

Social emotional well being of students and staff, as well as staff safety at a high priority.
I hope that the school can find some way for students to go back even if it's part time. I think being out has created a lot of anxiety about going back and if it's safe to do so even at a part time basis that would be best.
I think that the remote learning should be teachers teaching lessons live (i.e. Math at 10am, Reading at 12pm, etc). My children had a lot of difficulty with self -directed learning.
Wearing masks for the whole school day would be a very bad option.
Google classroom was a nightmare. If we have to teach remotely and it is set up like it previously was I will look for other options for my children.
If the school year is going to be 100% remote, were in trouble. Psychologically and educationally speaking.
It's been enough. Kids need to go to school without any restrictions.
If you must do hybrid, please don't do half days. They are impossible for working parents. Please consider siblings on coordinating schedules.
I'm pretty uncomfortable with in-person, but my husband and I both work and it would be challenging to be entirely remote. It would be greatly appreciated if we could learn as soon as possible what the schools will do so we have as much time as possible to plan for our child and family needs
My child will participate in whatever plan the district selects at the time of opening. However, based on the 2019-2020 school year, full in person learning is best for my child and I will be sending her each day for live in person instruction. The benefits of in person instruction outweigh the risks, when considering her mental health and education as a whole.
Please have a plan in place for 100% remote learning. If COVID comes back and schools need to be again closed, it should be a smooth transition this time.
Social development is critical and I am in support of in class learning. These kids were too couped up, and as it is they're starting to hang out around town together, if they can all bike and hang out at McDonald's, they can go to school.
Increase communication from teachers as to expectations and assignments. Was always questioning why my student was done in an hour per day?
Making children wear masks and stay away from each other is crazy
Teachers need PD. Parents need time to plan. For both of these to happen effectively, the district needs to make a decision sooner rather than later, and then all parties involved can plan accordingly. Time is of the essence.
Enough remote learning bulls**t kids need to be kids and go to school and learn and be with their friends.
Teachers need to decide if they are essential workers or not essential workers. Essential workers go to work, manage the risks, and do the best they can. That is what essential workers have been doing for months. Are teachers essential workers or not? If not, consider what that means for your profession.
As parents we have been working from home with minimal outside contact. I don't know how we feel about sending our only child into an environment that could be dangerous to our entire family. I think our choices will depend on the number of cases in MA at the start of school.
Children with IEPs are not properly being addressed. There has to be more communication from the teachers to the parents. Nothing felt structured and it was like pulling teeth to get a 1st grade teacher to do TWO zoom classroom meetings. If school is hybrid or online there HAS to be more face to face time
If the teams are only meeting via zoom calls to discuss opening because it is not safe for them to be in a room together, why are we even considering sending our kids in to the school to be in a room together? As a parent of multiple children in different schools, it would be very beneficial to know what the district has planned sooner rather than later so we can plan with our employers what we will be doing. Please send out a plan as soon as possible.
I believe that our children's' health should be considered as number one importance.
One of my children has a disability and IEP and remote services are not sufficient.
Please allow children to go to school
While I do not agree with in-person schooling at this time, if it was the only choice that the district was offering, I would send my child to school. However, I hope that a remote option is offered.
The remote or hybrid plan needs to be more substantive than what was provided in the spring. Students need to be held accountable for participating and completing work. Students need to interact with the teacher and other students on a daily basis. Students on IEP plans need regular meetings and parents need direct information about that schedule.
Teachers need training. The remote learning organization and implementation was a disaster. I'll call that crisis learning and hope remote learning (as necessary) is much more effective.
My child associates the remote learning with easy and not challenging. The teachers have a big task to engage students and provide a range of assignments in this new platform. I ask that the quality of the curriculum "moves the needle" more on the child's educational development.
Air quality indoors is my biggest concern. I prefer remote learning but teachers need to actually teach. There was zero instruction in the spring. Do better.
If needed, my child could potentially walk or bike to school if there is greater safety along the road (especially Route 62- Thomas Prince School).
In person interaction is vital to child development. We should open our schools FOR the health and we'll being of our children. Furthermore, all data around COVID19 has children in the lowest risk categories. Additionally, all current clinical studies point to zero increased contagious spread from a child to an adult. Lastly, if we keep our schools open with the annually influenza infection (which kills thousands of children annually) we most certainly should open our schools for this infection.
Consistent daily schedules for all children In a family unit if hybrid ends up being the decision. If my high schooler is not home on same days I will have no one to care for my younger children while I am at work. I understand what a difficult situation this is.
I would like to see parking passes for JR and SR to save bussing Mask in hallway only not all day in classes
I think it's important that a decision be made swiftly on what Fall will look like so parents can plan appropriately.
Remote learning I must be more structured and rigorous if implemented they cannot have one 45 minute zoom class and then call it a day.
While we do have a computer in the home, it will be incredibly difficult to complete remote learning for both students, my own college coursework, and accommodate the internet demands of my husband working from home. In addition, with both parents still working at least part time, our children would have to spend quite a bit of time at their grandparents where they would face other technological difficulties. I don't want my children's education to suffer because of these things. At the very least I hope to see a hybrid reopening of school if not a complete reopening.

Currently, my son and myself live with my parents. My father is in his 80's. My mother is also older and recently diagnosed with cancer. Remote learning is the only option available to ensure the safety and well-being of all members in this household, particularly those who are high risk. Perhaps the option should be given to the parents in order to accommodate the needs of the students and their families as well as the schools (i.e, teachers, classroom capacity, social distancing, etc)
Let the kids go back to school.
If the school utilizes a hybrid plan with students attending in-person part of the time, I prefer that the students are divided by last name rather than by grade level to ensure that all students within a family have in-person school on the same day.
For people who are teachers in the district, it will be difficult to find childcare if I am working while my kids are home. I also rely on before school care at Mayo, as Mountview starts an hour earlier than Mayo. I would appreciate some consideration in regards to children of students working in district. Thanks!
I am hopeful, given massachusetts low covid 19 numbers, that Wachusett will be able to open in at least a hybrid format. The spring online experience was a disaster and I won't have my kids lose a full year of learning. Thanks!
How will remote learning work for full time working parents
Might be a good idea to have the district technology experts put together training videos for teachers, parents and students on how to use some of the tools that will be rolled out as part of the at home learning. That way people can access them on their own time and review them as needed. And, the district only needs to make 1 video instead of holding live training sessions.
My concerns are if a teacher gets sick and has come in contact with students what are the protocol? What if a bus driver comes in contact with students after getting sick? So many situations to think about and so many questions
Before and after school care factors on the ability to send children. As does the length of time the plan would be in place. It would also depend on how transparent the district will be about new cases of Covid and how we would know how close our children came in contact with them.
For kids entering a new school, or school for the first time how will this effect them, i think hybrid would keep classrooms smaller. It seems reasonable. Another aspect I would like to know about is how cleaning would change, would they require adults to clean toys/materials between each childs use, because i would not trust a kid to do it. Door handles, etc.
If you decide to proceed with a hybrid approach, it is really important that my children who are in different grades and at different schools (1st grade - Naquag and 5th grade - Glenwood) are in the same rotation. My husband and I both work, I can work from home most of the time, but I do need to go into the office. If the kids are on the same day, this will be possible. So, my biggest request is that if you go hybrid, it is perhaps decided by last name or family units to make planning for the families easier. Thank you for all your hard work during this time.
Do not send us back to school. It is not right. There are too many unprecedented variables.
I appreciate all the work that the WRSD has been doing during this difficult period. Thank you for your continued efforts. Thank you for the many emails detailing the issues facing the schools. We will get through this together.
Kids that are more at risk to have complications with COVID- 19 should stay home
Safety for everyone should be considered FISRT on decision that is made. This is a new virus that is deadly and scientist and doctors are learning about each day. I trust our administration and district leaders that supporting students, staff and families during this troublesome time. Learning can occur during remote, hybrid and of course in person. I do worry about the social well being of all the children because it so important to have peer and teacher relationships. Thank you for your work.
Any remote learning that is done needs to include teacher instruction, not just instruction on the tools like Google classroom. Handing out worksheets and leaving it to parents to figure out is not sufficient.
I am absolutely against changing social distancing to 3ft. This isn't safe for children OR the teachers they love.
What will they do if both parents work and have no child care
Kids in K-2 need in person learning. It is detrimental to their growth and development.
My child will not participate in ANY remote learning. It doesn't work.
We may choose to homeschool using a different program
I am in a position to be able to stay home with my first grader and navigate remote learning with him as we did in the spring. I don't think it's safe to have 100% return to school at this time.
My child will attend in person and would do on line learning if applicable. I really hope in person can be achieved as well as sports returning for fall. hopefully this will all just be for the fall and a vaccine will be available at beginning of next year so that the spring will be back to normal. thank you.
My son is on an IEP. We struggled tremendously last year to complete in home learning and were unable to navigate difficult behaviors and course work. We would need additional support if remote. I am hopeful children on IEPs in different classrooms would be allowed in person learning. Increased outdoor time an learning sounds like a promising option.
My concern would be wanting to make sure everybody stayed on their toes and never let their guard down with safety and cleaning.
Just keep in mind that hybrid is difficult for households where the single parent or both parents work because of alternating schedules (childcare).
We all want our kids back in school. BUT, only if it can be done safely. I also understand teacher, officer workers and custodians concerns, which must be factored in
I sure hope the school year goes normal, anything else would put a lot of stress on our family.
With technology what it is, I see no reason to risk it
Hybrid seems safest right now. If remote learning the model needs to change for " in person" teaching and contact. All self taught last year did not go very well for my son (on IEP). Zoom classes where teachers are actually teaching the content would be a necessity for this to be successful.
A vaccine is needed. There's no other way to avoid risk.
My child is very nervous about returning to school if extreme cautions arent in place.
My child in middle school has B Cell Leukemia. So keeping him safe and healthy is a top priority. I also work, so it is hard for me to do the home schooling.

If remote learning is at the only option more social interaction would benefit the students. Group projects or more zoom classroom options.
One of my children is On immunosuppressive therapy. I can not have any siblings potentially exposed to covid 19 as it will affect her and my husband who is also immunosuppressed. Thank you
It would be helpful to have options besides Google Classroom or other online assignments. It worked ok for 2 of 3 kids but the 3rd struggled and it was difficult to monitor and help them. If there was an option to print out worksheets, complete them, and email or submit copies that would be really helpful. That way I can monitor their progress and make sure assignments get completed correctly. When they're online assignments, I have no idea when they are doing them, how well they're doing them, etc... I can't watch 3 kids at once AND work from home. We had plenty of instances where I saw them work on something on-line, thought it was completed, only to learn it wasn't.
You will need to have a 50% or more tax reduction if you move towards remote or hybrid learning
I have 3 children and believe the hybrid would be best for all
I don't think I would need much training, yet I would prefer if assignments were as centralized as possible so it would take less time for me to find out what needs to be completed for each class without going on different platforms for different classes..?
I am just concerned about how students will stay distanced with increased class sizes due to teacher cuts.
My son has asthma and a very weak immune system especially in the fall and winter months when he develops the flu and pneumonia very very easily, I worry about him getting sick and the unknown of what it could possibly be.. for this reason my sons health is my biggest priority and I really hope you give parents who share this concern or reality an option for them to keep their kids to an all remote learning option
Sports needs to return
I feel my children need the support of their teachers to help them succeed with their work. Although, I am also concerned about their health and well-being if back at school with large classes. Both my children did the work assigned in the spring but I do not feel it helped them learn new material and any new skills needed to be successful.
No matter what, the children's social health needs to be considered. It's the most crucial part of their development.
I just would like to know what plan we are leaning toward and if it is a at home, I would expect my kids to have classes via google classroom as they would switch classes at school. the teacher will teach and the kids will learn as usually just via the computer and not in person. Giving packets and having them do them on their own or with a parent does not help advance our kids educations. I also work full time so I need to make sure I hire a tutor or someone to help my child who is in 2nd grade.
You need to consider the cost of printers, ink, and other supplies for at home learning. Also, the risk of losing these children's development and social skills at such a young age.
How are working parents suppose to help with remote learning while working full time? If parents are working full time then children need to be able to go to school. It is not fair to parents or the children. People are making decisions without examining all aspects. Parents will need to choose work or remote learning, choose food, housing, paying bills ot remote learning?
My son is on an IEP and is struggling with anxiety and does not do well with online learning. He requires frequent check ins with adults and needs to be in school regularly. I worry that he will drop out if he is asked to do only remote learning.
I believe the hardship imposed upon working parents is one of the biggest factors after safety that must be considered.
The remote learning for the middle school and high school needs more structure. They should have set times for classes where the teacher presents the class over a video conference whether it be Zoom or Google Meets. The lack of structure with classes over this past quarantine was not conducive to a good education. Other school districts were able to have scheduled Zoom classes even with their Kindergartners. WRSD should be able to do the same.
I believe it is too early to have children return to school. In my case there are two older vulnerable adults in the home and I don't want the children exposed to this virus and bringing it home
No matter what happens with how the schooling is set up in the fall, I don't want to see a loss of the music programs district. This is an essential part of children's development.
I have a child with a brain tumor and would in no way jeopardize her health by sending either child to school.....we are asked to ensure we have all immunization S up to date before kids can attend school, this should be the expectation for this disease that is killing people as well.....
Remote learning must be as rigorous as in-person learning and should be a blend of both synchronous and asynchronous learning; not one or the other. Teachers must take a more active role in the remote instruction than the prior school year-end model. Otherwise, alternative school choice education models will be explored for my children.
I know you have extremely difficult decisions ahead of you, but I for one strongly support having in-person learning. I think the benefits far outweigh the risks. That being said, having some choice in the matter for parents who are not comfortable is likely the best course of action, but to not offer in-person would be troubling.
Children being able to work on school from home when I am a teacher and might have to be at school myself. My child can't be alone or work alone.
Hoping that the district makes the right decision and does not have the kids play fall sports, I think they should be canceled and let's focus on education. Putting kids on field ,locker rooms and on buses to travel for sporting events is not a safe decision!!
Would like to see the social distancing & hallway management plan for the school facility. Will PPE be made available to all students? How will a return to school impact class sizes & staffing levels?
I believe that students need the in person connection with the teachers. I also feel that students need the social aspect of interacting with peers. However, I'm not sure how comfortable I would be with them going to school in person given the current situation. My children definitely did not get what they needed from remote learning last school year. I have four children (two at Thomas Prince School and two are in a different district) and I am unable to "teach" them or make sure they are getting their work done to be "meeting requirements", and still be able to work.
Children are not guinea pigs. If 100% of businesses are not reopened, why would we even consider sending children back to school in person?
Remote learning where teachers are teaching the other half of the alphabet is a joke. The kids will be getting 50% of the school year. In school everyday is the only way for the kids to get an entire school year in.

<p>Again, confusing questions. How is remote only learning even an option if you implement a 100% in person model ? How is remote only learning even an option if you implement at 50/50 model? I'll need less technology support if the technology used is the same technology in most / all classes. Has anyone explored adopting or making available the TECCA Connections Academy?</p>
<p>I trust the district and task force will do what is best for the children. Thank you for all of your hard work.</p>
<p>My son really wants in person learning. The risks are low so I am in favor of it too.</p>
<p>There are immunocompromised family members.</p>
<p>We may opt to drive her to school, unless the bussing company plans on having a monitor, so much happens on a bus and the driver can not be the one enforcing masks and social distancing. The bussing company needs to put monitors on each bus. Also, as far as 100% remote we would expect that she is learning 100% curriculum, minus art, music and gym. If those specials teachers can provide enhancement to the core curriculum via zoom or real assignments that will be graded that would be helpful. We can't continue remote learning at a 30% new learning capacity.</p>
<p>Thanks for the survey!</p>
<p>I believe fully that students need to return to classes. Specifically, the elementary school students need social growth and development. They cannot function autonomously online with a parent present.</p>
<p>We didn't take advantage of getting district issued devices in the spring. We WILL do this in the fall as we will now have more children in school than devices at home. I would likely change my answers depending on what the actual safety measures implemented look like. The state is allowing three feet of distancing - but science tells us it should be 6. The state is allowing kindergarten students to attend school unmasked- but science tells us they should be masked. I hope the schools makes decisions based on current scientific data. Remote learning MUST be consistent and robust. The spring was a total crapshoot. Students should have district email that the teachers and principals use to communicate with the students. I cannot coordinate emails, logins, and different learning platforms from many teachers for my three students - contact my children in an age appropriate way and please leave me out of it. Additionally - remote learning should not be done through printing 25 worksheets a week. This is outrageous. Please provide staff with the necessary tools and training to make this work between them and the students (ie: Canvas, google classroom, email, schoology, etc.) Lastly, in the spring we were given NO feedback ever (this was true in multiple grades with different teachers). While we consistently took pictures, shared, and emailed - at no point did we ever receive information about whether my children were making adequate progress, showed mastery of skills, or had every question wrong. We need consistent, clear, feedback - no matter what form education is taking. Forcing parents to take pictures of a million printed worksheets with crappy chomebook cameras (I would have taken it with my phone and emailed it to my students... but student email can't receive mail from outside the district!!!!) - and then never having any of that work assessed was infuriating and made it feel like a giant waste of time.</p>
<p>If students are put in the same room with the same few students each day without the ability to move around the school or have specials, this is a concern. We would like to know a plan for students being able to take a "mask break" when needed. We completely understand the necessity of wearing masks, but if a student gets overheated or just needs a few minutes without, how would that be handled?</p>
<p>Our family has a lot of anxiety over getting back to school. We'd love our child back in the classroom, IF it can be done safely. Social distancing, masks etc. I know the district will do their best to keep not only our kids, but school staff safe as well.</p>
<p>Fact: children 0-18 years have a 1 in a million death rate. European countries have been open and some have never closed with good results. Kids should be back in school this fall, remote learning for those who chose it only, otherwise they should be back in the classroom.</p>
<p>With the hybrid method, I would like to make sure both my children are on the same schedule (in terms of being in school). I am also very concerned about sending them with the increased infection rate around the country. I do think my children learn better and are more successful when they are in the classroom. So I do feel as if that is important. However, I worry about the long term impact (and unknown impact) of exposure to COVID-19 on young children.</p>
<p>I work in online learning development at the college level. It takes time, training, and support. I'm likely in the minority of parents here, but I get it how hard a decision to do online learning must be for the district. Thank you for doing what you do!!! I think the district did a great job the last 3 months of AY19-20 -- especially with no time to prepare, no access to classroom materials and supplies, and with minimal resources.. For whatever my opinon is worth, I think that until there's a vaccine, school should be either 100% in-person if safe to reopen (with a pivot to online if cases are on the rise) OR 100% online. No hybrid model. Assuming class sizes are divided, I just don't see how it's fair to the teachers to have to manage a group in-person while at the same time, managing a group of students online. Especially since many of our district teachers are parents as well and depending on where they reside (many out of district), their teaching schedules may not align with those of their kids. Teachers are not babysitters. Hopefully their opinions and their concerns are also being sought. Thank you very much!</p>
<p>The whole district top to bottom failed everyone this spring. You waited weeks to come up with a plan and by then it was too late. We expect better as parents and taxpayers. There must be plenty of younger teachers who would love the opportunity to help these kids unlike the union and district as it stands.</p>
<p>Please reopen. I cannot afford private school due to the flu</p>
<p>I am as a working parent will not be able to support my child in online learning. I have never been trained to be a teacher. I don't believe home schooling can be affective at full time working parent home environment.</p>
<p>They need five day a week school 12 and under! High school and middle can stay home and we can distance into new classroom spaces. The data for children that are low risk should refute any plan to halt a return to school. Parents choice and if teachers won't return there are plenty of newly licensed young low risk teachers that are ready willing and able to work! Enough failing these children</p>
<p>Please monitor the QUALITY of learning experiences your teachers provide. My son doesn't learn from a read this/answer these questions approach. Please be sure he will be learning from actual in person instruction with feedback on HIS actual understanding not a blanket pass/fail model. The spring approach was a HUGE disappointment. Never did he have a live meeting with a teacher. Never did someone take an interest in his learning. This cannot happen again.</p>
<p>I don't think students should go back in the fall. I am a working parent and this isn't difficult for many of us. I just don't see how this can be done safely.</p>

