staff to be vaccinated so that we don't have to choose between keeping ourselves and our families safe or losing our jobs.

To our D46 school board,

I wanted to take a few minutes to sit down to share my thoughts as a parent and as a business leader in this community. You have the opportunity to make a decision tomorrow that will be in the best interest for our school community. A decision to begin the safe transition to bring our students back to the classroom. Please vote to move forward with the hybrid learning plan.

As a parent of three, I can see how hybrid learning impacts my kids differently. My daughter, a sophomore at Grayslake Central, is excited to safely return to GCHS two days a week starting next week. D127 has effectively communicated with the parents and students throughout this process and have committed to returning to school. For parents with children in both districts, the stark contrast in communication and trust is measurable.

My youngest kids have publicly declared that they will be better off dropping out of school and getting jobs (with their 5th grade and 8th grade educations) than to continue remote learning. They are not engaged, hate the slow pace of remote learning, and have developed a great disdain toward school despite their teachers' (and their parents) best efforts. Obviously, I have high standards for my children and dropping out of school is not an option. But at the heart of their complaints is the truth. Online school has become something they loathe.

I can only imagine my boys reactions when I tell them the school board failed them by keeping them in remote learning. Adding to their (and our) disappointment would be the knowing that neighboring schools are in session, private schools have successfully managed in person learning this entire year, and their cousins and friends have been in school in other states, nearby counties, and one town over.

I implore you to BE LEADERS. You were elected to this board not as union representatives, but as our children's advocates. You need to have their best interest at heart. Beginning hybrid learning (even in the limited capacity you are suggesting) is the necessary next step.

It's time for  
our kids to  
return to  
schools

Jamie

Hering

Please look at the COVID incidence rates (which are exceptionally low per 100,000 people) and know that our kids will wear their masks, wash their hands, and remain a safe social distance from their peers. They just want to be back in school.

As a real estate professional, I have been contacted by many families looking to move to nearby towns where in-person learning is being offered. They have lost faith that the D46 school board will do what is right for their students. You have an opportunity tonight to regain the trust of our parents and children.

Please vote to begin hybrid learning in February and prove that you truly have our children's best interest at heart.

Thank you,

Jamie Hering

Concerned  
D46 parent

We all can probably agree that we want to resume normal life. We have been out of in person learning for a long time. Why can't we allow staff the ability to get vaccinations to keep themselves, their families and OUR CHILDREN as safe as possible? Why would a few more weeks be worth taking such health risks, especially with the Lake County numbers rising to highest risk levels? Don't be short sighted. Please!

Fellow

Teacher

in person  
learning

I am a teacher in another district in Lake County that was open this fall. We served lunch. We had not one single case of COVID. Not. One. Case. Please stop using lunch as an excuse. Please stop using the vaccine as an excuse. As someone who has lived through it as a teacher, please know that it will be ok. You will be socially distanced. I felt at a much higher risk getting groceries than I ever did in the school building. You will be fine.



I would like to remind the board that while we understand that there are some staff members and parents that do not feel it is safe to go back yet and their reasons behind it, there are many in our community especially many parents that have not had a choice either to go to work. They need to go to provide for their family. I would like to know that those who are fearful to go back because of the spikes, are they truly just staying home and not going anywhere? Are they going to the grocery store or did they go shopping for Christmas gifts? There are going to be risks everywhere.

I truly believe that the benefits of returning to school, as many in prominent positions who run our country believe, outweigh the risks at this time. This was supposed to be temporary while the board and district figured out how to get our kids back in to the school safely. We have had plenty of time to figure this out.

Also keep in mind that during this whole time we as parents have not had any choice and have had to figure out how to work elearning into our schedules and lives and it has had a major impact for parents who have either one or two working parents. Why are we not given a choice? We really need to get moving like other districts in our area to figure out how to get our kids back in school. If not, I am aware of many parents who will be moving out of our district and/or sending their kids to other schools which will take money from this district.

Lastly, I would love for the board to share what they have been doing with the money they have received from the government in reference to COVID. Can we not use that money to make sure proper safety is in place for returning to school? Can we not make sure that money is used to beef up technology so that our teachers can teach to the kids and class and online in a better way?

Concerned Meadowview	Parent	Returning to school
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Thank you.