Our children need to get back everyday to school to learn. Remote learning was miserable for all of us. If families or teachers don't want to go to school... hire new teachers and scared parents can find other options for their kids. My son has already gone through enough physically and emotionally with the schools closing. He has missed out on his education. It is so sad to see all the kids struggling and not learning what they need. I think proper handwashing and cleaning should be served in place like always. Keeping children 6 ft apart is ridiculous and so is the mask wearing. They should be able to go back with masks as a option. I want my children back in school. Not for daycare but for their safety, emotional and physical well being. Please open the fall.
Safety is paramount
Don't forget to consider the teachers safety In your plans for opening the schools!!!
My child will not be returning to school until everything is back to the way that it was in March when my child left. My child will not wear a mask, and will not be in a school with teachers and students wearing masks.
I would reall like to see the students get back to school in person as much as possible and additionally hoping that they are allowed to participate in sports.
I feel in person is important for some of the time but would choose a hybrid plan.
Please consider, which I know as a District you are already, the social-emotional impact social distancing and remote learning has had on our kids. My own are anxious and fearful of what the future holds. I want to suggest that teachers within the high school give the students an appropriate workload for remote learning. All teachers should be abiding by the workload standards set. I would like to suggest that all students receive training on using whatever LMS the high school will be using. During remote learning, my sophomore had a very challenging time managing the information overload on Google Classroom with no help at all. Graphic Arts - students in graphic arts classes need better technology and/or equitable access to the technology to complete the work. Tech support needs to be available for students and parents. The dept. also needs to increase their knowledge of Google.
I work full time and am a single parent to 4 kids. Since March, my oldest was in charge of remote learning for her siblings. Far from ideal but this is survival mode. If remote learning or hybrid with staggered schedules happens....I'm screwed! So are my kids. I'm a medical technologist at Umass and work 6:30 or 7 to 3:30 each day.
Please provide options and let parents choose the best for their family/child. 100% remote is NOT the answer.
As a parent who has a child in the Aba room, missing school has impacted his functioning- without a routine, speech, OT or PT he is a struggling., including behaviorally, with more aggression and more incontinence issues.
We really want to do remote learning. My husband and I are older parents(59&61) and husband and we both have underlying health conditions. Thank you for considering all options.
Us parents do not have the time to teach(and the teachers who are remote teaching is from experience not good, when asked for help we get told to go to a website and learn. They are getting paid to sit home and somehow virtual teach without actually helping the kids) and who will stay home with the children especially us single parents.
I am the pastor of the First Church in Sterling, and I am interested in helping the effort by providing use of our building/parent cooperative for some sort of "study hall" during off days (or remote learners) if that is at all helpful for children who do not have a place to go during the school day for working parents.
My child currently takes the bus to school which I would anticipate is the most critical aspect of social distancing. I'm concerned that under the past Spring's remote learning that there simply wasn't enough work. I will drive my child to school to assure he gets the best education possible. Frankly remote learning doesn't satisfy that goal.
I teach in the district at the high school and I am concerned about any live school zoom sessions/meetings for my 5 year old who cannot operate technology alone and that conflicting with my own teaching schedule. I don't think we could both do live sessions at once. I know I am not the only teacher & parent concerned about how to balance both.
I believe that some in person learning will be essential and significant to my childrens' overall mental and academic learning. I understand all of the efforts that go into making these hard decisions and we are grateful to live in a school district that has tried really hard to see that my children learn no matter the circumstances.
The main concern is health and safety of all students. The next is an enriching learning environment-which I feel will be difficult if students are limited to sitting in one class room all day long and having limited interaction with others. I know my child has difficulty sitting in class during "normal" school time let alone spending the whole day in one classroom. Although I would like for my child to return to school I worry that it is just not feasible at this time given all the restrictions that would have to be in place.
Thermometer checks at entry point and don't cancel sports!
I believe, for the safety of everyone it should be 100% remote learning. Still way too much unknown at this time with this virus!
They need to give professional development to teachers so an EFFECTIVE online learning plan can be put into place. We cannot have a repeat of the spring online learning; they need a full day of teaching with zoom classes where they can be taught in real time with interaction, etc. The summer should be spent preparing and the union needs to be flexible and allow for this.
I am most concerned about child care. While my kids are 10 and 11, I have only left them for short periods of time. While I am concerned about their health and the health of our family members in returning to school full time, I am more concerned about how remote learning will work with two working parents. Also, if remote, I would hope teachers would be providing more lessons versus check ins even at the elementary level. It is very hard to comment until we know more about the three options.
My only concern is the status of the pandemic just prior to the schools reopening. Of course it is preferred to have the students attending at school however it is the safety of the students, teachers, staff and families of the students that come first. If the pandemic is still considered at a level it was when the schools shut down in March, then I do not see schools reopening no matter what safety precautions are put in place, because only 1 case will shut down the entire school, and the likelihood of that happening, and the ability to truly social distance will be difficult to control in school environments. Of course we will follow all guidelines should the decision to go forward with either the 100% in person attendance or Hybrid model, but will be of course cautious and concerned until the virus completely disappears or a vaccine is found.
Open the schools

i am in favor of in-person learning, kids will not learn at home!!!, consider the option where the subject teachers change classrooms instead of the students changing rooms to the subject rooms. keep a one class room (same students, controlled #of students), this way they don't mix in the hallways, at the end of the day, dismiss them class room by class room. (Masks, wash the hands, temperature taking, don't touch the face are the key). staying active is a key; staying home is a future generation disaster!
Get these kids back in school. Parents need to work. Kids need to socialize. if I could spend my weekend going shopping and praying at church then there's absolutely no reason these kids can attend school. This is an absolutely lazy effort on your guys's part hiding behind this pandemic. Throw up a plexiglass shield like they do it big Y and do your job.
if there is a remote piece, it needs to be more comprehensive than the spring. Both the students and teachers needs to be held more accountable. We were shocked to see the number of teachers who had zero communication and very little work was assigned. We are aware that this was unprecedented but when compared to other central MA districts it was surprising to see how little WRSD offered (zoom calls, assignments, etc).
Keeping our kids healthy is SO important! There is not enough data to say kids are less likely to be impacted by Covid-19... kids in our area have largely been home since March!
I support fully remote learning but if there are specialty software applications (such as CAD) needed it would be good to have access either by being able to install locally on our own computer or be able to remotely access a virtual system.
The latest information from the CDC is that schools pose the highest risk for infection. I dont want students, teachers, and staff to be at high risk. Please dont open the schools!
Please reopen because the kids are missing out on so much and will never catch up!
It should be up to the parents if their child should have to wear a mask
Don't open the schools until there is a vaccine. Don't take that risk.
I would strongly encourage the district to plan for remote learning and possibly hybrid. I do not support a 100% return to in person schooling. Although I indicated I was not sure if I would send my children, I lean strongly towards not in that scenario. I think we also need to take into account all of the teachers, administration, counselors, and all other adults who work in the schools and consider their safety as well. I would support a phased reentry process to school, similar to how the state has proceeded with re-opening the economy.
My child is autistic and needs in person learning also with OT and speech sessions.
I think that asking teachers to put themselves at risk in a classroom of students for long periods of time, several times a day, is potentially harmful in the current situation we are in. While remote learning is far from ideal, it would be a temporary measure until we find our way out of the pandemic. Students may not learn as much during that period of time, but I do not believe they will be negatively impacted long term. The safest option for students, families, and especially teachers, is remote learning only.
For both of my children I feel the return to the classroom even if for 1/2 the time is so important for their psychological well being. My usually happy well adjusted 7 year old has become extremely introverted And anti social since school ended in March. I am extremely concerned about this as well as his ability to learn if I were to have to teach him full time as he does not listen to me. Getting him to sit and complete his work was almost impossible. Without In classroom environment I'm extremely concerned my son will suffer both socially and academically. My second son is 5 years old with low functioning autism. He is unable to participate in remote learning due to his impaired cognition. If he does not receive face to face in person education he will regress significantly (he has already started to regress) I will have no choice but to look for out of district placement for him if the district is unable to meet his needs. Thank you for asking for our input. It means a lot.
My kids who have IEP would for sure prefer in-person classes because they were most disadvantaged with not attending school. Thank you for everything you are doing to keep our kids safe during these trying times.
If hybrid, that all my children go to school on same day and to have Friday at home. The child care will be more manageable since we have 2 full time working parents. Thanks for all you do.
Kids need to be in school parents need to work and parents are not teachers and can not give them the proper education! Last year you guys failed as a district you were awful! Open schools back up and send them! Pure laziness on your part!
I hope you reopen school at least partially as my daughter is missing the social learning aspect
I support hybrid learning. I support Half day Kindergarten. I do not support full time face to face school. Please consider the well bring of our children and teachers.
I am flexible about how my kids get to school (I will drive them if necessary) and flexible on whether or not they buy school lunch. I will do whatever it takes to get them back to school in person full time. If that does not happen I will find another school that does in person full time. Please give parents the option of having children in person full time. I don't want other people's fear compromise my kids' education and social development.
Teachers MUST teach! The Honors and AP levels are not self taught. These Juniors are behind from the lack of education since March and have a critical academic year ahead. Wachusett failed miserably Q3 and Q4 and needs to step it up. Teachers were not doing their jobs nor communicating positively with students. All students have chrome books and classes should have been held daily as scheduled remotely on any number of platforms. The academic standards and expectations of the district are not meeting the needs of motivated students who excel academically. The district either needs to educate them or pay for them to be educated elsewhere.
if there is a hybrid model, the same teaching that is happening in the class...should be steaming in the home. There should not be 2 different methods of teaching, weather in home or at school. Things need to be consistent with all children and live streamed.
Outdoor recess for all grades. Giving children a chance to be outside in the fresh air without masks.
Masks must be made mandatory for all....staff, students and faculty.
I am a teacher in a neighboring school district (Fitchburg Public). There are so many parents like me who live in one district and work in another. There must be a coordination between the districts, as quite often teacher-parents are responsible for the majority of child care in the household. For example, if WRSD goes 100% online, but FPS is in-person or hybrid, I would be unable to care for my child. I'm actually less concerned with the actual decision, and more concerned all the central MA school districts choose the same/similar option.

My child's behavior and mental health have gotten significantly worse due to at home learning during the pandemic. It would be very difficult for us to return to at home learning. My husband and I both work full time on opposite schedules and trying to be a teacher on top of all that is near impossible. I really hope school is in person in the fall.
I am extremely concerned about switching from mode to mode as the Covid numbers fluctuate as they are certain to do. I feel this would disrupt learning more than just doing a complete online approach. I am also concerned about switching modes as positive cases are found. How often would my child or their regular teacher be quarantined for 14 days at a time, disrupting their learning? Would it be possible to do online only for the majority of kids and in class learning only for those children who have IEPs and/or the youngest grades who will surely learn better in a class setting? You would then have the space to spread out those who must be in school.
Please follow CDC guidelines regardless of political pressure for doing otherwise. My child's health & safety is far more important to me than in-person learning. It would be helpful if principals, especially at the high school level, can communicate regularly and clearly with parents once a plan is in place.
My child under no circumstances will attend in person classes.
If there is remote learning, please keep in mind that not every household has a stay at home parent. Parents still have to work even if we are working at home.
The big problem I've seen with the technology is that teachers would provide resources that the Chromebooks and Google school accounts wouldn't allow access too. This happened to many times. Everything needs to be tested on a student Chromebook, or have them more "unlocked." For any in-person or hybrid models, we'd need assurance that masks be worn by everyone on the school and that it will be enforced. The second I find out someone wasn't wearing a mask or wearing improperly and wasn't reprimanded, I'd pull my kids out of school.
Google classroom training would have been very helpful when we first came home back in March. Internet for one of our teachers was very spotty back in spring, so hoping that isn't a problem again. Is there a way to make sure teachers have what they need? The kids need to be evaluated. Is there a way to Have the teacher evaluate them 1x1 at some point? To make sure they are keeping up.
I would ask that if you are using a hybrid model, that you find a way to have siblings, even if they are in different schools within the district, attend school on the same days.
Without a vaccine in place and an expected surge, I do not feel children should be going back into school this fall. Some children live with immunocompromised family members and elderly. They do not need to be bringing Covid germs home with them. Also, if a teacher or classmate tests positive, what happens then? Will the whole class have to be tested and quarantine for 14 days? What about their families? Too many "what if's" during this trying time. As a parent, I am just not comfortable with them heading back in to the classrooms! Better safe than sorry.
I have many concerns as I think most people would in the structure of it all. I work overnights and my husband works days so when remote learning is in place the responsibility drops mainly on me. I have one child who can mostly do remote learning without a ton of guidance but I also have another child who needs more guidance. with my schedule and zoom meetings during the day it is hard for me to always be there to guide them along. I would hope that you can please consider everyone situations when making decisions in the future. Everyone does not have access to computers or printers such as ourselves and I hope that the school can do as much as they can to support everyone moving forward. Thank you
My kids are both happy to wear masks and understand why. However, I have found they are extra careful, leary, and cautious on any outings including visiting their grandparents. They are not yet comfortable to go into stores or any public places at this time.
If students are in person, there needs to be mandatory masks and enforcement of mask wearing.
Both of my children said they want to return to school when things are as close to they were as before and do not have to wear a mask. They do not want to have to eat in their classrooms or have half capacity student population. If this is the case, they both said they would prefer to just continue remote learning instead.
Young children should have limited to no requirement for synchronous learning. Learning activities for grade levels which would require parent involvement should be flexible to be conducted outside of "usual" school hours in order to accommodate parents work schedules.
My children are not comfortable with any remote learning.
My responses are strongly correlated with my work district's plan. It would be great if all districts did the same thing. Also despite their ages we don't feel comfortable leaving our middle and high school kids home without an adult to help them manage as well as care for elementary student in our family.
Allocate enough assets and funding to build an engaging and challenging learning platform if it has to be online. The WRSD budget is overloaded with too many expenses that have nothing to do with educating (insurance...ridiculous amount on that). Put time and effort into this and you will see great things. If it's done half-assed, it will fail.
A little more planned structure/schedule with some virtual class meetings would be appreciated
At this time im not sure how I feel about in person learning. I'm concerned for all involved. And the impact of what school would look like for our kids should they return to in person in the fall . I would support remote learning at this time . I want my kids and family to be safe as well as The staff at all schools.
Children are the least at risk and must return to in person learning!
Open the schools. Plain and simple. Keeping kids home will do more harm than anything.
1. I think the teachers need training in Google Suites and how to use them consistently and efficiently across the district. They have never been trained so have "learned as they go" even before the pandemic hit. For example - a consistent trackable to provide feedback on assignments that is accessible to students such as allowing students to view Google Forms once submitted & graded and embedding comments directly in a document. 2. Extracurriculars need to be addressed. Many families are considering extracurriculars & socialization as factors in their decisions — yet these aspects of the school experience are highly unlikely to happen given the current situation. I think you need to be clear about what the day will look like and how things like sports & clubs will be handled to allow us to make the most accurate assessment.
Socialization, structure is important as math and English. For children such as my oldest with a vision disorder, having to work in an electronic device daily and for periods of time is not conducive to her learning or obtaining proper access to the curriculum.
I feel like wishing things were different and pretending things are safe for the sake of kids social development isn't as important as health risks to the whole community. We're all sad and frustrated that our kids are missing so much, but our feelings about this should not matter as much as what science is telling us about virus spread/containment.

Please have an option so that kids can participate remotely during times of illness or suspected illness in our house or in the school. There needs to be some flexibility- but also family accountability for safety protocols.
I know children can be taught the standards in a classroom or at home, but such a large piece of school is social-emotional health. I am very concerned about both my youngest just starting K, and my 2nd grader who's on the spectrum and NEEDS speech services in school, and social-emotional services with the school psychologist in school.
Families choosing to do remote or alternative should not be penalized. Also, schools need a better remote learning plan than what was recently done.
Consider how much families are suffering without face to face education. Consider that ultimately God's in control of life and we can only follow common sense and avoid coughing and sneezing on people as well as implementing a hand washing mind set. With this, we can widely avoid spreading the virus, however there are things that are out of our control and we can't continue to hide in a bubble at home. Please reopen schools, the damage will be much greater than the chance we take of contracting the virus.
I am very concerned about in-person learning. Although it's clearly the best way to educate our children (and I worry about kids with special needs, families with financial and childcare challenges, technology, etc), I don't see any way we can maintain an effective, consistent and low risk environment for the entire school populations. I am worried for the health of teachers and other staff, along with families at home. I worry about kids involved in extra-curricular activities, and how many other people they're around. In any case, we need to have a robust fully online plan in place, because I am positive that the schools will have to close at some point. I didn't feel like any real instruction happened this spring. I understand it's hard on teachers, but there's got to be a way to simulate the classroom environment and actually have instruction and even group learning in break-out rooms and similar technology. Our students need socialization and that can happen in online formats as well.
The children should be in school. Remote learning, while well intended, is not sufficient.
If remote learning is used, teachers should be held accountable for the quantity and quality of teaching.
My child has severe anxiety/depression and will not be able to wear a mask all day due to her anxiety
Please reopen the schools full time, my family is struggling financially due to the lack of childcare. Remote learning was awful I am not a teacher I did my best but I don't think the kids got much out of it.
Both parents in the house work full time, therefore we need ample time to figure out a plan if the students are 100% remote learning or hybrid learning.
Working parents- particularly those who are teachers in other school districts.
Do not rush opening. Schools should have the same opening approach as businesses or more rigorous. If businesses had phased openings so should schools. If businesses must operate at less than 100% capacity so should schools. Do not open schools with standards below what the business world has.
What happens if a child or a teacher my children has come in contact with gets Covid19? Will my child have to quarantine for 2 weeks?
Both of my children have struggled very terribly with not being in school learning and the teachers in person help and guidance both of my children also have a very hard time with social and emotional during this time my daughter going in to 8th grade in sterling has been hospitalized 2 times dealing with everything and my son who went to naquag going into 3rd grade has totally shut down and is not able to manage wail remote learning and it is a serious affect on my children and their learning and retaining ability as to what we are trying to help tech them if school for them is not in person in the fall I am seriously concerned as to their iep's and ability to continue learning and progressing through these vital years and moving ahead in the future I am happy to share more or speak more in person
Please don't force the majority of students who do have internet and computer access be held back by the very few who do not. Just because it took Princeton until 2019 to get high speed internet that other towns have had for 15 years, the students in the other district towns should not suffer. The district should help those students get the resources they need, not use it as an excuse to not fully embrace online learning for the 99% of students who do have the resources needed. Other towns and private schools did a much better job with online learning last spring. Two examples from speaking first hand with teachers at those schools - Hopkinton public schools and St. John's.
I think a hybrid approach might work best to ensure the kids are getting face time with teachers and peers, but in a way that if someone does become infected we might be able to control the spread.
I want my child to experience as normal school as possible. Some of the return requirements seem impossible, I worry over them having adequate education if the main worry is over health protocols and social isolation. I am looking at other schooling options currently. Remote learning for a child on an IEP does not seem adequate. We had a difficult time at the end of the last school year. I'd probably still seek his OT and Speech needs from the school if we chose alternative methods of schooling.
The negative social and emotional impact on students is far greater than a virus that a person under age 20 does not contract and even if they do, there is a 99 percent rate of recovery. Depression anxiety and suicide attempts are reality if children do not attend school in person. Ultimately it is against their civil rights to withhold school in person to them when it is not statistically not significant for this age group to contract it.
As long as distance in hybrid, let them have gym outdoors, music, art. Mask if can't distance. Go back but safely first.
Children should be able to remove their masks if they are sitting at their desks, just like the protocol is in most office buildings. Having an 8 year old wear a mask ALL day long is stressful, uncomfortable, and it will be filthy. My child will not be able to effectively learn with his own breath blowing back into his face and elastics pulling in his ears all day. That is why I am unsure if I will send my children all day.
Participation may depend on before/after care availability and middle school sports availability.
We 100% beleive that our children would benefit from in person learning in the classroom both socially and academically.
GO BACK TO IN PERSON SCHOOL
You have a very difficult decision. I understand that remote learning is not ideal but I also want what is best for the students AND all the faculty.
I think going to school every other days, for example first group of kids go to school on Mon-Wed-Fri Second group go to school on Tues, Thu, Sat. Since my child is under spectrum, 100% remote learning would not work for her at all.

I personally don't believe it is safe to reopen schools at this time, especially since cases are rising around the country. We have little data as to the longterm effect of COVID-19 on a person's health, or how this can affect children, especially since they have been (up to now) the most protected members of our society. I fear that children (both young and old) will fail to comply with the regulations and put themselves, teachers, staff, and their parents and extended families at risk. Until there is a solid plan from our government to eradicate or significantly manage this outbreak, I don't see how schools can safely reopen. The school committee won't meet in person for safety reasons, I don't see why that should be different for our children.
Health of everyone teachers and students
Remote learning with live classroom instruction? Or remote learning with google classroom work that's not a live classroom format? In the spring, my then 8th grader only had the latter and it wasn't adequate. He was finished his work in an hour. There needs to be much more active and engaged learning opportunities and not nearly so much down time.
Reopen the school home is not the proper environment for teacher/student relationships
Speaking for my household, I can say that remote learning was almost completely useless in the spring. If it is necessary, it needs to be VASTLY improved.
The distance learning this spring was a disaster and frankly a joke. I will not feel safe sending my child for in person learning but I expect the district to get it's act together and offer real distance learning and not the slapped together nonsense we received in April, May, and June
How will households with two working parents be able to support their children in a hybrid or remote setting?
If the school is 50% at home Nd at school please make sure families are kept on the same day. For my child on iep I would love if learning from home 100% video learning and support from a teacher and an aid. The spring was rough. If there are no specials or recesses, days should be shorter.
If the district does any type of remote learning, I would hope they put a better effort into it than what took place during the last 1/2 of this past year. Non of my children had actual zoom classes, everything was links and learning on their own. This is not what I would expect from the teachers in this district. Other districts were able to successfully teach through zoom like classes. I am appalled by the way our district handled this. You are only hurting our children. They are our future and without the proper foundations taught during these years will only hurt them in the future. Not only did I have to work my 60 hr a week job, but I also had to home teach all 3 of my children because the district did not step up and do what was right.
It is not safe to return to a school the size of WRHS safely given the contagiousness of this virus. The commissioner has been irresponsible in his design of 3 feet of Distancing when the CDC calls for 6 feet. The lives and safety of our teachers and students vastly outweigh the downsides of remote instruction. To return to school in the fall when a vaccine will be around in literal months is socially irresponsible and demonstrates a lack of concern for our students, teachers and school staff. The health and well-being of our teachers, school staff, and students should be of highest priority. Students will recover from some of the possible drawbacks of remote learning. It would be impossible to recover from the possible death of students, teachers, and school staff. Furthermore I find it disturbing that all meetings by administration and school committee are still taking place remotely to decide the fate of teachers, students and school staff -If there is even a remote chance that we have to return even in a hybrid mode come fall. Why are our leaders not willing to meet face to face but even entertaining the idea of making students, teachers and school staff do so?
I'm waiting to hear what SPED plans are as my son has full pull out services/IEP. It's difficult me to answer these questions when we haven't heard what happens for those kids.
If a hybrid model it would helpful for households with both parents working to have students go to school 3 days a week with 2 days off and not weeks on and off. Overall I think some in-person time in the classroom would be helpful for kids. Even if that means additional zoom meetings, like morning meeting, gym time, art time etc.
I think that if this is a hybrid or remote model I think you need to allow families to choose days together in order to assist with child care.
It is crucial for the kids to be back in school. My children really struggled with remote learning and have already fallen behind. With two parents working full time it is IMPOSSIBLE to be effective in teaching at home. We are really hoping that they are allowed to go back to school and so are the children.
I would suggest multiple entrances be used that are close to the class room to limit hall way interaction. Please look at how the Mass, CT and NYC , YMCA daycares across the North east were able to have children of front line workers every day and protect them and also protect each small group from infected children and other infected groups. Exclude YMCA camps.
Both parents have full time jobs; our child needs to be in school full time. We need to work; the child needs to socialize and not stare at another screen. We are not trained teachers; do not let these kids fall further behind. If one of us loses our income due to no school there will be no internet access for our child to remote learn.
Thank you for allowing us to provide feedback.
Child care for days that the kids would remote learn would be challenging if not impossible financially and unattainable with a split household
My child is in Post Grad. What if she cannot wear a mask 100% of the time?
Please ensure there is a 100% virtual option for all grade levels as it is extremely unlikely that we will have our children return to in person learning in the fall
Safety is our number one concern. We feel our child needs to back, but only if strict safety protocols can be followed.
I am also struggling with decisions being on a reopening committee as a school nurse for the school I work at. I wish I had the ability to keep my child home and learn solely remotely because we live with a high risk grandparent; however, I do not. Even if my school is hybrid or remote we will be expected to work from work, not home. This means that if my child is remote and I am not I will not be home to help him learn and he will be staying with a grandparent that can not help him at all. Due to this, I am unfortunately, hoping for full in person learning as I have no idea how my household will handle remote learning. However, I will also state that I am severely concerned over everyone's safety (teachers, school nurses, other school staff, children, families)...there is no correct answer and it will all be difficult.
I think it is critical to make sure that the reopening of the schools ensures that the teachers and students are safe as well as keeping their mental health in consideration
I hope the district considers health and safety factors For students and staff.
My child and I do not feel comfortable with 100% attendance at all. And eating in the cafe at school for lunch. We have not had any inside dining in any public restaurants sense March. It is a known fact that as soon as people gather in large groups people get sick!

As a special education staff member in a different district, I am very worried about how I will have my children do remote learning as I am assuming I will be required to work full time in my building. I am also concerned that my 4th grader needs more support due to ADHD than remote learning can offer. He currently has a school based, regular education plan but I believe he could benefit from a 504 as his ADHD is impacting his ability to access curriculum more significantly than in previous years. I want everyone to be safe and healthy, but worry about his learning.
Please don't rush back until we can ensure our kids, our teachers, and school employees are safe. We have a high risk grandmother that lives with us, and don't want anything brought home! Thanks for all you do!
I use google suite to teach, but for some reason I had the hardest time with the link his teacher sent last year. I'm not sure I'm the one that needs the training, but support would be great and training as an option. Honestly, if there is not a hybrid option (assuming a priority is on safety, but let's be real... teachers should NEVER have had to purchase cleaning wipes or teachers), I will probably not be able to see my son for weeks at a time because I will still have to work. I am in healthcare, and have been the entire time, and I'm really sad that the teachers' posts online seem to be completely against a creative option and more towards shaming and scaring parents into supporting at-home only. If we were in AZ, this wouldn't be an option, but we do not and we DO have good data. We have had extremely low (zero that did not have community contacts with COVID) rates of exposure at work, even when PPE was a challenge, and have been able to use this challenge to make real change very quickly. It may not be possible for young children, and I completely understand teachers' fears, but with proper PPE and cleaning protocols, (and a modified schedule, especially if some parents choose to have their kids participate at home), this seems possible for older kids. If the R number changes, I would feel differently, but as we are today and realizing that fully in-person is likely not even remotely possible, I am solidly into the idea that hybrid in-person, with guardrails, is possible. If the district his dad is in does that, we would go there. Alternately, because the instruction was really "support" (great support, but definitely not instruction), we would look at a private school that does offer instruction (based on what we saw from them during the spring.) We do not know how long this will last, so we need to be thinking of a long-term plan. A gap year is a workforce nightmare, and the college students I teach are already struggling with basics of writing, statistics, and reasoning. I don't envy the district in making this decision, but I would prefer my money go toward a solid plan to fund things parents used to buy for teachers, increased cleaning/enhanced protocols, hybrid options, support for families that need tech support, and transformational change. I'm very proud that changes we made to undergrad education and healthcare overall will likely remain post COVID, and I really hope that the state hears us and does the right thing to fund schools appropriately to make this possible. AND...never goes back to parents and teachers buying Lysol and hand sanitizer.
Special needs children not able to wear masks
If we go back in person, I would expect that all CDC guidelines would be followed, vs state requirements
Hoping masks will be required for in-person learning. For remote learning, hoping kids will be required to log on at home at the same time (roughly) as the in-person class would be. Otherwise it's so hard to get kids to "rise and shine" and get going on school if they know they can log on at any time.
Will before and after school programs be cancelled? I am a full time working parent and having only online learning will be tough for us.
Will there be a before and aftercare program Will there be sports at Mountview
Please let the children go back to school this fall. Do not deprive them of the social-emotional development that is so critical and that they are already missing out on these past 5 months. I feel this area is one that is being sorely overlooked during all of this.
Clear, organized planning and communication from the district in order to ensure all teachers are providing continuity. More district communication and timelines shared with plans for phasing back to school.
It is not possible to hold employment any longer (all year?) and have remote learning for two children (one in preschool). I understand the severity of the public health situation however families cannot survive and provide being homeschooled by parents that need to work. I appreciate the teachers/admins health but precautions will be taken and if they cannot make them work then they should find alternative employment as most people need to if they cannot do their job. The remote learning last year was a bandaid for a bad situation but cannot be the fix indefinitely.
If online learning continues there needs to be teacher taught online classes, not just videos or links to websites. A daily schedule of classes that resembles a typical school day would be very helpful and provide structure for the entire household.
Need to get the children back to school and in a normal routine for their development and health.
It's not safe for kids parents, relatives or Teachers to have in person classes until we have a vaccine.
The District should be planning for all scenarios now, whether that is 100% in school, 100% remote, or hybrid. There is NO reason that when the school year starts everyone is ready to go. If there is any type of online learning, I hope teachers and staff will teach the students. NOT just assign work and leave the students to "figure it out". Classes should be held 100% of the time during the day with all kids attending some type of class room webinar. Where the teachers teach, kids can interact and ask questions, etc. This is 2020, the technology is there. Online classes have been taking place for many years. DO NOT FAIL THESE KIDS!
The children need to return to the social setting of in school learning. As a medical professional I am more concerned about the social/emotional effects on my children from not returning. Both of their depression and anxiety have worsened in the last 4 months. While I am doing everything possible to keep them in contact with friends, it is detrimental to them to return to school.
It's about quality of the teaching delivery. Not about creating busy work routine so that it looks like " people are teaching-"but students aren't learning . We spent way too much time figuring things out for the workers , if we focus on education really - answers are Go back to school , wear masks wash hands , keep distance - yes you are going to have extra cost of cleaning supplies and labors, like the rest of the world. This is the new model - acknowledge it , accept it - move on with it. OR FALL BEHIND forever. Families whom are not comfortable should have their choice to stay home and utilize online resources. Families who are ok - should be able to claim the benefits of public education, the existence of which heavily depend upon your mission statement. What is it really about ?
Please only use ONE platform for assignments so that nothing is missed by having to constantly check multiple sources for assignments/information. Please realize that 100% in person instruction is NOT safe. Consider that, while kids seem to be less susceptible to this virus, the teachers are not!! Teachers have families and could bring this home to others. You MUST take full consideration of the teachers here. Let them guide you in what is best, for they are the ones who best know how to teach. Please err on the side of caution and minimize the amount of contact, both for teachers and students. Leave schools closed this fall and winter, and consider opening again in the spring/better weather when windows can be opened and fresh air is able to fill the rooms.

As both a statistician and a parent, I do not think it is wise to be sending students and staff into a situation where we have more cases of COVID-19 now than we did when quarantine started March 13. It is not worth risking anyone's health. I hope the district has been using this time to work out a solid set of guidelines for remote learning because that is what is safest and best for our community. A previous survey shows only 35% of parents feel mask wearing is an important factor in reopening WRSD schools. That does not instill confidence in me that those families are taking necessary precautions now to stay safe.
Both parents work full time, so my 1st grader will not be able to consistently participate in virtual learning during the day.
For all three of my children, I said that they would take the bus on school days. This is only if safety protocols are in place (eg, masks, social distancing that is monitored and enforced). If I don't feel that busses are safe for my kids, we would try to make arrangements with our employers for one parent to drop off and one to pick up. If we could not make that work, we'd consider full remote learning. That said, my preference would be a hybrid approach, and remote learning if it becomes necessary based on covid data.
I believe in school is the best place for my child to learn.
IN-person school!!!!!!
If a child or teacher tests positive how will you deal with that?
Temperature checks upon arrival each day.
Please make sure both students and staffs can be safe even after reopening. Hope there won't be any situation like happened in other states where second or third wave of pandemic happens. I request you that equal priority should be given to teachers and students to keep them safe and healthy.
Had to teach my children more than teachers Did this spring. Please have teachers involved more daily at elementary level. Both parents at home work full time and it was extremely challenging.
Kids need to go to school and have set schedules and interact with friends.
Please don't open school yet. It's not safe, even with precautions, as not everyone will follow them. I can't imagine being a child, especially my child with adhd and severe anxiety having to wear a mask all day for 5 days a week or even part time. Also, my child having adhd will just fidget with it all day. He has a hard time following directions so I'm sure he would get scolded a lot. Plus your putting a lot strain on teachers to implement the rules. I really wish it we're possible to open school safely. Kids need social interaction and a break from their household but it's too risky. Even though only a small population is affected I wouldn't want to be the in that percentage. Please continue to improve the remote learning until this pandemic is safely over.
No matter what decision is made my kids would not be return to school they are high risk kids and for their safety I believe remote learning is best but better platforms need to be put in place rather than so many different ones that were previously used
For remote or hybrid model, The learning boards were helpful, but my child would benefit from daily lessons by her teacher via an online platform (zoom, google meets) as well as more frequent remote opportunities for social interactions with her peers. For inperson or hybrid, it will be beneficial for elementary school students to view videos of the different protocols and expectations that will be implemented and expected. The school experience will be very different in September compared to how it was left in March and they should have advance notice of the changes that will be implemented. The social and emotional aspect of each child should be a main focus of the district as children return to school.
You are putting your teachers, our children and our family at significant risk by having our children attend school in person and I feel it is insane without a vaccine
I think if it's not safe for for the kids to go back to school without having to wear masks then it's not safe masks will be hard for the students and staff and will be a huge distraction if it can be done with proper hand washing and sanitizing then that will be better social distance will also be difficult I want the staff and students to be safe but I honestly think masks is going to be very difficult and especially little kids taking them on and off it will be more touching there face it just realistically won't work if there can't be another way then I'm not sure school is safe right now
My preference at this time would be a hybrid learning environment to avoid having all the kids in school at the same time. My child thrives on social interaction and would not do well in a 100% remote learning environment.
It seems as though the dangers and level of contagiousness of the coronavirus are so high in a school setting that the vast majority of the school day would be dominated by prevention-related activities, rather than effective learning — while exposing teachers, staff, and students to infection. Consequently, until an effective treatment — or preferably an effective vaccine — is widely available, it seems like the correct path should be to work toward an effective remote learning model — recognizing and focusing on satisfying the diverse needs and circumstances of all students — training about virtual learning platforms and strategies for teachers and aides, internet and computer access for all students who do not already have it (It seems like WRSD is already doing a great job with this!), food assistance for families who need it (Again, I'm impressed by WRSD's efforts so far!), ensuring safety for students with insecure and abusive home environments, individualized plans for students who need adaptive learning plans, etc.
I do not believe it is possible for schools to safely host students for in person learning at this time. It is unfair to the teachers or their extended family as they will also be compromised. I am at elevated risk for complications from the virus and I will not be comfortable with sending her back. The numbers in massachusetts which are currently stable will rise again if we reopen schools. (despiteyour best efforts, Schools can't even prevent head lice never mind this virus and you should not be asked to or expected to take responsibility for this when the stakes are so high)
If a hybrid plan and working parents, the district should consider additional exposures to these children in the days their parents have to work and have to put together care for them. The children are potentially exposed, therefore bringing possible exposures back to school on the in person academic days. Is it more/less of a risk to keep all kids in school and in the classroom with the same group versus part time at home but more potential exposures all around? Please consider.
Typically bus but will drive them if needed
Health and safety.
Open the school remote does not work for younger kids
If I wanted to start my children with remote learning to start the school year, would I be able to have them go back half way through the year? Or would it be a decision we would have to stick too? Thanks for all your hard work. These are not easy decisions for anybody and I commend the districts hard work in keeping our children safe.

<p>We support a phased opening plan to allow for flexibility and adjustments to improve learning opportunities. It will allow teachers to assess student's skills prior to creating student cohort/groupings. It will also allow teachers and staff to familiarize students with all remote learning platforms that will be used. We also feel it is important to have more frequent small group google meets with teachers and students to help facilitate rapport building. It is crucial for the health and safety of school staff and their families are taking into consideration when implementing a plan. Our 8th grader has underlying health issues that put him in high risk category; we are extremely nervous about the risk of exposure to COVID from in-person learning. The social emotional piece of school will not improve with in-person learning with all the standards and guidelines to try to maintain a healthy populations. We believe it will exasperate everyone's anxiety.</p> <p>We are sad and hopefully for some sort of normalcy for our rising senior. These children are learning to be adaptable and accepting of what they cannot control.</p>
<p>Remote learning is not ideal for my child and he did not thrive in that environment. It is also very difficult as a parent to ensure that they are connected and doing the right thing in google classroom. Google classroom was not easy to navigate and was not conducive to submitting multiple attachments etc. It was difficult to use and to have multiple zoom conferences at a time is not easy to navigate as well. Things were not well organized until towards the end but learning new material in an online environment is not easy to do without teacher instruction lessons made it impossible.</p>
<p>Thank you for all the work you are doing to ensure the safety of all students and staff in the district while trying to come up with an effective learning plan.</p>
<p>I feel they in-person 100% learning is asking way too much of teachers and staff. They would be putting lives at risk.</p>
<p>I do not feel comfortable with my kids going back either full time or in a hybrid model, as I am at elevated risk. If at all possible, between my job's demands (a teacher in another district) and my husband's, we will be staying home for remote learning at least for the start of the school year.</p>
<p>I'm glad families will be given the option to participate remotely as they see fit. I hope teachers and other staff will be able to be accommodated as well and that in person attendance is elective for all.</p>
<p>If the plan is for any kind of remote option, I think the kids need more opportunities to see their teachers, either live remote learning or recorded lessons they could rewatch. There was nowhere near enough contact with people in the spring. They also need opportunities to see & interact with other kids, maybe informally.</p>
<p>The issue I had with online learning not all the teachers follow the same guideline with posting assignments & when they are due. You have some which post everyting on Sunday for the week (which shoould be the stnadrad) then other that post assignments which are due the night before.</p>
<p>I have a gr 7 (IEP) at CMS and gr 10 (504) at WRHS, I am finally in a position to resign from my job so I can better support my kids educational needs, it is my first preference for WRSD to utilize building and transportation funds saved to replace traditional in-person repetitive worksheet learning (mostly utilized in MS not as much at the HS) with engaging and inspiring remote learning consisting of multiple media viewpoints (reading, poetry, artistic impression, music, racial oppression, movie clips, speeches, journalism, museum of science, art museums, smithsonian, court cases) conduct projects, library research skills (beyond google) MS teachers integrate zero library research skills) and also for MS teachers to conduct assessments, 1:1 parent-teacher conf, integrate foundational word roots and parts of speech that have been lacking.</p>
<p>Take care of your teachers. It is too soon in the pandemic to be considering in-person school.I am a PhD level life scientist.</p>
<p>I believe a hybrid plan would be best</p>
<p>Student health should be the number one concern. Missed learning can be made up. Please do not force parents to put their children in harms way.</p>
<p>I would like to see mandatory zooms if remote.</p>
<p>I am a teacher in another district, so my answers also have to depend on whether we go back in my district or not. My husband is law enforcement and unable to work from home.</p>
<p>Honestly, I don't feel that school should return until we are safe to do so without restrictions</p>
<p>How would you filter the air in the buildings? How can the children use the bathrooms or eat in the cafeteria safely? How do they safely move through the hallways?</p>
<p>can music lessons for band members be provided through zoom?</p>
<p>I answered not sure for hybrid and Full in-person because as a parent I need to see the specific safety precautions that need/will be implemented in the school setting/building. For example, how many students will be in one class? How will kindergarteners be able to access the curriculum due to being so young and needing close physical assistance often times? What will be the necessary steps taken if a student or teacher is suspected of having ill symptoms? How will the class be run if the teacher needs to stay home/quarantine? If substitutes are being used, will they be required to quarantine 14 days+ before they enter the building? Will all teachers need to quarantine before beginning school? Will my children even have the benefits of in-school learning since the distancing guidelines can impede on that? To me, that is an unfair question to ask parents at this time, with no true knowledge of the necessary protocols that will be needed to take place for in-person and hybrid learning. I would feel much more able to answer those questions after I've read what my children's specific school will be implementing for all the above scenarios and then some. Also, I myself am a teacher in another district and still have not heard about what I will be expected to do, be it in school or remote. If I need to work a hybrid model for my own profession, will my hybrid schedule conflict with my children's school hybrid schedule? If I am required to report to my school building for full in-person model, then it is likely my needs will change as far as childcare goes. My gut instinct is to keep my children safe and at home, especially after seeing the spikes in the country where things have opened up more. I understand things are very fluid as far as data and numbers regarding the virus, and things can change between now and then, but I am not willing to sacrifice my children's health or the health of loved ones and teachers when the risk is still at a high point. Thank you for taking our input. Be well!</p>
<p>For contact tracing, group students who are taking similar classes into one classroom and have the teachers rotate in/out.</p>
<p>Elementary school has to be in person. K-2 is remote is a total joke. Kids need to be in school</p>
<p>Opening schools is essential to my children's learning. Thank you</p>
<p>Please remote learning too much of a risk to die for everyone, wait until vaccine is ready</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a teacher tests positive for COVID-19 are they required to quarantine for 2-3 weeks? Is their sick leave covered, paid? • If that teacher has 5 classes a day with 30 students each, do all 150 of those students need to then stay home and quarantine for 14 days? • Do all 150 of those students now have to get tested? Who pays for those tests? Are they happening at school? How are the parents being notified? Does everyone in each of those kids' families need to get tested? Who pays for that? • What if someone who lives in the same house as a teacher tests positive? Does that teacher now need to take 14 days off of work to quarantine? Is that time off covered? Paid? • Where is the district going to find a substitute teacher who will work in a classroom full of exposed, possibly infected students for substitute pay? • Substitutes teach in multiple schools. What if they are diagnosed with COVID-19? Do all the kids in each school now have to quarantine and get tested? Who is going to pay for that? • What if a student in your kid's class tests positive? What if your kid tests positive? Does every other student and teacher they have been around quarantine? Do we all get notified who is infected and when? Or because of HIPAA regulations are parents and teachers just going to get mysterious "may have been in contact" emails all year long? • What is this stress going to do to our teachers? How does it affect their health and well-being? How does it affect their ability to teach? How does it affect the quality of education they are able to provide? What is it going to do to our kids? What are the long-term effects of consistently being stressed out? • How will it affect students and faculty when the first teacher in their school dies from this? The first parent of a student who brought it home? The first kid? • How many more people are going to die, that otherwise would not have if we had stayed home longer? <p>30% of the teachers in the US are over 50. About 16% of the total deaths in the US are people between the ages of 45-65. We are choosing to put our teachers in danger. We're not paying them more. We aren't spending anywhere near the right amount to protect them. And in turn, we are putting ourselves and our kids in danger.</p>
Just concerns for safe practices
It is not fair to the students or teachers to expect them to risk their lives everyday. Synchronized learning with an actual teacher teaching through Google or other online platforms is the safest avenue. Even if the kids are at lower risk for complications they will be passing the germs onto their teachers and families which will be detrimental to society. The school district should wait until their is a widely available vaccine before reopening schools.
We are open to a hybrid model for learning or remote learning. We are VERY opposed to all on-site learning if Massachusetts becomes a hot spot for COVID, similar to what Florida is currently experiencing. Remote learning worked well for us as a family last spring, as my high school senior is self-motivated, tech savvy, and understands the importance of following up with teachers.
1)For the hybrid (or in-person) model, the high school will need to adjust its absence policies to allow students to stay home when sick without losing credit for classes. 2)Thank you for announcing that all families will have a choice of remote learning only. I am so relieved! My child and other family members have health problems and we really didn't want to feel forced to choose between an in-person model or withdrawing from the district. Grateful!
Additional services are needed for children who may have an IEP or have special needs.
The remote learning that was conducted this past spring was unacceptable. My two students were greatly disappointed at the level of teaching and the number of required assignments. If the WRSD district chooses to have remote learning in the fall it needs to provide a better level of service to its students and parents.
School must absolutely open to in class learning any remote or hybrid model is ineffective
I think it is too risky to have the schools re-open at this point, especially with no vaccine, and a likely second spike coming. I feel schools should do a remote only learning plan until at least January, which is when the vaccine is expected.
Will teachers/staff be adequately paid if they need to quarantine? Where will enough long term subs be found to cover the 2 week quarantines when someone is exposed/sick?
Children left alone at home for the hybrid learning most probably won't learn a lot. None of us parents will be able stay every other day at home with them to check what they are doing. They should have opportunity to get back to school as before
I would like to see a hybrid model for Sept- Thanksgiving break, remote through Feb vaca, and then hybrid (hopefully in-person) for the Spring. With enough notice, working parents can figure out child care, electronic device and internet access, etc and teachers can have time to learn the technology they need/ lesson plan/ and teach the students how they would use the technology to submit work, etc.
Children will not follow safety plans. They will not wash their hands frequently, they will not wash it for 20 seconds as recommended, they will touch everything and will not practice social distancing. We have to consider that these children have younger siblings that they will come home to. That is my biggest fear in all this. Them coming home to infect the entire household. I am a state employee and if my Area Director and Regional Director at the recommendation of the Commissioner is telling me to stay home, then it simply cannot be safe for children, and based on that, i will not be sending my child to school till i see indications that our leaders are truly confident it is time to go back to normal.
Please disinfect all schools before re-opening, otherwise, there's no reason to not open all schools safely and same as last year. :)
Would like a hybrid model
Our children need to go back to school and learn hands on and have social interactions. You would be failing our children if you do not allow them to return to school. Parents are not teachers! Open the schools!
For middle school and high school remote learning is not ideal with just google classroom or google suite, You would need to invest in substantial technology such as blackboard learn etc. Teaching new materials 100% online is not the best way for these students to learn. I implore you to figure out a way for students to 100% go back to school 100% of the time in a safe way. We are doing a disservice to our kids by going to remote learning.
Remote learning for my younger kids (2nd & 3rd) was a NIGHTMARE. Neither can use a computer or read well enough to be properly educated at home this way. On top of that, as a parent, I didn't understand how to help them understand concepts they were learning. Both hated remote school and struggled to do it. They had no support from teachers. Teachers were not consistent with what they used for teaching, programs changed, needed new passwords and formats changed so frequently it was too hard for kids to figure out. Being a dual working home, we only had so much time as parents to figure it out. For the younger grades (or even older when on IEPs), we need paper options that are EASY to print or bring home from school if a hybrid model is used. It's just too hard for them to navigate learning the system, especially when very computer literate parents had problems figuring it since it changed so frequently.