Amy	M	hybrid
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A teacher said the Lake County Health Department metrics were in the "Highest Risk" category. I'd like to point out only 1 of 3 metrics in the that category. The other two categories are listed in the "moderate to low." Please look at all the data completely. Not just one in isolation.

			Are teachers concerned about getting the vaccine before starting or are they concerned about having to teach the full class period now? If they return they won't be able to stop class early to go and help their own child. They won't be able to get up and get the cookies out of the oven. They won't be able to go for walks in the middle of the day around the neighborhood. They won't be able to stop class to clean up after their dog. I can see why a vaccine is a good smoke screen for what they won't be able to do anymore. If this wasn't happening, I wouldn't be able to so easily provide so many examples.
frustrated	parent	remote learning or not	
			I don't think my first comment made it through: A teacher and another said we are in the "highest risk" category. There are 3 categories. The other two are in the "low/moderate" category. Please look at all data. Not just one part
Amy	M	hybrid	
			Teachers are essential workers and should be expected to return as are all other essential workers. Most teachers I have spoken to realize and respect this and are willing to return with the proper safety measure in place. How is it okay for Grayslake High Schools to return, but not elementary, especially K-2 where transmission is negligible? We need and deserve a solid explanation for this.
Woodview Mom	Woodview Mom	Teachers are essential workers	

Hearing the people who are saying teachers need to go in, they have probably have not had COVID. It was literally the worse thing I have ever had to deal with, and I now have permanent damage to my lungs because someone did not take this virus seriously, and I caught it from work. I do not want anyone to have to go through that. Do people realize how much children like to move and do not listen to protocols during regular times?

Will families actually follow the procedures and CDC guidelines as they like to keep bringing up and not leave the state and not hang around other people that are not in their households. Virtual learning is the safest thing right now! Will the school district be providing desk shields for every teacher, assistant, and child's desks? What about recess? Children cannot take their masks off and stay 6 feet away from their friends.

There are so many unanswered questions that they have not given answers to. If you cannot provide a solution to every problem someone has about the new safety plans, then the students should not go back. How would you and your child feel if you were the reason their teacher caught COVID and then the teacher or someone in their family died. I would not want that on my conscience.

Lauren

Manso

Board  
meeting

Not having the district's students in classroom at all thus far this year is beyond disappointing. The district and board has completely let down a community and failed its most valuable residents, our children. More districts than not both in Lake County and the balance of the state have children in the class room where they belong. Basic and reasonable safety precautions, even less than those proposed by the district, significantly reduce the risk of spread.

At this point in the pandemic when so much has been learned and so many examples have been set by other school districts and other industries it is embarrassing and wrong to not only not be in school already but not even have a plan and schedule for our students to return to school. Virtual learning is a temporary solution not a long term solution. While the academic aspect of school is often cited during debates about virtual learning or returning to a class room the social aspect of what kids gain by seeing their friends and teachers is rarely discussed.

Students need social interaction with each other and their teachers. It is time to open the schools and let students back into school where they belong. Many of us choose to reside in Grayslake because of our school districts. We expect our school district to lead other districts not follow them. Fortunately, in this instance, we have the ability and opportunity to follow other districts examples and bring our children back into the class room. This decision should be based on the children and children only and they deserve, need and want to be in their classrooms. Make the right decision for the children.

We love your kids. A lot. We want to be back with them, so badly. But we've gone this far with the idea of keeping everyone safe, and everyone should include teachers, staff, and administration. We're a month(ish) away from reaching that goal. Why stop when the finish line is in sight? Because we feel peer pressure from others to do what they're doing? ...The exact thing we teach kids to avoid. If we return at this point, the whole thing will be for not. When I'm vaccinated, I'll be the first one back in the building - smiling from ear to ear, but I know staff returning without it will cause enough anxiety that they will not be the support the students need. Choice is so important. The staff hasn't been given one. If you respect teachers as