I believe that all children, especially those in early adolescence, will need therapy after we have found ourselves on the other side of this pandemic. Socially they have been arrested, causing anxiety and additional stress beyond the norm. Please make services available to all who need them, and promote these services to those who may not see the need or value of such a service or therapy. I say this as my son had developed sleeping disorders and heightened anxiety to social situations. Once we have a vaccine I'm confident he will relax, but damage and emotional scars will endure through this school experience. Proper therapy will be such a benefit to every child who (can and should) capitalize on these resources.
be flexible and prepared. options are always good
What happens if a student in a class gets the virus, tests positive, does the whole class and their families self quarantine for 14 days?
I was very disappointed with the remote learning at the end of the school year. I would hope that it would not be the same in the fall if so that would again be very disappointing as the students only do to interact with the teachers once a week if that and there was very little to no actual learning involved
Don't be pushed into opening schools if lives will be at risk. Teachers should feel like they are being sent to war. Politics do not belong in this discussion.
My kids travel by bus to and from school but I could drive them if I don't feel it's safe. Right now they Take the bus from before school daycare in the morning. If using hybrid or remote learning, I may have to change this plan. And would have to keep working from home.
Our biggest concern for the return to learning is that our daughter had a very hard time with teacher support in the weeks of remote learning(she loves her teachers and we do too) the challenge we felt was that the teachers just assigned work and didn't really have a plan or process to help those who were struggling (we speak only for our daughter)..she is on a 504..doing very well until remote learning started... So the most critical item for us would be having a teacher/staff member that will know how to navigate the challenges with remote learning and be aware and responsive to students struggling Good luck..we understand it won't be easy. We understand there is no precedent to follow and we are all adjusting..we'll do our part to the best of our ability..but would certainly need help as well.. Thanks be well
Send kids who need to go to school to school-you ought to know who they are by now. Cut the school day to 4 hrs remote learning where middle school teachers are responsible for a "normal" class. Record a lesson for 50 minutes or give a recorded lecture with associated class or group work. But it should take a full class time. Do this every day. And give homework like you normally would! For elementary school teachers figure out how to break the 4 hr day into zoom, lectures, reading, workbooks...just like a normal day. Try while the weather cooperates to get kids up to their school In smaller groups in the afternoon for a social activity like kickball or volleyball. If kids are on a team and going to practice that counts-don't worry about them. I'm sick and tired of this lame excuse that "we can't do it cuz not everyone Has access" parents need to step up. Find a carpool for goodness sake. Purchase blackboard or some other remote learning tool and make teachers use it. And for the love of Pete disassemble the chrome carts and hand out chrome books to families who need them.
Would appreciate district-provided masks. (Like mayo masks all kids have). Absolutely Mandatory masks - worn correctly by all - is essential. Also, hoping these plans have the heavy involvement of teacher planning and teacher voice from each level at each school. If this means delaying the start of the year in order to plan, it is worth it. If teachers surveyed conclude that remote learning is safest for all, then hybrid or in-person should not be considered. Good luck. May safety be the first concern. Learning will catch up eventually. Experiencing the death of a peer or staff member would be more damaging and traumatic than more months of remote learning. It's a s**t situation- hang in there.
I will be homeschooling my child. The districts remote learning plan does not work for my family. My son and I are immunocompromised, while this pushed us over the edge we were leaning towards homeschooling soon anyway.
I wholeheartedly believe my child going back to full time in person schooling is critically to educational and social growth. I feel safe and comfortable with her attending and truly hope it can be as normal as possible. I do not believe it is in anyone's best interest to keep children separated.
Both my kids are severe asthmatics. I am very concerned about them going in person until they have been vaccinated against this.
I am a nurse and my children's father is a correctional officer so we are both essential workers. How does the school system expect us to work full time and teach our twin five year old autistic sons as well if the school system does any sort of remote learning?
It's difficult to say yes or no without knowing a specific plan. We need a plan as soon as possible in order for us to prepare. I am not only concerned about the safety of the students but teachers. I find it hard to believe that it's possible, especially at the high school, given that we are not allowing other buildings like offices to have so many people.
With Health and safety first in mind, if possible opening schools in a hybrid phase manner seems to be most scientifically backed up.This way if there are exposures it is easier to contact trace and pull back if need be.Thank you for considering all avenues.
I trust a decision will be made that is best for all and we will follow what ever that may be. If it is remote, I would like to see zoom classes where the students participate together with a teacher rather than assignments be posted in google classroom for them to complete on their own.
Recess for younger students needs to be taken away. I can not have my child potentially return to school with social distance guidelines but allow them to be unmonitored for a certain time.
My husband and I are also educators in a different district. It is our hope that districts are working together to help minimize the disruption of different plans for different districts.
If hybrid model is adopted, siblings need to be on same schedule regardless of which school they attend.
Although I would like my child to go back full time into the school, I realize that 1/2 time would probably be the best solution at this time.
Google classroom is ridiculous to navigate and it is challenging to copy and type into the forms. Additionally, printing things up to work on (specifically for my 3rd grader) gets costly with printer ink and paper used. My kids are often brought to tears over the technical complexity of completing the work online, not the actual learning of new material. Perhaps a new platform would be better?
All iep children need to be in school even if they have partial gen ed classes. Remote learning did not work last spring. Children need real teaching and relevant assignments that teach them, not just busy work. Children need to be able to interact with teachers live and not rely on emails for extra help and understanding new material.
I was very disappointed in the lack of teacher contact in the spring. My children did not do well with online learning and it was difficult to manage in a home with 2 full time working parents. There would need to be significant changes for me to support remote learning at all.
I believe it would not be good to have students back in schools even with protocols such as wearing masks I don't think it can be enforced enough to keep all safe a school and the rest of the family at home

My children miss the social interaction and both stated that they have difficulty learning via remote method. If 100% in classroom setting is not possible, it would be great if they had a mix of in class and remote learning. Either way, if it is decided that it will be 100% remote hopefully at some point during the school year when vaccination becomes available they could transition from 100% remote to 50/50.
I'm very uncomfortable with re-opening schools before we have an effective vaccine. I'm diabetic, and both my wife and I are in our late 50s so there's a fairly risk for one or both of us should we become infected with COVID.
For elementary school children, I believe it would be important to open school full time with option for parents to do remote learning if desired. Teachers who are immunocompromised should be given options of remote learning, others should be given masks and face shields to be used at their comfort level. Consideration should be given to the usage of clear face shields rather than masks for children especially in elementary school. Clear face shields can prevent sneeze or cough droplets from dispersing, but also allows for a child's growth through facial recognition of emotional responses.
Very disappointed in how this "deadly dangerous virus" is being overblown without anyone truly questioning these government mandates.
I strongly believe regularly scheduled Covid-19 testing must occur for all staff and students if they are to attend classes in any district school.
If we go to a hybrid remote learning plan, what will the options be for childcare on the days the children do not attend school in-person? This model is very difficult for working parents.
I believe that in-school learning is best for my child. This is my child's first year of elementary school and it's important for her to be social, play, learn, enjoy recess, art, etc. I do not believe mask-wearing is appropriate for Kindergarten children. I do not believe on-line school work is appropriate for Kindergarten children. I also would love some sort of in-school Orientation for our Kindergartener. I think it's important that our child, and us as parents, become somewhat familiar with the school and her teacher before school begins. Thank you.
We understand safety is the most important factor, that being said communication is also essential. Please let families know plans as soon as possible so they can plan accordingly.
Is everyone involved in the planning committee sitting in a room discussing the plans? Do you feel comfortable enough to sit in a boardroom for hours with other individuals? Have you tried to have a small class of students in a classroom to yourselves to observe how well they follow the safety protocols? None of these questions even asked how well our kids actually wear a mask for any given time period. The CDC has stated that having k-12 back in school full time is the worst thing we can do at this time. PLEASE allow parents to have the option of remote learning full time!
I just hope our district chooses the best option to continue to keep our children safe. I'd prefer a gradual reopening into the schools where I support the hybrid learning. I'm afraid if schools are looking to reopen 100% we may possibly have a surge. I support remote learning.
I would just be curious, if there was in school learning or hybrid model, what the protocol would be if someone in the school tested positive. If there was remote learning would it be like the end of the school year, or would it be more in depth/etc.?
I have no faith that you have done any planning for the kids to actually learn anything if remote learning or hybrid learning is implemented. You are a slave to the teacher's union. All you care about is special ed learning, and the kids who will actually go to college are left in the cold, yet you use their statistics to push people to vote for the district budget. You should be ashamed. With 200 teachers who reside in Holden alone, the budget gets passed so they can continue to enjoy their benefits. It's disgusting.
Classes outdoors weather permitting
I feel very nervous about a return to 100% in-person learning for the fall. I fear social aspects of school that children have been missing during Remote Learning (chatting and playing with friends during free play, recess, and lunch time and more) will not be able to happen even if all students are physically present in the school building. The rules and regulations (while necessary) are going to be very difficult for many children and teachers. How do children learn with and from each other when they cannot be near each other? How does a teacher develop relationships and a sense of community with and within the classroom when she cannot be near any of her students? For the younger grades that my children are in, how do children learn about feelings and letter and speech sounds when everyone is wearing a mask? In schools without air conditioning on a 90 degree September day with everyone wearing a mask, how does a teacher teach or children learn without overheating? And how are we preventing the spread of the virus when masks are optional for Kindergarteners and first graders? Why are we considering a full return to school when I cannot enter the Town of Holden Recreation Department Building to pick up a pool pass because it is not safe to do so? I agree with the MTA Proposal of a Four Phased return to school and ask that the district seriously consider adopting this plan. We need to do what is truly best and safest for children, teachers, and families.
Our family is strongly for in class learning with appropriate safety measures for students and faculty in place. Thank you for your work and efforts.
I want my child full time remote learning. I feel safer at home with him and with his learning. I do not want to risk my child life.
We are bot in a position to open schools. 3 months remote then reevaluation
I think itis critical for the kids to return to school, I understand that a mixed environment with at home learning and in person learning will be necessary. It has been extremely hard on my 13 year old to have all school and school related activities cancelled.
If the school year begins with a hybrid or remote learning plan, i hope the district will consider allowing clubs, athletics and other after school activities to occur under safe social distancing protocols. I believe this will helpful to maintain good mental health and community involvement.
As the parent of a child with anxiety I am concerned about a full week on/full week off model. It will be extremely difficult for her to transition back to school during her 'on week, which will cause her to miss learning time. I hope that the district will explore hybrid options that keep in class time closer together than a week, for example a Two day on, three day off model.
My family would have great difficulty in teaching our children at home. I am a full time nurse in a very demanding job at a surgery center. My husband is a full time corrections officer who works off shift. I feel that if safe protocols are put in place, such as scheduled cleaning of high touch areas, eliminating shared supplies, and educating children (which we have consistently done since March about hand hygiene, not touching your face, cleaning your area, not sharing common supplies), then in-person teaching should not pose as high of a risk as some believe.
One of my children REQUIRES special ed, speech therapy and help because of his disabilities I. He is also high risk in terms of health. I cannot provide the services he's needs as I have 3 other children to help with remote learning. I would need a tutor or special ed teacher to hone visit for his schooling.
Good luck to all of you. And Thanks for what you do.
We will not mask a healthy child 6 hours per day
As a parent who is also a teacher, it is very stressful not knowing if students will be in school part time and teachers in school full time. If this occurs, childcare will be an issue with my family and it may lead to a leave of absence to help my children learn remotely.

Children will 100% need outside recess time
We would love our schools to open, obviously, but we also want our kids to be safe, I personally trust that our governor and district responsible personal will make the best decision based on the real data and expert's advice and decide what is the best path to take. Non funding of schools or districts by federal government is a non acceptable , politically rooted strategy to force states to re-open schools without considering safety of children and teachers. If things changes, re-opening schools and country is everyone's dream coming through but if nothing changes , I believe hybrid form of opening maybe the best path to go. Kids can't learn anything from home unless remote learning becomes much more organized and planned, teachers get trained on how to communicate with kids utilizing technology .
Kids need in person learning and parents need to be able to actually go to work. I need to go to work to earn money to pay my bills and I can not do that if I need to stay home with my child. Also he is not learning well via the very little zoom we had, as this correlates to very little in person teacher instruction. Keeping on task all day at home for someone with an IEP is challenging.
If my child does not return to school FULL TIME because of this fake crisis, I will be gathering parents and it will make the BLM "protests" look like a joke. Be ready for protests and withholding of taxes. At that point there are no schools to support with town taxes and the towns will crumble from it. My taxes will not be paid if there is no school for my child to attend
We are a family that has one parent working with covid positive patients during every shift. It's still very real and scary with all the unknowns. Please don't implement full in person learning just yet. I also would be concerned as an educator that my children would be going to school opposite weeks that I am and I wouldn't have childcare. The sooner you can let us know the better.
In person is critical to have as part of the mix. Remote leaning was just ok and just ok is not acceptable.
Training for parents, teachers and kids will be critical. I believe equity is very important. The level of community spread appears to be the most critical aspect for in person learning. If levels increase, then I will have the kids do remote only.
If the district goes to remote or a hybrid model the teachers HAVE to teach. There is technology available and my kids know how to use it. They were basically left out to dry and to learn on their own. I wrote to the principal and was told it isn't mandatory for them to teach, only send assignments.
The safety of the students, staffs and families should be upmost important factor in whether school should reopening. How will masks wearing be enforced? What will the protocols be when snacks and lunch are served? What will be the protocols for hallways and bathrooms? If a student or staff tests positive, will school be closed? Families with members who are in the high risks groups, how will school reopening protocols ensure that those members stay safe. Will school curriculum varies if family choose to do remote learning over those who do in person? Will they receive the same level of support if they choose to do remote only rather than in person? How will school carryout remote learning so there will be less strain on parents and family? How will school help prepare students who are taking MCAS this coming school year? What will be the cleaning protocols be in classrooms and throughout the school? I personally cannot see how reopening school will be safe. Enforcing grade school students to social distance and wearing masks will be a definite challenge.
As a single parent, I feel it is imperative the district attempt to return to "normal". My family can not afford childcare expenses to home school even 50% of the time. Socialization is part of learning and students will not get that experience at home. Thank you
When my elementary child did remote learning at Mayo there were no zoom class instruction everything was done independently. So basically she learned nothing. Math is hard for her and with no math instruction I feel that she has not learning anything. If they decide on remote learning teachers need to step up and teach the kids. They will need these skills in order to progress. So the need to have instruction that is more than an independent lesson where you basically guess the answer..
I feel there should only be remote learning to start the year. But if the kids do go back full time or hybrid there has to be a plan for full remote learning if there is another spike in our area.
The hybrid model is not useful for families who have two working parents. What will the school aged children do during the other times? If they are in a gemy school, what's the point of being there only a short while? How are teachers expected to plan for BOTH remote and in person learning, at the same time? Please keep it as simple as possible. Thank you for all your hard work.
We 1000 % support full in school learning for the Students. Additionally, for the health of my student, Fall sports MUST BE PLAYED !! Thank you
I'd be interested in parent training sessions to better help my child meet their IEP goals. Specifically with ABA services and speech.
Send the kids back to school
Being a single, full time working parent. The earlier we could find out the plan, they better for my employer. I believe we would need more zoom or google meet lessons provided by the teachers. It was difficult to home school 3 kids with the choice board and assist all of them learning 3 different levels of work. Also my child on an IEP, didn't receive a single service throughout the 3 months. I appreciate the difficulty with all of this and hope more can be provided in the fall.
Please consider families with multiple children! If school was 50% face to face and hybrid that siblings would attend schools on the same days
The teachers need to feel safe and ready for in-person teaching most importantly. When they feel ready, we will feel ready.
If remote learning in any form is decided, it needs to be done way more effectively than previously. I am not a teacher and in my opinion the teachers did zero teaching during the last remote learning that was done.
I am curious as to what the remote learning will consist of. Are there tests or will it be the same learning that was just completed?
Please note that I have a post-grad student and that was not an option in picking grades for student, so I put her in as 12th grade
I have a 4th grader and a kindergarten student attending PCS this fall. Very concerned about how to keep the kindergarten child safe at school where children that age sometimes struggle with social distancing
Both of my kids are in desperate need of socializing environment (they really miss their teachers and classmates). Additionally, my kids just returned to their extracurricular activities in person, and so far everything goes very well in accordance with all state precautions and safety requirements.

<p>I appreciate the time the District is spending to craft a plan that meets the needs of the community. I would encourage the district to eliminate all unnecessary group activities for at least the fall. No team sports, extra-curriculars, etc. unless strict social distancing and masks. This seems like the most responsible approach that will allow students to focus on academics, expose them to fewer risks, and stay healthy.</p> <p>I appreciate that the committee recommendations suggest 6 feet of distance between desks - this feels appropriate and in line with medical guidance, rather than the 3 feet.</p> <p>Is the district at all considering modular classrooms and hiring additional staff so elementary can have 10 students in a class, for example? In the remote only option, I also like that the district is giving teachers the option to teach either from school or home, as we know some teachers may need to be home with their children, or may need to quarantine if they test positive - either symptomatic or asymptomatic.</p> <p>Overall- I am very worried about the feasibility of in-person school in the fall. I cannot see how any district will manage the risks of contagion of groups of students together, staff absences, etc. I also think that the toll of the precautions on student and staff mental health will be great, and that concerns me as well. I would love to see a return to normalcy, and I think that if space and staffing were available, having small # classrooms in large spaces, with masks and mask breaks, would be the best option. If that's not possible, I think we should stay remote.</p>
<p>With both parents being essential workers, we would need the children at school or in the care of someone.</p>
<p>Although I'd love to have our kids back in school learning there is still a risk. I believe masks help but not interested in having my kids wear them all day in school, not interested in the learning interruptions that would occur in Hybrid especially if teacher/students need to quarantine. Online learning keeps it safe and consistent. Thank you for all of your options and creative ways to keep our children/families/teachers safe</p>
<p>We appreciate greatly the time and effort invested in determining the best course of action. If an impediment to re-opening in person is the cost associated to additional materials needed to ensure safety, we would not object in any way to contributing to this specific cost for our child's classroom / school. Thanks!</p>
<p>There should be a way for the district to do live classes so the kids could stay home if need be. Some districts have live classes so they don't have snow days. Might be the way to go. I don't want my child in a mask all day. I wear one all day for work and am miserable I can only imagine how the kids will be</p>
<p>Please do not require in school learning prior to January</p>
<p>Current MA statistics and numbers should be heavily weighed versus what is going on in other parts of the country when making these decisions.</p>
<p>In person is BEST for academic, social, and emotional connections, especially for your younger students. They cannot handle and should not have to handle constant screen time.</p>
<p>This is a tough situation and as a working parent it was very stressful over the course of the end of last school year. I'm hoping if feasible a hybrid option would be implemented or if the trend continues to be low a fully in classroom experience.</p>
<p>I am concerned about kids having to wear masks for 7 hrs. I would really prefer a hybrid model especially at the high school since there are so many students. There's no way kids are going to social distance while passing in the hallways. I'm concerned about the amount of kids that would be on the bus.</p>
<p>Clubs, sports and other extra curricular activities must be allowed to happen. College scholarships are tied to these opportunities which are vital to juniors and seniors (science seminar gives way to science fair opportunities, DECA teaches business skills and opens up networking connections etc).</p>
<p>Based on all the data children are at the lowest risk for infection. The children need to be back in school, On a regular schedule. They can wear masks but they need the structure, the education not to mention the social interactions with other children. The emotional impact on kids during this pandemic is going to be devastating. They need school, they need to begin living their life. That includes sports , which are a major influence in many children's life. It is where they learn the values of teamwork, goal setting and the sense of accomplished pride.</p>
<p>I believe Hybrid learning to start as to keep class sizes small. Kids will get more attention while at school on those days as teachers would not have to worry as much about distancing. Also if children can sit more than 6 feet apart they could remove masks.</p>
<p>Students are not getting the same education with remote learning - this coupled with lack of social interaction will yield less intelligent youth with poorer social skills. The last thing this generation needs is more screen time....its a different flu strain that's all and we cant run forever from it...</p>
<p>Though my child will be attending learning in person it's important to note that the Dese recommendations of 3 feet space for learning is concerning.</p>
<p>Attending in person learning would really depend on class size, length of school day required as masks would be required, what the school day would look like, are children with a temperature allowed to attend?</p>
<p>I've heard a lot about the possibility of having some classes outdoors. When I mentioned this to my middle school daughter, she immediately became concerned about how distracting this would be for her ADHD. I wanted to mention it here since that concern came directly from a student, and wasn't something I've heard mentioned in discussions.</p>
<p>Although the teachers are trying hard....the remote learning experience in the spring was lacking. I would need to be convinced that they have better training and resources to be more successful with it before we committed as a family.</p>
<p>I have 4 children at home from 1st grade to a senior in HS. I cannot provide support and learning for all children and stay home as we did in this past spring. My wife and I still work away from the home and one of us needed to be present in the morning hours when the numerous emails and instructions flowed in.</p>
<p>Home remote learning was incredibly difficult to try to facilitate for my family. Further to the logistical challenges, it was not effective for my children (they are elementary school age). If school does not open 100% in person, we would be forced to consider private school.</p>
<p>It is very hard for my husband and I to work from home while the children are remote learning. We want them to go back in the classroom. If that is not possible, we feel the teachers need to do a better job teaching these kids and not pushing the burden onto the parents. It is not our job!</p>
<p>I hope the district takes a conservative approach and moves to online learning if face time face instruction does not feel safe.</p>
<p>At this time with all due respect, I do not feel it is possible to open with students and wish that the remote learning will be continued so as not to endanger staff or children. There are so many unknown answers and hundreds of "what if" questions that it does not seem possible.</p>
<p>I think the hybrid model should include weekly in-person contact with the student. This is important for learning (i.e., more frequent contact with the material leads to better learning, generalization, retention). Also, if an every other week schedule was implemented the discrepancy between what occurs during the off week would be substantial and lead to the teachers having to "play catch up" with some students. It'd also be less burdensome for parents when finding child care. It'd be easier to hire someone for two days a week versus every other week. Thanks and good luck!</p>