WV Parent

of Two

Back to  
School

D46

Teacher

Hybrid  
Return

			<p>much as we've heard over these last 9 months, please hear us now... LET US BE VACCINATED BEFORE RETURN!!!</p>
concerned	parent	hybrid learning	<p>We are very concerned about hybrid learning. Our kids will need to remain remote for health reasons and will be directly and adversely affected by adding hybrid schooling. Hybrid teaching is much more complicated. Attentions will be split and quality of education will go down for both groups.</p> <p>I am trying to understand why any teacher, administrator, and staff in this district would be anymore important than all the other people who have to go into work, since COVID began. If my husband decided not to go in, due to COVID, he would be let go. As is for many others. Teaching is a job as any other job, which requires the employees to be onsite, to be successful at their jobs.</p>
Parent	In d46	Hybrid Plan	<p>If other schools can start in person than our district can too.</p> <p>Our children need to be back in school. There are 26 K-8 schools in Lake County. 21 of the districts have already been back and have concrete plans set in place. There is no reason at this point our kids cannot go back to school. Schools all over the county are succeeding at this. Catholic and private schools are as well. My child's teacher told us this week she cannot handle 20+ kids on zoom at once. She has requested help.</p> <p>My 4th grader was broken into reading groups and she was going over blends and a, e, l, o, u in 4th grade. She watches a movie at the end of the day in class on most days. Constantly says to me she's bored and can't take this anymore. My 3rd grader has asked me if he can just quit. His teacher recently emailed me on his lack of focus and suggested seeing a pediatrician. Seriously? He doesn't want to focus because he's 8 and sitting in front of a computer for 6.5 hrs a day. Do you do that as an adult at work? How can you expect our children to do this every single day? Open the schools. Give us a choice to send our kids back</p>
Stacy	Michael	In person learning	

I am writing tonight regarding the plan to reopen schools in Grayslake. As a mother of an incoming kindergartener, and a teacher who has been teaching in a school that has been fully in person since August, I'd like you to move forward with a transparent plan to reopen all schools in Grayslake in the next couple of weeks.

I teach at Oak Grove School in Green Oaks, and although I realize opening one school building is different than opening several, I want you to know it can be done safely and effectively. We, too, had staff feel uneasy at first, but with strong and confident leadership, we felt prepared and supported. Children are thriving, parents are thankful, and teachers are happy with the outcome. I feel my students are learning just as much as they would any other year, and not just academically, but we have been able to support their social emotional health in the midst of a global pandemic. Mitigation practices in place, Oak Grove has been a safe place to teach and learn. It is time Grayslake schools take the leap of faith and follow suit.

This school year aside, I am nervous about the lack of a clear reopening plan in enrolling my daughter for kindergarten in the fall. In all honesty, I am ready to enroll her in private kindergarten just so I know she will have a consistent place to attend each day. This isn't how I envisioned starting my kids in school when I made the choice to move to Grayslake.

When I moved here several years ago, I had high hopes for this community and school district. Please do what is right, and vote to make sure schools open and stay open. It has and can be done.

As Larry David famously quoted, compromise is when both parties are equally dissatisfied. As of now, it seems that only one side is dissatisfied, and that's the hundreds of families who have not been given the choice to send their children to school in Grayslake. Let's equal the compromise and open the doors to allow our children a chance to learn and thrive.

Alexa

Dunn

Reopening  
of school

			<p>Given the vaccination timeline with staff possibly being vaccinated in early February, there would be 95% immunity at approximately 6 weeks out from that. Therefore, I urge the board to consider the health and safety of its' staff, students and families and delay opening until that time. The nature of the work in a school with staff spending several hours a day with children in small classrooms and cafeterias who do often do not have the best self care (washing hands, touching face/mask for example), puts staff and students at an additional level of risk not present in other occupations. I ask the board members and community to think if they would be comfortable going back to their offices and cubicles to work if not absolutely necessary? Those settings are much less likely to harbor viruses than a school full of children. If not, then why are we being asked to do so? I appreciate the boards' concern for the dedicated employees of D46 in regards to this matter. We all know, from the daily news, this is a matter of life and death.</p>
Susan K.	D46 PSRP	see comment below	
GMS	Parent	hybrid	<p>I hear a lot of teachers from the comments being afraid of the virus. Science has shown that children are not major spreaders. Then teachers should only be concerned about other teachers... cannot they not be trusted to wear their masks and remain distanced from one another? It isn't our children that are posing the risk. If you behave as you are expected, as our children are expected to, you should be face. Just follow directions. Follow the science.</p>
teaching	family	hybrid learning	<p>Please consider the safety of the teachers - both their physical and emotional health. They are working so hard. They are working harder than they ever have. They are not just sitting at home! They are inventing new ways to teach and communicate with the students. Teachers are also not islands. They have families and kids and other people to consider. They did not enter into this profession with the thought that they would be putting their lives at risk (like first responders do). Teachers deserve a choice.</p>

Frederick	Staff Member	returning to work hybrid	<p>As I have listened to the comments past and present along with seeing social media posts about returning to school Hybrid, many community members think the teachers do not want to go back. We actually do want to return to school in a way that is safe for us, your children, and all the families involved. Going back now is putting us all at risk. We cannot keep comparing our district to others, we do not know their specifics. One being, are they putting their staff at a higher risk by offering lunch and the possibility of cross contamination! To say that our district and teachers have failed your students is unfair. To say that we do not do our jobs is unfair. We are all working very hard to help make your children succeed in the most difficult of times. Thank you for your time.</p>
			<p>In recent days we have learned two things:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. School service personnel, whose work with students often requires close proximity and can be inhibited by masks, have been moved up to Tier 1a for vaccination by Cook County (I have not heard confirmation about Lake). Teachers are close behind in Tier 1b state-wide.</li> <li>2. According to a New York Times article, effective mitigation measures for the original Covid strain may not be effective with the new strain that has begun to spread in the US.</li> </ol>
Kristin	Roy Heupel	Remote/hybrid learning	<p>Given that we've made it this far with remote learning and immunizations for staff are just around the corner, it seems reasonable to hold off on bringing teachers and students back in the buildings for a few more weeks while we wait for the infection rate to decrease or until teachers have had the opportunity to be immunized. We should all be able to find a few more weeks of patience in the interest of the well-being of our teachers, students, and their families.</p>



Kristin	Kenny	return to hybrid	<p>Please consider voting to return to hybrid learning. We have had ample time to be able to implement safe strategies for return. I have been working in person face to face with the public (masked of course) in a healthcare setting and we have not had any patient to employee transmission occur due to our stringent policies. We can do this. Plenty of area schools have shown how successful returns can occur. Children need to see other children, even if masked and distanced, and return to an in school experience (yes, even if this is still on computers). Families can choose to remain remote. As for teachers, I full support their hard work, however as I have been working out of the house, I know it is POSSIBLE TO REMAIN SAFE. I had no option if I wanted to keep my job. I think teachers can do this, and I encourage the district to push forward with an option for families.</p> <p>Its been close to 300 days since our kids have stepped front in school. Last week IL experienced the "lowest positivity" rate since Nov 1. No holiday spike, no flu. The governor is expected to open up things up on Friday but Grayslake Public Schools are not safe enough to open. Sports are safe but not schools. I think you, the board and Dr Glickman need to think about that. Last I looked we don't have a bubble around Grayslake. I'm sorry but there is risk in everything we do everyday, for example cutting an apple or driving a car. We take steps to minimize the likelihood of something bad occurring. We the parents that want in person deserve a choice like the parents that want to stay remote. Why does this board continue to silence the 60% of the community that voted for this in August. A Choice, is what we are asking for and this group needs to listen and take action. Yes, teacher safe is very important as is kids safety and all staff as well. Schools are a safe place, research and data continue to support and prove this . What about the teachers that want to go back, they exist in this town? Do they not get a voice!! I urge you to vote Yes for in person. The data, science, Dr Facui, CDC all agree kids should be back in school, why is Grayslake different</p>
Meadowview Mom	X	Hybrid	

Concerned	Citizen	Remote vs Hybrid	<p>I just want to point out a few things...d127 students will not be having lunch at school so the teachers will not have to deal with students without masks, d46 teachers will have to deal with students not having masks for snack time and lunch. Retail workers do not have to deal with patrons without masks plus they have plexiglass between themselves &amp; patrons, d46 teachers will not have plexi plus will have students without masks. A lot of districts that have gone back have split the day am &amp; pm so students will not eat at school, d46 is not choosing that. The majority of the other essential workers don't have to deal with maskless people PLUS the healthcare workers now have been able to receive the vaccine. With all of that being said I want to also add that healthcare workers, especially ER doctors have been working with covid since the beginning and it comes down to wear a mask, stay 6 feet away, don't touch your face &amp; wash your hands!!! Please stay safe everyone with whatever is decided!</p> <p>I appreciate what our school has achieved during remote learning. They are doing their best in these difficult times.</p> <p>But my children are not thriving. It is a struggle, as we all know. I realize everyone has different circumstances for what is best for their family. I implore our board to give families and staff a CHOICE.</p>
Lauren	A	Hybrid	<p>There are 21 out of 26 k-8 school districts in Lake County that have already been in person, or have concrete plans to return immediately.</p> <p>Based on the current timeline for vaccinations, it makes the most sense to push back the hybrid start to at least after Spring Break. It doesn't seem worth it to put everyone at risk now, when we're so close to having all staff vaccinated against COVID-19.</p>
Shannon	Sparks	Hybrid plan	<p>Thank you to the board and staff. I can't help but be very concerned about the emotional health of our students going back in a hybrid capacity - seeing their friends but not being able to give a hug, eat together, or even see each other's faces in class. Worse, if everything shuts down again. The trauma might not be visible, but it's there - we all want to get back, but at what cost?</p>
Deanna	Gannon	reopening	