My daughter would be best served by actual in school learning. She needs that face to face contact with her Teachers. We do have internet, but it is not entirely reliable.
The government is pushing for schools to open and I think this is a big mistake. My company is having us work from home until at least the end of the year or possibly the spring. I think the schools should at least consider the January time frame. Some of the suggestions in the report sound like a huge undertaking to set up and follow through on. It seems to me that teachers are going to spend most of their time wiping things down and making sure kids keep their masks on. Some kids are going to be so worried about following the protocols to the letter and then others are going to be hell bent on breaking them. The anxiety will be real...for teachers and students. Perhaps spend more time putting together a good plan for remote learning and presenting that to parents as well? We will probably be opting out of any in class instruction. Not sure what is going to happen to my child because of it besides feeling left out and different from everyone else. I certainly don't want her riding the school bus and I'm not sitting in traffic to get her to the school. How about having only the seniors go back to the school or seniors and juniors and have the rest do remote learning until January?
My feeling is the schools will be shut down in 2-4 weeks if in person education is pursued.
Both parents are essential healthcare workers and have exposed the household to COVID requiring testing for the entire family 3X This is likely to continue, potentially exposing other children, staff and teachers to COVID. The risk is far greater than implementing in person learning at this time.
I am a teacher in another district. Unfortunately, some of my decisions are dependent upon what I am going to be asked to do for my own classroom. I wish the 100% in person could work, but there are so many unknowns still. I wish we knew more before putting everyone back in a building together.
Kids need to be back in the classroom. Need to have that social aspect back in their lives
In person w/no masks, like many countries have done w/no negative effects
I hope to have an announcement sooner rather than later as my work schedule and situation is dependent on it. Remote learning will likely mean I will have to quit my job.
If the district goes to all in person learning or the hybrid options and certain parents were not comfortable sending their children to school, will the district provide the online resources/curriculum for those families? It would be nice to have that information about whether a plan would be given to the parents to follow or if parents would be expected to come up with their own online learning? Also, if parents choose to keep their children home for remote learning, would they be committing to that for the entire year? As a parent, that would also be important for me to know that if I choose that option and things change would I be able to have my children readmitted back to in school learning. What will the process be if a student in the class with my child tests positive, does the whole class quarantine for 2 weeks? What if other children in the same class start testing positive at different times over a certain period of time, what would be the process for that? Will their be "pool testing" for group of students?
If there is going to be more remote Learning there needs to be more google meets for the interaction and visual Learners. Neither one of my children had meaningful google meets last year.
Students need to return To in person learning at some capacity. Children of all ages are struggling socially and emotionally. Socialization is key to student success.
My son needs an evaluation this fall for IEP/504 which he was denied for this spring. He has autism and needs assistance
Please reopen the schools. Everyone will be fine if they turn off the news and social media.
The district should consider the health and safety of the school teachers and consider it just as important as the health and safety of the students
Safety first for TEACHERS and students
I know that this is a daunting task and one that no one ever anticipated. I appreciate all of your hard work in putting this together. I think the data from schools and daycares that open in other regions, prior to our school start could be quite beneficial in what works / doesn't work, what is the virus spread risk, etc. I will be continuing to monitor data myself as I try to make the best decision for my child.
My kids will not participate in any extracurricular activities, but we feel attending school in-person outweighs the disadvantages.
Whether hybrid or 100% remote learning students should be held accountable for all their work. It should not be a Pass/ Fail grade. It should be as it was prior to COVID
Hybrid learning was a challenge this spring, but I feel my kids eventually caught on and did fairly well.
As both a WRSD parent and teacher who will need to consider the schedules of three different schools, I am concerned with the logistics of scheduling. I hope for flexibility and/or uniformity district-wide to ease the situation for many district employee's families.
How are parents going to work and teach their children? What happens if parents have to work? What happens to the children's learning? What about an IEP being met? I am very concerned about their education. They need to go back to school.
I would be very happy having the District choose to do 100% Remote Learning. For my family, it reduces stress both around the exposure to Covid and stress my child would experience with the "fear of missing out" should the District return to some sort of in-person learning. If in-person education were to begin I believe we would keep our student home and this would have a huge psychological and emotional toll on her as an incoming freshman. She's fully aware students going back in school increases the risk of spreading this virus, aware of her part in the responsibility of possibly bringing it home to the family should schools open and yet she would feel very isolated if others were back in classrooms and she were not because of her or our choice in keeping her home. With schools operating under a remote environment, all students have the same focus of health and safety first while they learn and as science progresses toward reducing the risks surrounding this pandemic and each family can "expand their exposure safety bubble" as they see fit for their own family. For example, we'd be able to continue our multi-generational social family bubble as a personal choice while others may decide to socialize outside their family more - but the stress of SCHOOL VS. HEALTH decisions, that would be off the table. As a district we can model the often unpopular practice of Social Responsibility. I am not at all concerned about 100% remote learning at the high school level, particularly when the kids are all in the same boat - worldwide - and in their 9th grade year. Thanks for asking parental input.

<p>There is simply no way that you can ensure a safe environment for students, teachers, other staff, and parents - not to mention the multitude of people that each of those people will come into contact with, potentially carrying Covid-19 with them and infecting many others. It's not possible to have any in-person learning without putting countless lives at risk.</p> <p>My son would be in the first grade. Last year, I was sick more often than I care to recall - because young kids are not always as aware as we'd like them to be about washing hands, covering their mouths, and so on. What in the world makes anyone think that one teacher is going to be able to handle a full classroom of kids and make sure that they all stay three feet apart (when six feet is the normal safe distance when out in public)? Those teachers will spend more time on trying to keep everyone apart from one another and sanitizing everything in sight to be able to do anything related to actual teaching. It would be an exercise in futility!</p> <p>My wife is immunocompromised. She is also a teacher. I refuse to put her in further danger of catching this. A simple cold puts her out of commission for weeks; I can't imagine what Covid would do to her. It's an absurd risk to take for little gain.</p> <p>The country has since March to figure out a method to handle remote learning for students, and there is simply no excuse for not having a plan in order. My family will not be sending my son to school in person to learn. My wife cannot be teaching a classroom in person. It is not worth anyone getting sick and potentially dying over.</p> <p>I understand that the 'president' has made threats to withhold funding to schools. He doesn't have the power to do that; do not cave to the rantings and ravings of a lunatic who is more concerned about his ratings than the lives of American citizens. At this point, Massachusetts is doing alright with Covid cases. But we are not clear of this by any means. There are more cases nationwide by far than when schools closed in March. So how is this even something that you are considering at this point? What makes you think that it would be safe now, when it wasn't safe then? Because it's certainly not safe. It's time to stop asking for people's opinions and do what you (should) already know is the right course of action: keep schools closed and get students engaged in remote learning.</p> <p>Families without reliable internet or computer use should be provided with such. I know there's a high cost associated with these things, but again - this has been ongoing since March and plans should have been put in place long ago.</p> <p>The first priority in this country should be to keeping people safe and healthy - pushing for everyone to go back to work, and for kids to be back in schools is a surefire way to ensure that no one will be safe or healthy. I am very concerned that this is still a question that you feel needs to be asked. Get with the program and understand that in-person learning is not going to happen for the start of the school year. You've had ample time to begin putting plans and measures in place for remote learning, if you have failed to do so, you haven't been doing your job.</p>
<p>What happens if a teacher tests positive? Are all children quarantined? Same with students? What happens if school has to close again, my understanding is a second surge in October? What if family members are high risk? How do they ensure masks are worn at all times and that they are change? How is social distancing to be maintained? How will buses ensure social distancing? Why is it imperative for 6 ft social distancing in all other cases but in a classroom or it appears on a bus?</p>
<p>We are very unsure right now. I look at the news now, they are cancelling high school and college fall athletic seasons. Teachers in Arizona are getting sick during summer school. They say it's only going to get worse in the fall and winter when individuals are forced indoors. I understand children are low risk (what if the virus mutates more) but what about the grandparents taking care of children, the teacher w the compromised immune system or The cafeteria worker...it's all so scary and confusing at this time of uncertainty.</p>
<p>Will my child be able to participate in recess and specials?</p>
<p>We need the kids back in school. Remote learning was a nightmare and my child suffered during Q4 in the spring. Also, we need Fall sports to return.</p>
<p>There has to be a clearer way if remote learning is implemented for parents to check if child work is completed and feedback from teachers if child is not completing work.</p>
<p>I think it is critical for students especially with IEPs to go back to IN person learning. I would be willing to drive my child to school or participate in varied hours to make it happen. I feel like my children learned very little during remote learning. It is virtually impossible for a middle schooler on an IEP to learn virtually. Give parents the option to go back full time and if parents aren't comfortable they can use virtual home schooling options that are currently available.</p>
<p>I do not want to be in your shoes. Any decisions you make on behalf of the school children my husband and I will support. I would put staggered school schedules for high schoolers on the table. Seniors arrive later and juniors and seniors take classes together, even electives. Cut down elective choices and focus on academics. Parents generally border on insane when it comes to their precious cargo. You will have to consider college preparation as a priority but many parents will prefer you think about sports. Whatever the plans are for sports, better pull the trigger sooner than later. People are incredibly mean spirited so good luck and God bless.</p>
<p>Reopen all schools!</p>
<p>Children riding to and from school on the bus would be a concern if safety & distancing cannot be accommodated. This is our main source of transportation for our child.</p>
<p>With whatever the decision comes to, it's important for the schools, it's employees, students and families to follow the protocols put in place all the time and appropriately. It should not be a some do it and some don't without correction. This is confusing and leads to bigger issues once put into place.</p>
<p>I would like my children to go back to school. The learning from home did not go well at all. I will do whatever is needed to make that happen.</p>
<p>* consider the MA teachers union recommendations for a tiered return * state recommendations are a minimum standard guideline, not a blueprint to be followed - we need better for our community * allow for parents to adjust their choice and change from/to remote learning as personal situations necessitate * most importantly, continue to review the process throughout the year and make school specific adjustments as needed to the plans - I appreciate efforts by the reopening committee and would like to see continued oversight as we progress * can you hold a meeting or provide a presentation or some type of interactive Q&A sessions with parents, at a school level instead of a district level? Surveys are an ok start, listening to WRSC mtgs are technically challenging, I'd like a principal/SEL director led meeting to hear about my child's school specifically.</p>
<p>In person learning for parents and children is very important. I understand the staffing concerns and concerns for teacher safety but The social part of school is imperative to their growth as humans.</p>
<p>Not until a vaccine is developed will I send my child back to school. You should probably do a survey on how many children have the opportunity to stay home and remotely learn.</p>
<p>If remote, I think teachers should actually teach by zoom video at least an hour a day. End of this school year Zion was used, but no teaching was done.</p>

IF there is any in person component:
1. Touch free paper towel dispensers should be installed in all student and staff bathrooms
2. Touch free soap dispensers should be installed in all student and staff bathrooms
3. SIX foot distancing At all times 4. Face masks a must
5. Plexiglass barriers at all student desks
6. Separate nurse's office and nurse for students receiving medication during the day so cross contamination with potentially infected does not exist. as masks aren't 100% Foolproof, a nurse interacting with a potentially positive student should not also interact with healthy children just going to get medication. Likewise, those children should not be subjected to the same room/hallway/space at any time.
7. Air filtration systems fixed/installed in schools to purify air every 10 minutes or so to account for droplets in the air.
8. Air conditioners in each classroom due to mask wearing and some 90+ days, sweat droplets and more face adjustment will take place otherwise. 9. Substitute custodians and substitute teachers only affiliated with one building to prevent cross contamination amongst schools. These are just a few thoughts. I feel the district should be fully remote. The next step, at MOST, the district should offer some in person services to the most vulnerable populations (substantially separate or students receiving IEP services as a drop off pick up at x time type model). Until there is a vaccine no one is safe. An article read today showed 30% of Florida's tested children are testing positive. My pediatrician this week said positive children are transmitting the virus to 80% of their parents. I don't think teachers or administration should be left with a dead child wondering for the rest of their lives what they may have done differently to prevent it.
Parents who are also teachers in other districts will have childcare concerns depending on the plan.
I believe our children deserves to safe while in school and 3 feet apart as per new recommendations is not enough.
Its schools do not open I have no idea where my children will be during the day. Both I and their other parent work full time with no option for working at home. This would be a real crisis for family.
Because we've got a high-risk person in the household, there's really no reasonable way we can consider sending our child back to in-person school at this time. We're aware this is a terribly difficult situation for the entire district to be in, and we've been grateful for all the hard work everyone's been doing.
Children would get a lot of benefit from learning from home in a safer environment. We will make sure we are disciplined to follow your guides from home.
If they can't go without masks then they shouldn't be in school.
You need to allow kids to get back in school. It is inconceivable to me that we are even discussing not sending kids back to school in the fall. Kids need to socialize, play sports, and get their life's back to normal.
It might be good to know the ability of one or both parents to accommodate remote learning, whether hybrid or full remote.
Our family has 2 full time working parents and a child needing a para professional throughout the school day. We need full day school back. Virtual is not enough
100% in person education with good safety practices is the way to go in Mass.
Please gave sports back for students. I believe it's important for kids to have their sports for not only physical activity but the mental aspect of socialization.
No politics. Safety, health and preventing death are much higher priority.
There is absolutely no logical or scientific reason to keep the children out of school. I will explore alternative schooling options if this remote learning nonsense continues.
In person school is important for their social emotional health
Mask & distancing
my daughter is going to be a freshman at WRHS and i want her to have in school
Reopen early August
I thank you for the opportunity to complete this survey.
I work for the Sudbury Public Schools in special ed and based on current guidelines would likely be required to be in person. I am very concerned, as I am sire many parents also working in education are, how it will logistically work if I have to be at school and my son is home part of the time.
As grandparents raising a child, we are at higher risk of contamination and are very wary of in person schooling at this time. Remote learning has been a challenge, but manageable. One suggestion would be to make sure to just utilize 1 or at most 2 remote learning apps/programs as the learning curve is steep and communication is lost or missed because of so many different programs in use right now.
If they are at home they need more engagement with peers and teachers
Open the schools for our kids!!!!
My kids would love to return to school (we would love it too), but we will support whatever decision is made, safety for the kids and teachers is the most important factor.
Until we have an effective vaccine, I won't be sending my children to school and as a family we will continue to socially distance at home whenever possible. I don't think there is a way to safely bring kids And teachers back into a school building without creating a super spreader event.
Please consider a phase re entry model
Please strongly consider the safety of the teachers and other staff working at the school.
The above question is BS. You can't expect parents to teach children! Why do we pay taxes? Why are teachers still getting paid if I am expected to teach and work full time? The children should be expected to log on from 9-2 everyday with THEIR TEACHER!!! We learned from the past that no learning was done march-June. It was a complete joke. Children need socialization. They need art,gym and recess. They need normalcy. Remote learning is not an option for parents working full time when the teachers do not do any teaching. Zoom calls and pre recording material could have been done but were not. Private schools all over the country were able to do zoom calls every. Single. Day. Yet, Wachusett couldn't come up with anything. I have lost ALL faith in this district. Teachers need to do their job and teach! I don't have a problem teaching my child but I should not be their main teacher!!!

I think that children only need to be at school for 1/2 days even in a hybrid model. The curriculum for elementary school children could be accomplished in 4 hours or less depending on the grade. Less time in school = Less exposure time. Also lunch can be eaten at home or taken home with children who may need it. Also we should have kids going every other week so we can monitor at home for symptoms the week they are out of school. Having children sit in masks, remain at desks and not able to do anything together is not socializing our children, all of us need to remain apart to help end this including our children.
Both parents work and will not be home to keep our child focused on school work or be able to transport. My child need reminding to stay on task. It took her all day and evening during the last few months of school to finish what was a half day of work.
Stay home or have mask on
Just open the schools with the best cleaning practices as possible and call it good. We are all managing in the real world with these measures now. Teach everyone good hygiene and let nature take it's course. The spring remote learning was a joke, and I can't see how hybrid learning is going to be any improvement. That is our opinion on how we feel about all of this.
The teachers must be supported and trained on a consistent approach to using technology
Wait until we have a approved vaccine for the deadly Virus.
I understand it is important to ensure the safety of our students, but our students need some in-class component for an effective education.
mask wearing protocols
The school and district should not be shy in asking parents to chip in financially where we can- Whether that's for teaching resources or for PPE requirements
If you institute at home learning what happens with the parents that have to go to work and rely on school for their kids as they don't have anyone to watch their kids
If it is safe to go part time then it's safe to go full time. No masks required My children have been playing with their friends with NO masks since May including baseball football basketball swimming bike riding sleepovers and so on There are 45,000 people in the Wachusett area and we shouldn't be shutting the school system down because as of today 346 people tested positive for Covid in the 5 towns. Businesses are open, parents are interacting all the time, kids are interacting constantly with no masks If parents don't feel safe sending their kids to school then those kids should stay home. All parents wanting to send their kids to school can sign a waiver to attend with NO mask if that makes the school district feel better. Please look at the facts in our school district and understand how safe it is to return to school. Less than 1% of the people in the Wachusett community have tested positive for Covid and I'm willing to bet out of the 346 people none of them are under 18. Please let's get back to school with NO masks and resume all extracurricular activities. Thank you
Whatever is chosen by our district, my children will participate, and we will do everything we are able to support our school, the teachers, staff, and district. Our children know that our district is committed and has their best interest, Heath and safety in mind. If a hybrid or rotational schedule is chosen, as a family, we would need a consistent schedule and we would need both of our children on the same schedule. The type of rotation is not as impactful to us as a family. So it doesn't matter if it's one week in person and then 2 weeks remote. Or if the schedule is Monday/Tuesday in person and Wednesday/Thursday/Friday remote, as long as it's the same every week, we would have a very difficult time managing different days every week. And if it becomes too much to manage as a family, we may then choose to do remote only. I also have some significant concerns about how learning will be managed if cohorts of children need to be quarantined throughout the year, or if the entire school needs to be transitioned to remote learning for an extended period of time again. I am worried that the preparation teachers will need to make in order to transition curriculum will greatly impact our students learning again. I feel that if teachers are constantly shifting from in person to remote throughout the year, the quality of education will be detrimentally affected. One has to wonder if all planning is for remote from the get go, that teachers will be able to better manage standards and children's learning. I recognize the importance of in person learning, but at what cost? I hope that all efforts and resources are currently being put towards making sure the entire system is ready to shift at the drop of the hat again. There is no "perfect" answer and there are going to be hardships for all involved (students, teachers, and parents). I hope that the focus is on our children's education. And as a parent, I am here to support you to meet my children's needs, academically, socially, emotionally, and physically. One other point that seems a little trivial, but I can't stop worrying about. I typically provide disinfecting wipes to my children's teachers. At this moment, I cannot purchase enough wipes to meet our homes needs. There is no way I am going to be able to support the school with these supplies and I am worried because I know teachers need them. I'm assuming these are being planned for by the district, but I'm hoping that you are not assuming that parents will buy those like they always do, because I can't physically find them at the store.
I am very hopeful for some form of in person learning format for school. I think that we should be able to take safe enough measures to at least try it and see how it goes. I think it is important for all parties to return to a form of normalcy at this time. If remote learning only is decided, I think that we will need additional resources to make it more successful than it was at the end of last year. In other words, I would look forward to an improvement in remote learning. We appreciate all of the hard work and communication from the staff. Thank you!
Please consider families who own businesses who were effected by Covid 19. My business just reopened and I rely on school as a safe place for my child to attend and have an education. Full remote learning cannot work for business owners, we cannot work from home.
It would be helpful for families with multiple students to have access to chrome books, especially jr high. Having twins in same grade on tablets is not as simple as using a compatible chrome book.
I believe we need to the students back in the classroom, safely of course but they need the interaction that online classes just can not provide.
These kids need to go back to school, they will not learn anything from remote learning at home.
In person learning is key to educating students, particularly elementary aged students. All efforts should be made to get children back in the classroom for in person learning while rates of COVID -19 are low in Massachusetts. If numbers rise, then a shift to hybrid or remote learning should take place and only then.
It's is currently not safe for children to be gathered in school at full capacity. A Hybrid program would be the solution. Temporarily eliminating non essential activities such as gym, art, recess, music. This will allow student to maximize the most out of in person learning.