Beth	Diviacchi	Going back to school	<p>21 out of 26 districts in Lake county are either back in school or have solid plans to return this month. To not offer the choice to go back in a hybrid fashion is unacceptable. It has proven that it can be done safely. Not sure what the hold up is in their district and what the continued resistance is?</p> <p>Please remember that you are voting for the entire community. The kids deserve a choice to be back in school. Just as the teachers, nurses, and the Target employees have a choice. They can choose to work or not. Sorry, that is reality, a lot of people do not have the option to work remote. Then perhaps you have to make that hard decision to look at other employment opportunities. Some of our children are falling further and further behind. It's crazy that the private school down the road has been operating full in person since August. I am getting the feeling that this district wants those of us who want in person to disenroll and attend private schools.</p>
Woodview	First grade mom	Hybrid schools	<p>First, I appreciate all the efforts of the Board, the Union and Dr. Glickman in this unique time and the lengthy discussions that I am sure they have had recently. In response to the comments about teachers, paraprofessionals and therapists not wanting to return to work, I know that speaking for myself, is the furthest from accurate. I am working harder than ever and I have enjoyed this chosen career for over 30 years. Returning to onsite would be an easier teaching model.</p> <p>My question revolves around the ECC program. At one time we had a plan of action which minimized contact and proximity of staff and students. We were informed today that it has been changed and the new change increases the potential proximity and interactions with staff. Therefore increasing the potential opportunities for exposure. Does this seem counterproductive to the previous plan? Thank you again for hearing my concerns.</p>
James	Fry	Earlier comments/ Hybrid Plan in regards to ECC	

Since the day our schools went to remote learning, students have not received the instruction, support, and experience that they deserve and are lawfully entitled to. I submit to you that the adults that have been making decisions regarding our children's education have fallen woefully short of providing our students with the education experience that they deserve. The adults here have failed the children, and the children suffer as a result.

When I hear teachers speaking out against returning to school, my reaction is that they have repeatedly demonstrated that they are unable to properly educate in a remote setting. They cannot continue to teach remotely because it simply does not work. They've proven it themselves, and it needs to end today.

Other school districts are able to offer in-person or some sort of in-person options. Why can't D46?! Honestly at this point it would only be fair to stop promising something you're not planning on following through. Just say you're not planning on

We need a CHOICE! opening the schools for in-person learning so the parents can start looking for other options...

Helpless

Parent

school

Anna

Carcani

I'm extremely saddened to hear the responses from teachers, and staff at the 5:30 public forum. I've asked this before and I will ask it again... What about the kids? Are you going to commit that 100% of ALL teachers and staff are going to be FULLY and 100% vaccinated? No! This is impossible! Impossible even for those in the most critical fields; Healthcare workers, first responders. Or should I say restaurant workers, grocery store clerks, and your local barista because there is no problem interacting with them on a daily basis, but yet you want to distance yourself from OUR children. The children you took an oath to educate!

I know these views are not representative of ALL teachers and staff of D46. To those who are fighting for choice, I thank you and appreciate you more than you will ever know. For those who are constantly pushing back on returning to the classroom, you might want to look at your most recent contract. You might want to think about how lucky you are to be part of D46 who has allowed you the convenience to be remote this entire time. Last time I checked you have the option to put in for a leave of absence if you are not able to return to work. Teaching was and never will be a full time remote position.

To the board and superintendent, I encourage you to look at the mess you caused by postponing this as long as you have. The precedent you are setting! The privilege that your staff and educators are displaying; what makes teachers more special than any other profession that has been forced to return to work, or has been working through the pandemic? Teachers, we rallied behind you when you were striking! We value you! But if you can't see how critical CHOICE is at this crucial junction, than as you said "don't return" to your position! As the CDC states, "It is critical for schools to open as safely and as quickly as possible for in-person learning". Now is the TIME!

Barbara

Pinc

Hybrid

			Chicago public schools have been supported by the department of public health in their return to school, which started immediately after the holidays. I understand how its easy for CPS to have the backing of the department of public health because they are one unit. Lake County has providing GUIDANCE (I repeat guidance) NOT directives so that each school can choose what's best for their communities. I ask, how is D46 worse than the city of Chicago?
barbara	Pinc	Vote for Hybrid	Our surrounding communities have committed to in person learning, why can't D46? Even D127 is brining their students back. How can we justify in person learning for our oldest students who are more mobile in the community and disregard the needs of our most critical learners.
D46	Parent	Go Hybrid	If we are still denying choice, then the board and superintendent needs to be held accountable! Accountable to the kids they are failing! I know that we are already registered at a private school for the fall. I anticipate many other families will follow suit, given the waitlists this year for many schools. Sad that those teachers earn a fraction of the salary of our D46 teachers, and schools operate without federal funding, yet they are the ones serving our community!
CCSD 46	Community Member	Hybrid	Let's not grow COVID weary! I want to encourage us to persevere as we are so very close to being 95% safe with the double vaccine. Continue to keep our community safe and well especially with the current highest risk of transmission in schools for our district's zip code. Thank you!
	community members who have said that it is time for our teachers to		In the earlier special meeting I was disheartened to hear several community members say that since many employees in other fields have been working since the pandemic began it is high time for our teachers to get back to work. I felt compelled to point out that our district teachers have been working tirelessly since the beginning of the school year to make sure our children are still receiving a solid education. Yes things look different, but I know our district teachers have been working long hours to learn new ways of implementing curriculum and that they are giving their all to make this remote learning as successful as it can be.
Megan	Willhite	"get back to work"	I am grateful for all the teachers have done and will continue to do, and I think it is extremely important to take their health and

			<p>safety into account as this decision is made.</p> <p>Thank you to the board and administration for not making this decision lightly.</p> <p>I would like to hear a discussion on what percentage of normal learning the district thinks the students are receiving remotely. In our house we think it's 75% at best, and for K that is taken from starting at 50%. We love our teachers and we know they are doing the best they can with the situation. This is not a comment on the quality of teaching, but on the situation that our kids are forced to deal with. When the majority of other schools in the county are offering some version of in-person schooling, how can we ask our children to accept something less when the risk of COVID transmission from children to others is so low? Dr. Fauci has said that the default position should be to have kids in schools. Let's follow his advice.</p>
Joanne	Wakeman	in person learning	<p>If teachers and staff are required to be "in person," will board members be required to be "in person" for board meetings? I think they should be, as it would be a sign of unity with our district employees.</p>
Stephanie	Arnopolin	Board members	
		Hybrid learning planning	<p>Have all of the teachers and staff working in the district 46 schools been allowed to vote on returning to on campus learning activities?</p>
Blake	Pavelich		
			<p>There is no perfect scenario. The vaccine is not 100% guarantee of safety. Nothing is, and that is life. Board members please consider all members of the community you represent all us, this is about given all a Choice!</p>
Middle School	Parent	In person in school	
concerned teacher	xxx	return to school	<p>Students were not sent home from the safe center when they did not follow procedure, why should we believe they will be made to comply at school?</p>

First of all, I want to say thank you to Dr. Glickman for all of your hard work, time and dedication to the safety, well-being and education of all the staff and students in our district. You have spent countless hours researching, creating plans and communicating to the community. Your efforts and hard work haven't gone unnoticed, so THANK YOU!

To the board, I am emailing you to please allow district 46 to roll out the hybrid learning model at the end of this month/beginning of February. Students are more successful inside the classroom where they get the structure, in person assistance and care that they need. The survey that was sent out allowed every parent the OPTION for hybrid or remote. The parents that chose remote have had far too loud of a voice in our community and I am asking that you consider those of us that elected the hybrid model to help guide your decision.