The kids need to go back to school. The lack of so it interaction with learning is so important
If learning is even in part remote there has to be online interactive teaching via zoom or some other video media. Self teaching through written materials is entirely subpar
Kids will need more opportunities to wash hands in between class. What happens when a kid removes their mask- or when a teacher or student gets sick. Will the whole class be notified to quarantine? Scary times indeed. Not sure how this is going to workout. Good luck and thank you for all your work.
Remote learning would be impossible for us as a family. We both need full time employment to make ends meet. Staying home to teach my kids is just not an option for us unfortunately.
I do not feel that current DESE guidelines provide a safe environment for children and teachers. Children in K and 1 unmasked and only 3 feet apart is not safe when 20+ children will be in a room together. At the board meeting you mentioned using tables. I hope that means rectangular tables and not another shape that would cause children to be facing each other as well making the situation more unsafe. Buses are a huge concern for me. I don't think bus drivers can drive safely and manage children's behavior, distancing, and mask wearing. Buses cannot providing adequate spacing and ventilation even with open windows and what happens to buses in the rain? I don't love distance learning, but I feel in the current situation, it's the only way to keep our children and school personnel safe. I'd rather feel that my child is a year behind some arbitrary goal than have my child become sick with a virus that has unknown consequences. Thank you for continually asking for opinions. Please help keep everyone safe!
A great amount of thought and discussion needs to go into the decision to return children to schools. Their physically safety as well as schools' staff must be of utmost importance. Comm. Reilly mentioned students being 3 ft. apart, while social distancing rec. people being 6ft. apart. We have little data about children and the virus, most children have been home since mid March. I wholeheartedly feel that education is important, but our children's health comes first in all discussions. At this time, I feel the schools and staff should be preparing for full home learning in order to make it as effective as possible. If by chance schools could open, we would at least have prepared for the most restrictive situation. Provide teachers with online training, preparation time, and on line meetings to stress and model the importance of social contact with students. There was a major lack of connection/ communication between teachers and students at the high school this past spring. The apathy felt by students was significant. It was very disheartening to have teachers send work and then to have little or no class meetings/discussions. Students did not feel that their teachers cared about them. With new teachers for their next grade, teacher connections will be ever so much more important. Most teachers will not know their students, knowing who students are is as important and needed to help them learn. Start the school year with teacher training. Students can be exempt from the 180 day requirement by Comm. Reilly. MCAS needs to again be suspended. There are so many more important priorities during this unprecedented time. Approximately 1/3 of their past school year was spent at home. I know the MTA's rec. are significant and very involved, but remember we are talking about people's lives. Their step by step phases could help to provide safety and learning. Thoughtful discussion must guide all decision making in the WRSD.
I think 6' distance between children is key in the classroom. I do believe they need recess too.
We are worried about our children having to wear masks all day, staying in the same classroom and breathing in the fumes from the disinfectants.
There doesn't seem to be any Safe way to open up buildings to ensure student, faculty and staff safety. The safety of all should be the top priority with less regard to childcare issues for working families. One child/adult death as a result of COVID-19 is one too many. Thank you for always ensuring the safety and welfare of the students and staff you serve.
It is imperative that our children get back to school and learn in that type of setting. For those who don't feel comfortable sending their kids, there is the option to do strictly remote learning but for others of us who are comfortable sending their kids to school that should definitely be an option. I don't feel that the Remote learning was structured enough. There should definitely be zoom classes for high school students if that is the route that we are going to go. I don't feel that WRHS was prepared as I saw other schools that had zoom for every class. I strongly feel that these kids need to get back to school and have that socialization, one on one with teachers and be able to participate in sports.
Difficult to support student who has learning disability remotely/ worried about proper amount ofPPE/ worried about parents sending sick/exposed kids to school/ worried about supporting remote learning/
I would like to see in person schooling in the fall. Children need to be able to interact with the teacher and other children to gain what is needed to have a real education. Remote learning will not give this to my child and I do not feel I would move forward with this type of education. I feel with certain precautions we can send our children back to a safe school and they can receive the education they deserve. Thank you.
I strongly believe we should consider using all schools, including WRHS for grades K-8 and having high school so remote learning. Therefore spreading out the lower grades where face-to-face contact is critical with and allowing smaller class sizes.
In order for me to be comfortable with remote learning, I would need to be certain the teachers will be held accountable, lessons will include new information (not mainly review), that teachers are available more than this past year for questions and support, that teachers correct work with solid feedback and grades in a timely manner, and that there is an equal amount of online/book work. There was far too much computer/screen time. If I don't feel the teachers will be held accountable and participate fully with remote learning then I prefer to formally homeschool them with my own curriculum. Thank you for these options. We are not sending adults back to work in person so why should we endanger our kids?! A death rate of .0016% and 7300 students at WRSD still means 12 kids die. I'm not okay with that.
This survey is extremely premature based on the information that has been provided to us thus far. There are TOO MANY unknowns right now. If ALL safety questions can be answered by the state and district and we know they will not change, the questions presented in this survey would be relevant. In person learning is without a doubt preferable, but the guidelines that need to be followed must be nailed down well prior to our making a decision. As of right now, the guidelines are changing daily and no questions are being answered. Remote learning was NOT learning. There was NO teaching and it was an abysmal failure placing the entire burden of education on the student and their family while still taking our tax money and distributing it to teachers who were not teaching. If remote learning will be implemented, we need a guarantee that there will be real-time, online daily classes so there is teacher instruction, not placing the burden on the student.
If kids are not in school full time, I'd like to connect with other parents who may be interested in a cohort model. Hoping the time outside of school might be shared among a small group of parents/families with kids in the same grade who can study together.
I don't think children should be required to wear masks the entire day at school- I think children should be allowed time without masks- I think research needs to be done by educators about the risks of wearing masks- there are some health risks. Our bodies exhaling is a form of natural detoxing- but not allowing us to exhale the proper way can be harmful and there are lots of studies that show this. This should be taken into consideration. we exhale to expel things from our bodies- it helps our immune system function properly
I believe some sort of in person interaction if hybrid learning was the case would be beneficial for kids. They need social interaction for mental/emotional well being.

The health and safety of Students, teachers, and staff should be the top priority. Remote learning and/or the hybrid model will be challenging, but its the right thing to do. Masks should 100% be mandatory with limited (if any) exceptions, as the data (science) clearly illustrates that masks decrease the spread of COVID-19.
Please prioritize real-time interactions between teachers and students, video lectures, and extra-curricular activities (even if they have to be held remotely). I think the district did not do enough to support social-emotional needs of students in the spring pandemic and hope there is a focus on engaging with students and making connections, especially for students who are transitioning to new schools.
Your remote learning needs to be full on. Not random login. It should simulate a full schedule
Parents should be told of a final plan ASAP in case they want to explore other options. If hybrid model or complete remote learning is chosen, the program at the high school MUST be significantly better than the Spring when VERY little teaching occurred.
Not sure if it's possible but please look at each schools situation separately if possible. For example, I have a 4 year old who attends the ECC who is on an IEP and a 15 year old who attends the high school who is not on an IEP. While I understand that the high school may have to utilize a hybrid or all remote model because of the sheer size of the school, a smaller and more specialized school like the ECC could be able to function fully in person since it's a much smaller population. My special needs 4 year old cannot participate in remote learning. It's unproductive for him and he is struggling and quickly falling behind. Just because one method of learning may need to be used at one school doesn't necessarily mean it's appropriate for another school. Again, I know this is a district and I don't know if individual schools can make their own decisions, but please take that into consideration
My younger child is on an IEP and she is meant to be transitioning from Houghton to Glenwood. I was already VERY apprehensive about this transition, but was ok knowing that she would have summer school to get acclimated. Now that summer school is remote, I am worried sick about my daughter having to transition to a new school, with new EVERYTHING and everyone will be wearing masks! My child has no doubt regressed through this pandemic, so I KNOW she needs access to her in-person services as much as possible, but this all makes me so nervous! I cannot be the only parent. Additionally, I am a teacher in another school district. I just cannot envision how this is all going to work out with me teaching and my own children working remotely. It was VERY challenging this spring/summer! Again, I am sure you have heard this from other educators.
I believe the kids need to return to school and in-person learning. I consider educators to be essential workers, and like all other essential workers, need to return to work with precautions. School age children have an extremely low rate of infection and with precautions can remain safe in a school setting.
I don't understand how 12 children are the max allowed in the classroom if we return 100%. There's no way our school has the room to properly socially distance & achieve this.
We need real teacher interactions. Lesaon plans, follow up, one on one learning, etc. Additionally, we would like to have any politically motivated teaching rnmoved from the curriculum
Hello. I read the requirement for wearing a masks and it gives me anxiety. I don't even know where to start. My daughter isn't afraid of masks, but she constantly makes attempts to remove the mask from me and her mask remains in place for no longer than 10-15 seconds no matter how hard I try to make it look like a fun game. I know <her>, it will take months to accustom her to wearing a mask, if not years. And I see the whole complex of the reasons: from the inability to explain to her why <she> should wear a mask and get her understanding and convince her to voluntarily cooperate, to obvious and simple reason of refusal due to being uncomfortable, in addition - <she> is nonverbal child, she not only listens to the voice, but also reads articulation and facial expressions of the person she's having communication with. Masks significantly decreases for her ability to understand people around her. Which is gonna follow up with slowing down her learning progress or even end up with regression. Taking into account the school budget deficit I also understand the interests of school administration: the safety of the majority is a priority. For now to me it looks like we are going to be left aside. And it's a real drama to us. <My daughter> deeply loves her school and team and truly suffers from lack of communication. For kids like <her>- school, practically, is the only place to have some communication. In our case (we're immigrants) school is even more essential place then for locals surrounded with relatives and friends.
The teachers need to be more in control of the teaching. We had 2 zoom calls for our elementary child. Actual online learning conducted by a teacher at least once a week for 45 minutes to teach new materials would be great.
Social and emotional well-being of the children. A lot of parents unable to teach up to the teacher standard while trying to work full time.
If the district does remote learning I feel that just assigning work is not helpful. My children's IEP's were not met last year and they learned nothing. They just had work distributed to them and it was my job to sit and work with them. I think they should have times they should be online for certain subjects with their class and be taught by their teacher.
It is not safe to reopen. TODAY Westwood just reported a case of COVID for a teacher in the summer program. SAVE the headache and the money and lives and long term mental and physical damage to students and staff, and instead focus your energy on a robust remote learning plan. #NotUntilItsSafe
Remote learning was extremely hard this spring with both parents working full time. We favor in-school learning and have no idea how we would handle any kind of remote learning while also going to work.
I am looking forward to doing substitute teaching at Wachusett in the fall.
I believe strongly the children need to get back to school in person. The low numbers of covid in our community supports in person learning.
Will children who have remote learning have a dedicated remote learning teacher? Will teachers who have concerns about going back have the option to teach one of the remote classes? Will children who do remote teaching receive the same curricula as the children who are in person? Will remote only students have the choice at any time (i.e, when a vaccine is available) to return back to in person classrooms later in the school year? Will library resources or packets be provided for remote students or will parents be responsible for purchasing materials and equipment? (such as reading and math books etc) How many hours are remote children expected to engage with the classroom teacher and other students? If a child requires WRSD services (school counselor, speech etc) will these services be provided by the district remotely?

<p>Online learning can work. Look at all the Harvard extension courses, Stanford Online High School, Oak Meadow, International Virtual Learning Academy, and so on. It's not as good as in-person, but it can meet the need. The transition would be difficult, of course, for both teachers and most students. If there had been a commitment to it from the beginning of this pandemic, we would have been ready and confident. We aren't confident about the upcoming quality of instruction at all, but we will not be sending our student to in-person classes. If this district had not offered the option of virtual learning regardless of whether any version of in-person would be chosen, we would have pulled our student out of WRHS and enrolled them in Greenfield's K-12 or gone back to homeschooling. Our best to the teachers this upcoming year, we have heard good things about them from our student.</p>
<p>It is unsafe for students and staff to return in person at this time. If the district chooses any model other than 100% remote I will withdraw my children and participate in homeschooling.</p>
<p>I am conflicted on deciding what is best at this point and my decisions will be based on the options that are offered. As the only child living full time in our home my daughter needs more socialization, but not at the risk of everyone's health nor in a highly restrictive environment. As an educator in another district I was able to supplement additional work during the last remote learning session. I don't know if I will be able to do that this year if I am teaching in person and my daughter is home without me.</p>
<p>I read articles everyday with regards to the rest of the country and believe it will make its way back here in the form of a second wave and I'm worried. I find no fault with all school systems not really knowing yet. I'm very worried and my wife and I are essential state employees. People have been to comfortable as of late and I believe we are letting our guard down. I know most parents worry, but how can the system enforce a rigid structure that keeps pre-k to grade 12 following protocols? It's not fair to students and school staff alike. I just don't know... Stay in touch and and TY.</p>
<p>If remote learning is necessary, have teaching teach the classes via Google meet or Zoom.</p>
<p>I think it is extremely important for our children to return to school this Fall, whether in be %100 in person, or a hybrid of in person and remote. Our kids emotional and mental well being is at risk if we only allow remote learning. They need their friends and extra curricular activities. Is it possible to offer families an option? Depending on their needs, in person and remote can be offerered. I know of another district adopting this model.</p>
<p>I think if there is remote learning that it would be important for the students to have zoom classes to feel the connection to the teachers.</p>
<p>I strongly urge a safe transition back to school beginning with full remote leaning and progressing slowly and thoughtfully as science and data allow. This is a pandemic. Lives are at risk.</p>
<p>Thank you for asking for our feedback and allowing students the option to participate remotely regardless. I am very concerned about returning F2F and having students not complying to mask and social distancing guidelines. My children are concerned about catching COVID while at school and knowing that they could potentially infect and kill family members even if they (child) is asymptomatic. I am also VERY concerned now that the CDC is no longer receiving COVID infection numbers we will no longer know the real numbers. This is not an easy decision and any one you make will get parents upset. Please base your decision on science.</p>
<p>Please reopen the schools and get the children back full time</p>
<p>I believe bringing students to school is extremely important. I understand needing a backup plan but in order to develop socially, academically effectively they need to be together as much as possible.</p>
<p>This will sound like a rant initially, but it is relevant for the District to consider, there is a point to this writing. As an adult I comply with all the rules and regulations without question. That said, big chain stores and grocery stores are a mess. Many adults inside these establishments are idiots who are unwilling to follow the rules or are just plain negligent and don't have any respect for others. Children are different, I have no question in my mind that children will follow the arrows on the floor and respect others better than any adult ever could. I hate what our children's future looks like and worry for their mental health - even beyond adolescence. They need social activity. They need to be with peers. What does keeping them home do protect them from? Every time someone goes out, there is risk bringing infection to your home. The stupid lines at Starbucks, the line wrapped around Walmart, Targets, grocery stores, and many more. This shows how many are staying home - not many. Dumb things are open everywhere - haircuts, massages, salons, tattoo parlors, restaurants... literally everything is open except for bars at this point. That brings us to schools. Of all the things that could ever be mandatory, a child's education should be on top. Personally, I am not an educator in any form. This became painfully obvious as I lack the skills to help navigate online learning and provide much needed guidance to my child in order for her to "meet expectations". Which she failed to meet in Gym, Art, and Music. Which brings me to my next point, she has been taking piano for 7 years, plays basketball for the town, spends every day swimming at the lake, and draws and paints anime weekly. She is an extremely healthy and talented young lady, but yet failed those expectations. How do you explain that to your 12 year old. While in school, she met those expectations. I know there was no preparation for a circumstance such as COVID, but to have "expectations" in place where there never was before is ridiculous. To teach within the home, the parent of needs to "meet the education systems standards" before we can ever expect our children to meet any standard. I need training so I can answer my child's questions definitively and without frustration. This was a mess, understandably, but to then hold a standard for managing the mess without consideration of every parents trials at that time is just ridiculous. Kids could barely deal with the multifaceted mental strain from losing time in school, losing connections with friends, no more going to stores, nothing. They had everything. Then suddenly they had nothing. I guess the whole thing is a rant. What's not these days. I want nothing more than a normal life for my children. Even if that means wearing a mask in school. So do we open up schools? That shouldn't even be a question when all the other useless "essential" crap is open.</p>
<p>I think the school needs to make sure that they consider the health of the staff and the students. While I know the chances of my young children to transmit COVID is low, we have to consider the safety of the teachers as well. Also any remote teaching needs to be restructured from the spring. Both of my children were loaded down with worksheets that I had to teach them how to complete. My then 1st grader did have some face to face meetings with her teacher, but it was mostly just a time to catch up. There was no teaching done. My pre-schooler (with an IEP) only received a couple focused lesson. His teacher did do 1-on-1 when I requested.</p>
<p>Please do not do any sort of remote learning. The kids should be at school -business as usual - 100% no changes than past years</p>
<p>Remote learning is difficult for my children. They need the social aspect of school. Both parents are essential workers working opposite shifts. The "new math" would need to be taught to the parent for us to even be able to help. The office hours the teachers had weren't helpful unless they got their questions in at a certain time to be answered. Would remote learning be at certain times with zoom calls and actual real time interaction?</p>
<p>As a medical professional I can not in good conscience send my two children with respiratory issues to school this fall and have been exploring options privately since May. Not only are the students but staff and faculty are all just as at risk</p>

I answered no to in person schooling because of the nature of the question. The question gives no choice. My true answer is that I would prefer for all schools to do real time online instruction synchronously. While opening today for in person learning seems reasonable based on current data, the truth is that it is a highly fluid and dynamic situation. As a family that chooses to not participate in any indoor activities: gyms, restaurants, camps - I am well aware, and your survey shows, there are parents in the community that take a know nothing approach(eg masks don't help). As a teacher in another district, I know that the students are the essential variable. They cannot be expected to be reliable partners in keeping the community safe. They simply do not have the executive functioning skills (developmentally appropriate) to be vigilant for 6 hours or more.
Very difficult to keep up with online learning since both parents work full time. I feel like my child was not learning/retaining any info from the online learning. And she just did it to get it done.
If you can't open, you aren't essential. Kids need school.
Please send the children back full time, the remote learning is not helping the children and is stressing them out . I want my son back full time.
Both parents are teachers in other districts and may have varying levels of support for our high school student depending on each school's reopening plan Also wondering how AP classes - exam will be handled for remote learning or hybrid learning
If remote, it is imperative that there are synchronous meetings, even if asynchronous materials are presented for lectures. Students should have a minimum of two class-length meetings synchronously per week per class...last spring was just unacceptable in terms of how little the faculty met face to face with students.
Two days a week for half the children, a day to clean and sanitize and the other two days for the other half.
I would like my child to go to school although wearing a mask all day might trigger his anxiety.
Just that we'd like the decision sooner rather than later
Kids need to go back
Online learning did not work for my children. They struggled academically and socially. Their mental health is my major concerns. Both daughters are active in sports and not being able to play sports also impacted them. My youngest daughter has an IEP, reading disability and needs to be in school. If parents want to take precautions and send their students back to school they should be able to have that option. Online grading is not fair for students. They are not being held to high standards and some students just cant learn on line.
I believe the district should return to in person classes, with safety measures, as the science supports it
While children are less likely to get sick with Covid-19, they are very good carriers of germs. It is too dangerous for teachers and staff, as well as families, for students to resume school in any mode but remotely. Teachers will need training for either teaching remotely or teaching in school with safety provisions and protocols. While everyone wants regular school and socialization opportunities for our kids, there is just too much risk involved.
I dont know what the right thing is for you to do...it is a hard choice that has to be made....it is so important to keep the safety of the kids and staff in mind when making these difficult decisions...especially to staff and children with underling health issues
I know the well being of our children and staff are of the utmost importance. As much as I would love to return to school I don't think the hybrid model would work for my family. It seems impossible to work with that schedule. We need to keep our children and our beloved teachers safe. Thank you for all you do during this trying time.
They need to go back to school, my son is high risk for covid however he is high risk for other illnesses and he has been going to school anyways since his diagnosis 5 years ago, if he isn't feeling well he stays home. We must live our lives and be very careful to follow the safety guidelines.It is so important for kids to be in school we can do our part by following some simple guidelines.
If remote learning happens, please encourage teachers to do more "live" lessons via zoom or google classroom and minimize the "meet-ups" for socialization. While it is nice to see classmates, we found that to be a distraction from our remote learning assignments. Also, my children would much rather learn from an adult who they are familiar with rather than teachers found on YouTube(even though their lessons are wonderful).
The school should not reopen. We would be sacrificing children. Remote learning needs to continue until the pandemic is over. The amount of money and planning that reopening requires is astounding, and it will not succeed. Students will not wear masks or social distance, and CHILDREN will die. Improve remote learning and prioritize our children's safety.
If there is any remote learning I am very hopeful that the process and teaching expectations improve . I understand that this was new and unprepared for but I feel that one of my children did not receive adequate education this spring. I understand teachers have children at home but they need to get creative and be present to actually teach the students. Sending emails to parents and worksheets and videos is not acceptable. I schooled 2 children this spring while working full time partially from home. My child that had daily zoom meetings was far better connected to a learning environment. I understand that for some students this model worked but it did not for our home. Both of my children went backwards academically. I am hopeful that if my kids are remote learning that the district has a better plan to make it successful not just for teachers but for students too. I struggle to see how that is possible with young children.
As long as a hybrid learning model can be safely implemented and the current downward trend of cases in MA is maintained, I feel that this would be the best option. If cases are trending upwards when the school year approaches, I feel it would be best to continue with the remote learning model for the safety of all. I have a child starting at Wachusett High school and another at Mountview. Thank you for your consideration in this important matter.
The harm that non traditional schooling will cause to the development of our children will be irreparable. Not only will it create social issues it will also drastically effect the childrens immune systems greatly increasing their odds of not being able to fight off future illnesses. The facts and statistics on coronavirus do not warrant any change in the way education is administered and conducted. There has been very little deviation in year (2018) over year (2019) over year (2020) death totals. The children NEED to go to school as normal.
I think it is important to consider not only the state guidelines but the negative effects they could have on our children's mental wellbeing. Emotional awareness and socialization are essential to their development and with physical distancing and the inability to read others' facial expressions, we are compromising that growth.
The sooner we know the plan the better
My children need to get back into the classroom. A hybrid schedule would cause us to look at alternative options as our children need consistency.
Follow guidance. Clean your schools, keep them clean. Foggers are a quick, inexpensive method readily available Get the custodial staff to do their job. Get the kids back to school. No mask = No admittance = Absent
I want my children to attend school full time and in person.

I would like to see the children go back to school full time. My husband and I both work and it is near impossible to give them the best education while trying to balance and maintain our jobs.
We will go along with whatever is decided. Safety of everyone (home and school) is main concern.
I 100% support returning to school with safety protocols in place and do not support remote learning plan.
In-school learning is an absolute must. Remote learning was a complete failure. My 2 children both have IEPs and in-school learning is required for them to learn.
Part time in person is probably a good compromise for the coming school year
Socialization first these students is critical. Additionally as a working parent it would very difficult to police remote learning. I am not a certified teacher equipped with the tools to ensure success for my child in the classroom. I do not feel the maturity or structure is in place for these students. With proper precautions I feel confident in my child's safe return to school. If we can keep target and Home Depot open we can keep schools open. We did not receive strong commitment or guidance from the teachers during the spring closure. Pass fail is not an option.
I cannot decide at this point in time if I will send my children into school. I will have to base that decision on the infection data at the time school starts. If infection rates become uncomfortably high, in my own opinion, I would keep my kids home from school until rates decrease. Thanks.
Let the kids go back to school! Remote learning is NOT working for most kids!
Thank you for your efforts. We recognize how this is really hard to maintain the same level of education standards and the efforts of the whole team at Wachusett and in the district isn't going unnoticed.
Teachers health and safety. Clear face mask shields. More parent support. Students may not get sick but they will bring home the germs to their families. We are concerned for the adults at home and teachers/school staff more than anything. Home outdoor visits/instruction with children on IEPs. My daughter thrives in how school used to be but it's not worth getting our beloved community sick. Please choose wisely. Thank you.
GO BAK 2 SKOOL!!!
There is a surge in parents considering homeschooling across the state. Most will likely default to remote learning through the school district if offered, but others are considering actual homeschooling for the year- with the intent of returning to their district for the 2021-2022 school year. There is concern over how large numbers of students homeschooling for a year would impact school funding for the following year. It would be worth communicating this to the state. One possible solution would be for all districts to survey homeschooling families about their intent to re-enroll in the district; And for the state to factor those results into school funding decisions. Another possible solution would be for the state to use 2019-2020 enrollment numbers instead.
I think families need to take responsibility and control over the safety and needs of their own children: I wish for my children to be back in the classroom, I truly believe that this is best for their own mental health, as well as growth and learning - with other children and will teachers who are trained to teach. Especially my junior, out of school will be ZERO help for college prep. I have been teaching my kids about safety, good hygiene, masks, keeping distances etc. I feel that they are prepped to participate in school safely. Teachers and admins can only be expected to do SO much... I chose to send my kids back to school, in person; therefore I choose to support you/the district and the choices that are being made to educate my kids back in the classrooms.
My anxiety level for sending my child to school is sky high. There seem to be too many factors to be able to do this safely, not only for the teachers, librarians, administrative, janitorial, paraprofessional, bus drivers and other staff but any at risk family members at home that may become exposed if a child is asymptomatic. For all the talk of getting children 'back to normal' this will not be a normal school day - no socialization that's normal can possibly take place under these conditions. As dissatisfied as I was with the spring remote learning it seems too much of a risk right now - of course children haven't been getting sick - they've been the ones quarantined and protected since school closed in March. What happens when the first child or teacher or staff gets sick? You end up shutting down for two weeks? Then what? Unless classes are going to be outside until November planning for a return right now seems like wasted time. Use this time to wisely plan for a RIGOROUS remote learning track for the fall, focusing only on math, science, social studies and English - forget the specials for now. I know there's a whole group of special needs children with IEPs and other issues that this doesn't help and if I was that parent I'd be tearing my hair out wondering what I was going to do. It won't be easy for me to work from home with a 4th grader, but even so, I'd love to delay at least till January to see how things pan out with a second wave and maybe get through some of flu season without panicking every time a kid gets a fever or body ache that they have Covid. But I really hope the remote learning is better if you do because if I hadn't been home with my child it would have been a completely lost spring.
Parents are working too so it would be helpful to have regular check ins with the teachers so that we are aware of what is happening with our children. I don't want any work to slip through the cracks
If in-person learning is implemented what is the backup plan for learning going to be for those children sent home until cleared by a negative test or quarantine?
I truly believe there needs to be at least some remote for the safety of our families and our teachers. I will under no circumstances send my child full time back to a classroom as things stand right now.
Have hand washing stations throughout the school/classrooms. Thank you.
I appreciate the survey and hope that as a district we reopen school in a phased manner to protect all of the stakeholders - students, teachers and staff.
The safety of all involved (children and staff) is of paramount importance. It seems as though the loudest voices in our district are those with their own agendas. If the school committee will not agree to meet in person for safety reasons, I find it hypocritical that a great number are advocating for a return to building-based learning. While I want my children educated and do consider it one of my top priorities, the health and safety of all those in our schools must come first.
I believe in the kids should go back into the schools full time
Without serial testing, robust contact tracing and enforced quarantine, a return to classroom is not safe.
The kids need to have access to fresh air and have the ability to take their masks off throughout the day. They should be able to ask for a break to get some relief from the mask if it is too much for them. As for eating lunch, if they eat in the classroom and all take their masks off in order to eat, it defeats the purpose of wearing masks the whole rest of the time. I would rather see them in a larger space staggered.

I have twins entering 11th grade. ALL teachers should be required to use the same online platform if remote or hybrid. There should be some (not necessarily all) actual teaching of classes live, not just you tube or khan academy links. A lot of (too much in my opinion) "watch this video" and teach yourself occurred in the spring. The kids need to follow more of an actual school day routine. My two children would be able to drive themselves after December 16th.
Remote learning would be difficult for my son being on an IEP. Being in classroom benefits his learning style.
If there is not 100% staff agreement on being in the buildings the tension between adults and/or lack of presence of the adults presents an obstacle to every child's fair access to the curriculum.
Phased open could lead to my kids actually going in a school building if done correctly with proper protocols.
As long as social distancing and masks being worn by all students and all teachers and all personnel at all times in the school Only then should you allow students inside schools. I am concerned because the town of Holden has not been what you would call making it a priority,Wearing a mask.
Half days with all kids in the same household on the same Half day schedual. No gym, art, music on half days.
It all depends on what the state mandates for safety protocols. Wearing a mask all day is not a good option for our student. I would lean towards remote learning if masks are required.
My children hated the remote learning Mayo offered in the spring. The choice board offerings at their grade level, especially at the fifth grade level, were not an ideal deployment of material for our children's learning styles, and the extremely limited contact from their teachers made them feel that they were working in a complete vacuum. Even when they submitted work, they rarely got anything more than a generic "good job on this comment" about their efforts. More so, they acutely felt the absence of their teachers from the teachers' lack of communication and contact with them. This spring made clear that the district lacks significant preparedness and training in technology resources for their faculty. One child's teacher never attempted anything beyond creating a Google Classroom that remained unused the rest of the year; the other eventually started using Classroom and established a regular class meeting time, but that took nearly five weeks to accomplish. One teacher scheduled sporadic and random google class meetings; there was no schedule or plan for when they occurred and families were often only notified of their scheduling an hour or so in advance. This IN NO WAY took into consideration the needs of family life. This sporadic, haphazard contact attempt did nothing but ensure that we almost NEVER made these meetings. The other teacher did establish a regular, planned timing, which helped us create NECESSARY STRUCTURE in our days. My family is NOT comfortable with a full return to school and we feel that would be a dangerous choice right now, but the district/Mayo has to do better than what they offered this spring for remote learning. I asked my kids what would have made remote learning a better experience for them: 1) Regular, scheduled synchronous meetings (more than just two half hour meetings a week). One child asked for daily meetings or days where there was a morning meeting and plan directed by the teacher and a check in in the afternoon in case there were questions on how to do something so he could get immediate feedback. Asking an elementary child to communicate with his classroom teacher exclusively through email (and only between office hours, which is what was expected) is a ridiculous request. 2) Direct instruction from their teachers during those meetings in regards to academic content. I understand that SEL was a concern in the spring, but not every meeting should be only an emotional check in/tell me about your day experience. Both my kids WANT to learn and they want to learn from their teachers. Please do math practice with them, have us read a story in advance so it can be discussed, practice their spelling and phonics, SOMETHING academic to keep them stimulated. 3) Access to class learning materials. At the end of the school year, I collected personal belongings from Mayo, included a stack of barely touched math workbooks. Why weren't these resources distributed in March/April? Why were we directed to Khan Academy sites and worksheet generator pages that needed to be printed at home when these resources were sitting untouched for months at Mayo? 4) And this is mine as a parent, make sure your teachers have reliable computer resources and access. You asked in this survey if we have reliable home internet access and computer use. Have you done the same for your staff? "Having a bad internet day" was a common statement from one of the boys' teachers this spring in regards to her long periods of silence and lack of contact. If there are teachers with unreliable internet service at home, make sure there is a safe and isolated way for them to work in the school building or supply them with reliable internet service. My children and my family have loved our experience at Mayo, until this spring. We always saw this school as a place that was student-centered and that offered a strong education. That was not the experience we had during remote learning. This spring we felt abandoned by this school and by this district. There was a crisis, and it felt as though the school, the teachers, the leaders were simply gone from our lives. It was clear that for all the effort these teachers made in a physical classroom, they were incapable of transitioning this in any way to a remote setting. I am sure that there are multiple factors that contributed to this, and I fully understand that the spring was a time of enormous health concern and worry that often took precedent over work responsibilities. I also know how hard it was to shift to online learning because I was simultaneously experiencing that shift in my own district, but we ended this year at Mayo with a significant loss of faith and understanding for this school and the district overall.
If the district does remote learning, it should be much better than what was done in the spring. I would like to see much more teacher taught lessons rather than my kids reading nonstop, then answering questions. For my son with the IEP, I would like to see more support for him and "check ins" to be sure he is understanding content and following directions correctly. While I realize this is all new to the teachers as well, I would like to see actual teaching taking place.
We will support whatever you think is in the best interest of the children.
I am very concerned about school opening and continuing to stay open. My concern is a lot of time has been wasted vs planning for a robust and well run online learning school year. I am not confident there will be enough money, resources or space for kids to be in the schools. The survey results show the lack of mask support which also makes me sad and concerned. Not all people with covid have a fever. With normal illnesses during the year, will students constantly be out for weeks at a time? Teachers as well? Won't that be extremely disruptive to learning? Who teaches when the teachers get sick? I would love the kids to be back in school, but I just don't see how it is feasible and safe for students, teachers and staff. Not unless there is full mask compliance, distance, and our state numbers are lower. Our R rate is currently over 1 that is not low enough to allow schools to open.
It is very important to also consider the social aspect. I understand it is safe to stay home but this is severely harming our students mental health. Not being able to socially interact is very detrimental. In-person learning cannot be replaced by online learning, no matter how good this is. Also the burden on teachers while doing online learning is a lot more than in-school learning. Many parents (me included) get very frustrated doing online learning and honestly for families where both parents have to work, it is very difficult to fit in the online learning on top of everything else. So in the end, the education of our children is greatly impacted as well as their social skills and their mental health. We can be safe and also return back to school.
I fully support kids going back to school full time in person. Thank you.
My child goes to his grandparents whe n I need to go into work and his grandmother is very high risk. I don't want to risk her jealth
Please do whatever possible for the kids to go back to school

<p>My concern with the hybrid learning option would be the amount of learning the children would be doing. How can a teacher teach half the kids in person and the other half online at the same time? And if they aren't doing it that way, will the kids that are learning remotely that week be given "busy work" or will the lessons be recorded?</p> <p>The other big concern is the protocol when someone gets COVID. Will everyone in their class have to quarantine? Get tested? What if the teacher contracts the disease?</p> <p>There are just so many unknowns and if it weren't for my daughter's need for social interaction (especially important with the 504 she is on) I would most likely keep her home to learn remotely.</p> <p>Thank you</p>
<p>the only option should be in person learning, dont ruin our childrens education</p>
<p>I need for my child to have in person learning</p>
<p>Children at this age have such miniscule % of getting covid or spreading it. Seasonal influenza is exponentially worse. Keeping them masked and contained in one room would be terrible their psychological well-being. They will also learn less a with lower quality and miss out on socializing with friends with remote learning . Schools should open 100%</p>
<p>Please just do what is safest for our children. We will all adapt.</p>
<p>It is imperative to students learning, as well as emotional and social development, to have in-person teaching as well as connection with peers. I believe the detrimental effects will be exponential if only remote learning occurs through the fall.</p>
<p>504 and iep students should not do remote learning. They need the support full time .</p>
<p>Open the schools! Remote learning was a dismal failure last spring. I am not a teacher and my young kids don't do their work no matter what I do. If they are home, they think they are on vacation. I have severe doubt and reservations about children being expected to wear masks in school and on busses for nearly 8 hours. Science and data show they are at virtually no risk. Mask ADULTS concerned about the virus. Offer older at risk teachers early retirement if they feel they are at risk.</p>
<p>Any remote learning plan should include some video with the teacher and other students, not depend on non-local materials that already exist online.</p>
<p>I think that remote learning is the best option to help prevent the spread of COVID.</p>
<p>Is the fact that some if not most households have two working parents taken into consideration with remote learning</p>
<p>I do strongly feel it is unsafe for students to attend in person school. It might sound harsh but I think many parents are looking at it as childcare issue rather than a safety one. I hope the district is putting our kids first. Thank you</p>
<p>Remote learning is a waste of time</p>
<p>I am a teacher in the district. How will my kids participate in a hybrid learning model if I am at school every day?</p>
<p>I have a child born with 1 lung- if she were to contract Covid-19, it could be detrimental. I am leaning towards remote learning in case there is a spike in the virus as expected. I will consider the hybrid learning model with lesser students, however, I believe that it is hard to control the behavior of each and every student & what they might do when unsupervised by an adult. I feel that starting the school year off remotely is best & perhaps moving towards physically attending school after the fall & perhaps the winter based on the curve of the virus.</p>
<p>Please consider the fact that families like ours with immunocompromised members, are already at high risk if our kids are going back to the classroom. The likelihood of being able to prevent parents from sending sick children to school after giving them Tylenol as to ensure they're able to attend work, thus putting the other children at risk, is also of great concern. As a former educator, this is an issue that occurs on a near daily basis when parents are choosing between what "is likely just a cold" and going to work. Unfortunately at this time, actions like this could be a health concern or even fatal to the kids, faculty, staff members, etc. please also consider how detrimental the lack of proper socialization will be for our children if they enter school utilizing necessary guideline to maintain their safety. At home my children have been able to socialize together and spend family time. We have been able to maintain a sense of normalcy, and my child who struggled in school began to do much better academically while working from home. If they are faced with returning to school, masks and social distancing necessary, along with sanitizing and excessive amount of time needed for cleaning, the kids will miss out on important social experiences. For children who rely on facial expressions to read a social situation, they will be lost completely. For children with special needs who require a degree of nurturing and comforting from staff that goes beyond the average, they too will be lost and floundering. In the event a child with special needs requires an escort, or a 1:1 staff because they may elope or engage in maladaptive behaviors that require hands on intervention... none of what is required of those staff will be possible while maintaining state and federal guidelines. The children will ultimately suffer if they return to school anytime soon. We've watched state after state reopen BEFORE schools have even opened and they are suffering spikes in covid cases, there is no true data to support the notion that reopening the state and opening schools is actually a good idea, if anything, the true data reflects that schools reopening will in fact put everyone at a higher risk level. Please consider all of these things and more; please be logical and accepting of the situation being what it truly is. Putting faith in an imperfect science is only acceptable when the risk is worth the reward and there are no safer or more reasonable options. In this case remote learning is the wisest choice. It's the only way to never have to look back and feel badly for unnecessary losses of life, as even one life lost is one too many.</p>
<p>It is safer to keep the children home for fall and the rest of the year. COVID is everywhere and I do not want to risk my child getting sick. They are safe learning from home. I do not feel comfortable letting my kid attend school. I rather go 100% remotely all year and on. It's safer for everyone! Thank you.</p>
<p>If learning is 100% remote-students need more than logging into IXL or Lexia for an hour a day; perhaps allow the teachers into their classrooms to teach remotely so it can feel more like a classroom setting; will definitely explore alternative options-ie looking into establishing private remote schools if I feel that remote teaching has not improved over the summer. I understand last year, as it was thrown at everyone-but teachers and administrators have the whole summer to come up with a solid remote curriculum if we have to go that route</p>
<p>Don't rush to in-person. If that's the plan delay the school year start until at least January, and go through the summer. For younger elementary kids, key benefits of in-person will be lost with precautions anyway.</p>
<p>I would prefer all day in person at school for my child, really hard to do remote learning, but if had to would try to make it work but prefer to not remote learn. I feel it is important that our kids get interactions with other kids and be in a classroom. This is what I prefer.</p>

<p>These kids have to get back in school. Remote learning is unreliable and grossly ineffective. The overwhelming majority of work assignments given to these kids was a joke. They have already lost valuable time and education that will never be made up. Any remedy that includes remote learning or a hybrid will leave these kids as one of the poorest educated generations in decades. It will be hard work to get these kids back in school safely, however, the alternative is unthinkable!</p>
<p>Please do all you can to get the students back to school 100%. I am extremely nervous about the possibility of hybrid learning or full remote learning. My husband and I both work full time, if one of us has to stay home to facilitate learning activities for our child, there will be huge challenges. I don't know how we will survive financially without two incomes.</p>
<p>We all know that kids learn better in a school environment. We all want that to happen this school year, but rushing into it might have a terrible impact if it's not done effectively. Because we don't know the true effect of this virus on kids and because most of the kids has been isolated from others, to suddenly push the students in classrooms with others is scary for me. There must be a gradual process/ testing in the beginning to see how the students reacts. I am not 100% safe to bring my kids to school if there is no STRICT and REALISTIC persist guidelines. It's not safe for teachers or students if this is being rushed. We all know that kids are unable to stay 6 ft apart and wear a mask, that is definitely not going to happen. Teachers shouldn't be babysitters regarding this matter and on top of teaching the kids. That's a lot of responsibility the teachers will face. One suggestion that I might bring up is do remote learning but have teacher go to school and teach from their class room, that way the kids feel as though it is a little more of a school environment. Teachers will be more motivated to teach in a classroom then in their home. Hold class every other day, instead of once a week. Teacher have all their teaching material in their class but yet they are still away from others. Coming up with some sort of a class room format, but remotely.</p>
<p>Children need to be in school. What I have seen in young children and teenagers is that introvert children have regressed and extrovert children been depressed or acting out. I have talked with many parents who have had to deal with this. They barely catch or pass the virus so teachers are safer at school than at a grocery store. The damage done to our children is greater than the risk of the virus. Thank you. I hope to see you in the fall.</p>
<p>My children will all drive to school with my son who will be a senior. If there is hybrid learning and their schedules are different this would force me to have my girls take the bus. I can not see why sending the students back to school is an issue. The number of cases in our 5 towns is below 400 cases last reports I saw. I don't know the number of residents in all 5 towns, but the percentage of cases must be extremely low. How many of those cases have been families of students/staff in the WRSD? I think that info would be a huge factor. My children have been seeing friends since 2 weeks after phase one reopening started. I see teens all over Holden with groups of friends not wearing masks. We have to look at our numbers in this area, not in the country, not even the state. If we become a new hot spot, then and have a plan for hybrid learning. With this being said, I'm not so worried about the students, BUT you need to have some concern for and take care of your staff including Admin, teaching staff, custodians, cafeteria workers, nurses, etc. need a plan and need to be compensated if they do become infected with the virus. Staff should not be using their sick time if they can trace the virus back to the school system or have to quarantine because they have come in contact with a person who has the virus at the school.</p>
<p>The biggest issue with my forth grader was not being able to edit documents, print pdf's to submit work. Caused a lot of stress.</p>
<p>I am immunocompromised and one of my children has asthma. These are big concerns of mine since those with underlying health concerns are in the highest risk category for severe illness with this disease. Since so much is still unknown and no vaccine/proven treatment has been released yet, I implore WRSD to consider what a loss in the school system would look like. What if a child dies? What if a parent dies? What if a teacher dies? How do we deal with the fallout of that when it is preventable. Not even considering the ultimate loss: what if a child tests positive? Or a teacher? Does the whole school quarantine? The whole district? Families with multiple children in multiple schools risk increased exposure. Do we really want to do that to our communities? I think as long as better options are available for children to connect/work together, and have mandatory mental health check-ins available remotely, this would be the safest option for our community. And it's not forever. It's until this is gone. This is something we've never experienced before. We need to protect those who cannot protect themselves. Let's not go down in the history books as the ones who "thought we had it under control and really screwed up."</p>
<p>I recognize that we are likely going to see a remote or hybrid model. It is imperative that we do a better job with remote learning than we did in the spring. It must be live stream with teachers. If we are remote, I would like to see teachers in classrooms, teaching in real time (and recorded for those who cannot immediately participate).</p>
<p>Really hoping to go full in person schooling. Also knowing what the plan is ASAP is helpful in order to plan. We are considering private school if full remote is happening.</p>
<p>I believe the most important thing is the health and safety of the children, teachers and staff. I would hate to see the District feel pressure to re-open or do a Hybrid plan at the risk of so many getting sick or dying. There are still so many cases and so many unknowns about the coronavirus and no treatment or vaccine available that I'm my opinion it isn't worth reopening schools. I believe the district needs to take advantage of the time they have now and focus their energy on establishing the best remote learning plan possible. Take this opportunity to put a plan of action in place. For part of the remote learning I believe the teachers should record lessons (for example 3-20 minute lessons) that they kids should have to watch every day along with other work and assignments that they need to do. I realize this is new to all of you and a very difficult situation. I know I'm repeating myself but I strongly feel that there should not be any pressure or rush to reopen. Nothing can guarantee that people are taking the necessary precautions outside of school and it is that reason that I am not comfortable sending my children to school. My youngest child was exposed at his preschool and then he and my daughter both became very sick. While I do not know if they had Covid, I can say it was a scary time and it's not worth the risk to me. Once we get through this and have a vaccine and treatment then we can try to resume school in person and get back to normal but until then I don't believe we should. Thank you.</p>
<p>In school is so vital in developing my children's learning style. Not knowing the style and material and how it is taught is very difficult. Common core is so different from what we were taught. At the end of this past school year, my child was carrying the numerals for addition which I know is not how it's taught in-person. Please consider in-person primarily with a plan in place in the event COVID-19 resurfaces and you have to enact a pre-planned remote program ready to go at the flip of a switch so to speak.</p>