I am an educator (21 yrs.) and the school district I work in has been following the hybrid model this entire school year. I have been teaching in my building every day since school started in August, following the safety guidelines set by the ISBE/IDOH/CDC, and we have had very few Covid positive cases. Schools all over the Chicagoland area are returning their students to the building and it is time for D46 to do the same.

I moved to this area so that my children would receive a quality education. I also have voted for all of you to be on the school board in hopes that you would make decisions that are best for students in this district, and you have failed our children this school year! IT IS TIME TO GET KIDS IN THE CLASSROOM!

Thank you and I look forward to sending my children to their school in the next few weeks.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Mertins

After having a family member pass away from Covid in October, I am extremely anxious to go back to work with the numbers still high and no vaccinations. Please reconsider.

Jen

Mertins

Hybrid  
Learning  
-YES

Anxious

Staff  
member



			My son is in first grade at Woodview. He has always been very social and has always loved going to daycare, preschool, and kindergarten.
Concerned	Parent	Start Hybrid	When remote learning began he stuck through it and did what he was suppose to. The last several months we have had a consistent argument every morning that he hates school and doesn't want to listen today. A first grader hates school! We need to start in person now!
			As a district teacher, we should never be forced to put our lives in danger. Especially when cases are going up and teachers have not been vaccinated yet. Please wait for cases to go down and teachers to get their second vaccination. Teachers are terrified to go back as a whole for themselves, their family, and their students, and this is not okay. Teachers have had zero choice or say in this, and this affects us and our families health, and that is not ok. If the board can't even meet in person, why should school go back in person? Teachers have been working hard and succeeding at teaching our students. When things are going well, why can't we wait till cases are down instead of going back when cases are rising. Then it would not have made sense to do remote learning at all this entire year if we end up going back while cases are spiking. Please wait till metrics go down and teachers are vaccinated. Thank you.
Teacher	In District	in person or remote learning	
D46 teacher	D46 teacher	parent comments	As a dedicated D46 teacher, I am completely shocked and saddened by some of the comments being made about teachers. My colleagues and I have never worked harder in our lives. We cannot wait to SAFELY return to the classroom and our students and certainly do not use vaccines as a smoke screen to stay working from home. I have never felt more insulted or undervalued.

Up until this time, I have felt that the school board has taken our entire community and our safety to heart. These are not excuses. It might be ok. It might not. I have heard from other teachers in other districts about the amazing stress of teaching in person, remote and hybrid at the same time. We are all over stressed.

All of this remote teaching has had a major impact on everyone.

Our custodial staff is not so great at cleaning on a regular basis, how are they going to ensure that everything is cleaned and disinfected in a Covid world?

It does not matter what other districts do, look at what is right. Teachers are working harder than ever.

I have been teaching for a long time, I know how hard we are all working. Let's wait to get a vaccine. Parents send students to school sick, how are we going to make sure we are safe each day? I have had Covid, I have lost a family member, my daughter has had Covid. It is not good. Perhaps teachers will just leave the profession to stay safe.

I am so proud of all that we have done with our students. All we are doing is just changing our location. Teaching and learning is not changing. The small number of students that are returning will now just be in school in masks, behind their computer.

I hate that this has become an argument and divisive.

We love our students and care for them more than you can ever know!

Why is Grayslake not as Safe as the City of Chicago!

I would like to thank our teachers for working so hard and making this work. It is not great, but we are in a groove. We talk about consistency in learning. How is going back in the middle of the trimester a good choice?

I agree with other comments saying that teachers are essential workers. I'm sorry but if someone is concerned about their health, they need to either stay home and work remotely or find a different job like all of us - other essential workers. I'm tired of hearing excuses that you're trying to keep everyone safe. Other districts found the way to work through the same situation, why d46 cannot?? Let the teachers and kids with health issues stay remote, and the ones who want to send kids back - do it!

CHOICE is what you're not giving us and what we desperately

grateful d46 teacher	grateful d46 teacher	hybrid
Amy	Mclester	Hybrid
d46 parent	parent	thank you
Concerned	Parent	Coming back

need!

Inquiring	Dad	Hybrid learning	What is the % of teachers that do not want to return? The community deserves to know.
			Our schools need to return and be open in person. Please vote in this manner. Those quoting science to keep our kids from
Concerned	Parent	Back to full in person.	learning, have not been looking at the actual medial studies. Please move forward.