<p>I am very concerned for our teachers and administrators' health and safety. Even with a Hybrid model, these educators will be in the school almost every day. Additionally, while we still do not know enough about COVID-19 and its affects on children, we do know that all children have caretakers at home- who are at a greater risk, by virtue of our ages.</p> <p>Also, if one of the best ways to avoid contracting this virus is to physically distance oneself at least 6', why is it suddenly 3' in schools (page 10 of report)? If it is 6' feet- then it is 6' (at minimum) and if the schools cannot do 6', then the schools should not open. Math and ELA are the two subjects that truly need to be focused on.</p> <p>Finally, the expectation for young elementary children (K-5) to stay in one room, without recess or physical education, for multiple hours every day, while wearing a mask the entire time, is not based in reality. My children are "good" at mask wearing for a short period of time, but that is because I am constantly monitoring them; to expect a teacher to "monitor" all of their students for proper mask etiquette and proper physical distancing, all while teaching their class with a their own mask on is far-fetched and unreasonable. What have we all been doing these last 5 months of quarantine for if we all suddenly resume school?</p>
<p>For either the hybrid model or the at home only model the program must be much more interactive and challenging than the Spring. I feel the kids only did 2 hours of busy work a day. They need to learn new things and the expectations should be higher. The work must be mandatory and graded.</p>
<p>Kids don't follow safety protocols, too many kids to enforce mask wearing and teach. Not a safe environment for my kids</p>
<p>Regarding the question about fully on-line instruction: Whether or not we explore other schooling options depends entirely on what type of on-line instruction is offered. Asynchronous-only options would lead us to explore other options, however a robust synchronous environment would be acceptable. Thank you for all your hard work. I understand that this is difficulty for all of you.</p>
<p>I am a teacher in the district and I have school-aged children. I'm not sure if I can continue to effectively teach remotely and assist my children with their schoolwork. They are young and not able to work independently. I don't know if there is a way to have the teachers provide work that the kids can more easily access independently.</p>
<p>My child is missing school and the interaction with her peers. It is important for her psycho social development that the schools reopen. If we do not try, how do we know if this will be successful? I am optimistic that reopening the school is in the best interest of everyone. Thank you.</p>
<p>I believe it is important for the students to attend school in person. There are obvious benefits from an academic and social perspective. I understand the need to implement important safety protocols and I am hopeful the district will move forward with a plan to address student and teacher safety, while allowing in-person learning.</p>
<p>Remote learning!!</p>
<p>The remote learning in Spring left much to be desired. It was an emergency measure though and I understand that. I am open to using the districts on line offering only if it has been better planned and I get an opportunity to review this plan in advance otherwise I feel our best option is to plan to homeschool for this year using established on line tools and related materials. Asking parents to wait until August to find out what is offered is not in the spirit of partnership and if that is the only option I will likely choose for myself before August.</p>
<p>I hope if the student are required to learn remotely that the teachers, in turn, are required to TEACH remotely (and not just send links to YouTube videos and assignments that were picked up while searching the internet).</p>
<p>I would like my children back at school, in school, full time as soon as possible. Remote learning is not acceptable.</p>
<p>Are teachers being given the technological support and training needed for online learning/teaching? Effective online teaching is a skill that needs to be learned and practiced. What is the district doing to help prepare our teachers, so that our teachers can be effective online teachers? Some (not all) teachers understandably struggled with technology and effective online pedagogy during the abrupt transition in the spring. How can we help our teachers for fall 2020?</p> <p>I do appreciate the question about training parents about online learning platforms. Thank you for considering that important point. Please provide parents with transparency and updates! Even if firm decisions have not yet been made, please explain why this is so and what is being done to surmount obstacles. Please reveal a timeline of decisions/deadlines and share obstacles that may be impeding progress. I like the idea of students driving to school, if they are able. Thank you for including that in the survey.</p> <p>When do you expect to announce a plan for fall 2020? What is our timeline? This seems to be taking an exceptionally long time, compared to other districts in MA. Why is our district behind so many others in reacting and planning, particularly related to this pandemic? In regards to the question about eating lunch, my kids have eaten cafeteria lunches consistently in the past. Accordingly, in the survey, I replied that they eat lunch from the cafeteria. However, given the pandemic, they could bring food from home, particularly if it helped increase their chances of going to school face-to-face. Are we starting the academic year earlier to allow students and teachers to transition home during a time when a second peak is predicted (aka winter)? Is this under consideration? Will students, staff and teachers be tested for COVID on a regular basis? What will happen if a student, staff or teacher becomes COVID positive?</p>
<p>I read through the proposed guidance which was well thought out but my main concern is what we actually are going to do in each school.</p>
<p>It is irresponsible to open schools for in person education in September. In my opinion the district should take advantage of the month of August and upskill educators in how to facilitate online education. We should pause on reopening schools until - at a minimum - March 2021. I do not feel safe sending my child to in-person schooling and will hold the WRSD responsible if my child is compelled to attend and contracts COVID. It is simply unrealistic to believe children can socially distance, wear masks, sanitize and STILL have a meaningful educational experience. Why would we subject our children to that?</p> <p>At an absolute minimum you should offer an OPT OUT option for parents who are willing to and capable of ensuring their children succeed online and who want to keep their children home.</p>
<p>I believe they should open slowly (maybe with short phases) to make sure everyone (parents, teachers and students) are aware and trained in any new protocols to ensure everyone is on the same page and safe. I have concerns on what your procedures will be when someone (student or teacher) in the schools get sick with Covid.</p>
<p>Most parents still work outside of the home and will not be available to help children with school work</p>
<p>I have a child in 6th grade who is immunosuppressed due to medication she is on for a chronic health condition. I am very concerned about her risk. I would ask that the district please consider taking temperatures if there in person learning. I know that parents send kids to school sick and that worries me. Also if there is a hybrid model, please take into account putting children in the same household on the same alternating schedule so parents can plan for work. Also, clearly outlined policies and procedures for when there is an exposure in the school will be appreciated. Thank you. I know the district is working hard to make safe decisions and I appreciate the interest in parent feedback!</p>

The bottom line is I want my child and all other children safe.
There must be online instruction by the teachers, not just social gatherings online.
I think that there are just simply too many variables at play still with kids returning to school. I understand that people need to work(myself included) but not at the risks that we are being asked to take. Risk myself by possible exposure from a student/ staff member. Risk my kids who could I turn spread it to myself where I then expose the kids/staff I work with. What about buses how do we keep the kids distanced and masked when we have no staff making sure these things are happening? How do you propose 10 students and 2 staff to a classroom when...you made staffing cuts and there simply isn't classrooms to do such a thing. How are 1 teacher and 1 aide going to take 10 kids to the bathroom, make sure they are maintaining masks, maintaining distance,(as well as hygiene) and can't intermingle....Teachers cannot get into the children's rest room what if both staff are female and there is an issue in the boys rest room or vice-versa? What happens when it's not your scheduled bathroom time and so am so really needs to go? No play grounds, Shared toys, Remaining masked, What are they supposed to do for recess? If I am exposed or my child is exposed does that mean our whole family quarantines? Is my missed time for work paid? Is my child's missed school excused? These are just some of the concerns that have been shared with me from other parents and teachers that I have spoken with.
My child struggled with the online platform. She would benefit from live Zoom teaching not just accessing videos to learn
For remote learning there should NOT be a set start and end time for children's schooling as parents have to work around their own workday schedules And schoolwork should have an extra day completion time in case a child needs to complete work later on in the evening due to parents work schedule.
Please ensure that teachers are available for more than the couple hours a day to help students 1:1 if needed if they do remote learning. Also material should be editable not all parents have printers.
In-person learning is my family's choice.
Children NEED to be in school. I understand the struggle the district faces, but I 100% believe that complete remote learning would be an extreme disservice to our children. My children were bored. They go nothing out of remote learning. They are very bright children and I feel remote learning is not helping them excel at all. With 2 working parents and a toddler (thankfully I only work part time), it was extremely difficult. I can't even imagine for 2 full time or single parents. I pray that these children get back to school. With shields, and proper facial coverings I feel extremely confident in sending my children to school. If education isn't considered "essential " then I don't know what is! Let's make in-person education essential! Thank you.
I'm a single mother and need my kids in school full time in order to work
Student and staff safety has to be the first priority. 10% of infected individuals are dying. I don't understand the desire to rush back. A year pause until a vaccine is developed or the virus passes is not a catastrophe.
Please put the safety of our community first. It is easy to say let's go back to school to make the loud voices quiet. However, we should not do this until it is safe to do so. I care for elderly/compromised parents and need my entire family to stay healthy. I have been doing my part. I do not want to put my Kids at risk or have them become carriers of the virus to cancel out all we have done.
My children have already suffered tremendously from this , my youngest who is on an IEP NEEDS SCHOOL AND THE SOCIAL ASPECT AND IS NOW EXPERIENCING SOCIAL PROBLEMS AND ANXIETY BECAUSE OF BEING OUT OF SCHOOL FOR SO LONG... SHE DEFINITELY NEEDS AND MUST GO BACK ...
Get rid of any racially themed lesson plans. It is imperative that our children not be indoctrinated into this way of thinking. Just treat people fairly, regardless of anything else, and we'll be better off. No teaching that any race is or has differences.
Do not require masks all day. Do not keep them in one room all day. Universal hygiene precautions should be enough. There were no student deaths due to COVID-19 prior to quarantine and the infection rate is .00002% for children. Please ask teachers and staff to refrain from imposing their own personal views on Covid-19, politics and BLM.
Its mainly trying to coordinate schedules if all 3 children are on different schedules and my husband and I have to work. Also concerns about what would happen if any of us in the family contracted Covid, had to quarantine, worse were really sick or any one in their class. Those are extended absences. Lastly, with regard to graduation requirements for high schoolers. Low on the list of concerns but something my high schooler is already concerned about and needs to be addressed
You need to plan for smaller classrooms (for social distancing), more hand-washing, masks, and more sanitization. This means you need more teachers, classroom space, and supplies. Supplies should not be shared between students. This means that schools need more funding. Take money away from other services like Police or roads or something. I'd rather protect our children over my rear-axle. It does no good to do remote learning for kids this age (they NEED the social interaction) but it isn't possible to do in-person learning of any kind if the right protocols are in place. Governor Baker and any other politician need to realize that by opening schools without the proper precautions will doom our society and further wreck our economy by prolonging this outbreak further. This is not the time to be tight on the budget to prevent the spread of this illness and prolong our current state. If we need to spend more money, increase taxes, take out loans, we need to do so. I want to send my kids back for 100% in-person learning. It is important for their development. But I need more than just "100% in person, 50/50 or 100% remote." That isn't a plan. There is no detail. Without these things, it is just plain negligent.
Being with other students is mentally helpful for Class participation and overall well being for anyone let alone teenagers! I'm assuming either way all the extra activity, sports, dances & clubs will be canceled. My children said online learning was hard in the spring. Questions to teachers & their responses via email was not as effective as having that conversation in person. It was Difficult for us to manage space, time, internet connection with multiple students and parents working from home in the spring. Not everyone can purchase more equipment Or upgrades for the increased WiFi need or space thereby putting more stress on the situation.
I do not feel that it is safe for the students, teachers and other support staff to have school in-house in the fall. Many large corporations/companies are still having their employees work from home remotely so why are we asking this of our educators and children.
My now 4th grader had a very hard time with learning from home.
Risk to high for in person learning. Should be all remote
Cleaning protocol should include cleaning buses. Also 1/2 day options should be explored for elementary grades.

It would me much easier as a parent if all teachers used the same tools for communications. Last year was very confusing with some teachers using Dojo, others using Google classroom, and others relying on email.
Please, please mandate that the HS teachers present content live and hold mandatory meetings with their students. We are NOT interested in "teach yourself at home school."
1. If you decide to do online education, I would like to know what the school district plans would be for single parents or any parents that cant quit a job to educate their kids at home? 2. Do you plan on making parents quit their jobs so the district can start paying the parents for becoming a teacher and not able to go out and work? 3. I'm a single parent of 2 children so online education cannot happen in my home! If you choose to have any online education, my son who is disabled will not receive any education since I will be at work. He struggles with school work and is on an IEP so none of his goals/ educational needs will be met. 4. I certainly cannot quit my job to educate my kids, I must work to keep a roof over our heads & food on the table. If school is being held online, my son will need to be held back each year that the district doesn't provide in person learning. Its also illegal not to provide the help & services on my sons IEP. 5. I cannot afford a tutor/babysitter to help with online education while I'm at work since it would take a huge portion of my paycheck. I wouldn't be capable of paying my bills. 6. I have 2 children in the district, my son is special needs and cannot do remote learning on his own which means he will receive ZERO EDUCATION! I have a huge problem with online education, especially since I pay over \$6k in property taxes each year so that my children can be provided a proper education. 7. The district should not ever expect parents to quit a job & lose income in each household to become there own kids teacher. My profession is not being an educator so to expect that of parents is completely unacceptable. We have our own jobs to go to on a daily basis. 8. As it is, my son hasn't received any education since schools closed on March 12, 2020. He has regressed huge & certainly cannot do online schooling by himself! Children must be in school or the economy will become worse since every household that has kids will be affected in a negative way financially.
I think all children should be wearing masks at all times including Kindergarteners, with the exception of outdoor activities. If class es can be taught outside on a nice day, it should be done. Kids should stay in their classrooms and teachers should rotate (for example, art teacher goes to classroom), lunch should be eaten in the classroom if available. Bathrooms should be cleaned after use. If kids are doing a hybrid schedule than it should be the same kids in each group and rotations shouldn't occur. If this kind of protocol can be done, then I would feel safer sending my kids in for in person learning. I want my kids to interact with their teacher and friends. It's important for their emotional well-being, but with the Covid numbers now going up again, I'm worried what it will look like when school starts. When we originally took the survey, parents were just coming out of a pretty crazy emergency learning period. I think if you gave the same survey now, the answers would be different. Of course everyone wanted their kids back in school, we were JUST quarantined and asked to be educational teachers with no supplies or schedules. It was hard for us and I'm sure difficult for the teachers. We need to do better if we remote learn. Better schedules, better communication/interaction and more clear assigments and expectations. I worry if school goes back to full capacity, something will be missed and we will all eventually be rwmore learning whether we want to or not. I'm leaning more towards Hybrid, smaller class sizes less room for error.
Watching the initial baseball season activity in town it appears very difficult to have kids maintain masks and distancing. Might be good to observe some games as a learning exercise.
If remote learning takes place, I would like to see more zoom type classroom options where students meet with other students and teachers at least half the week as a mandatory part of the curriculum. I feel like even though it's online, that interaction is imperative for active learning and so crucial for positive mental health. Also, my daughter receives free lunch. Would there be access for her to get her lunch (and eat in a classroom if that's what's going to happen) without being singled out and everyone knowing she gets free lunch? She's very concerned about that stigma and that people will tease her for getting free lunch. Bus transportation? How's that going to work? I cannot provide transportation to and from school everyday.
We believe so strongly in school in person!
If this is going to be done next school year then I think it needs to be done without having to raise funding again. Enough is spent on schooling in this district. I would strongly suggest looking at how it can be done to accomplish this. Because I don't understand why/how schools are already saying they can't reopen unless they get xxx more funding. Cut what you have to and make it work. Then when this whole thing is over in November we can go back to normal school programs. I also would look at the likelihood of the kids wearing the masks all day. Be real!! They aren't going to. Especially the younger ones. Every sneeze and cough they will be pulling it down. Heck even I do it at work. It's nasty to sneeze or cough into a mask. So is this whole thing really worth it? Be real and don't follow the herd.
If Disney World can open safely, so can you guys! Science proves that children in this age demographic are the least susceptible to contract, transmit and die from the Virus. Base your decisions on Scientific Facts not Politics!
It is important that TEACHERS teach our children, not parents.
Kids need to be in class, remote learning was unsuccessful last Spring.
I think it's crucial for the kids to at a minimum go back part time. Especially children like my daughter who will be in second grade she needs the interaction and the teachers in order to effectively learn
I am concerned for the adults and the students emotional and physical well being. Will schools have the capability to socially distance students , clean surfaces appropriately, throughout the day and provide support to student academically. My daughter is barely reading at grade level But not receiving services.. how will she be supported?
I feel like students need to have mandatory zoom classes with their teachers. Thar was missing over the spring. Teachers should be teaching like they are in school and students must attend or it is marked as an absence
Definitely concerned about ventilation and air quality at school. Also concerned about traffic, I live across street from WRHS and my road is a cut thru with WAY to mY speeding cars!
We believe that it is imperative that our children return to school for their emotional well-being and a better learning experience.
I know that this work if difficult and there are many perspectives that need to be balanced. Thank you for your dedication to ensure our children have the best possible opportunity to learn and thrive in unprecedented times. If remote learning or a hybrid plan is implemented, I would like to see consistent practices across classrooms, grades and schools. I found the practices to be inconsistent at the end of last school year. My son had a much different experience than my daughter despite being at the same school (one grade apart).
I think hybrid learning uses a common sense approach which allows the children in class time to go over more difficult course matter. A good balance would also help parents as well.

I think younger children K-8 will not learn from eLearning as well as high school students. Face-to-face learning is definitely more impactful but would be satisfied with hybrid learning for safety purposes.
While hybrid feels like a safer option I am struggling to know how we will manage working and caring for a toddler in addition to supporting a kindergarten with online learning. I am also concerned that our current device won't be able to support regular online learning.
For students with pre-existing health conditions, there needs to be an online option.
I think some sort of hybrid model offers the best combination of in-person learning and safety.
In support of in person learning with masks / other safety precautions Willing to make accommodations such as driving children to school, always sending lunch from home and providing Kleenex, disinfecting wipes, sanitizer and volunteering if that will help ease transition!
Such a tough dilemma...having worked in healthcare for the last four months, remaining safe and working around Covid-19 is possible, but it takes a community buy-in to make that possible. Thanks for keeping us in the loop and we wish the task force the best of luck.
I believe that it is most important for our children to return to a normal school experience with cafeteria, gym, music, art and recess. As the parent of a normal active young boy, I have serious concerns about his ability to pay attention for long periods of time remotely while in our home environment with his toys, TV etc. while having no normal expectations of school, since he is a kindergartener. I also have concerns that the restrictive plans in place for the fall in-person learning do not give the kids enough movement to expend energy throughout the day. Our children need in-person socialization, classroom structure, and rules/expectations set by a teacher, NOT the parent. I parent my child well, but as we all know, an outside, non-parent voice, where the child is out of their comfort zone can better hold a child's attention. Please allow our kids a return to a NORMAL educational experience.
Both of my children have become clinically depressed, one suicidal, with the loss of school and friends. We have spent the summer in and out of day programs, Emergency Mental Health, counselors' offices. I
My biggest concern with schools reopening is my son who has an IEP in English and language arts and also has ADHD. He does not learn well via distance learning and struggled greatly. We would appreciate increased individualized help if distance learning is the safest option.
I am 100% on board with students being back in the schools. I fear that my HS teen, who is a senior this year, would fail if classes were all online. She did not do well being online at home March thru June. Both parents work, there is no one to help during the day at home or keep her on track. She needs the routine and structure of a classroom. Although teachers had responded when able for questions, it was not in a timely fashion for work she was doing. As it is, she failed one of her classes for the quarter. Thank you.
Let parents who want to teach their kids at home for remote learning so there will be enough space at school for all other students who's parents want/need them to attend school in person.
Virtual needs to be better. One 30 minute class per week is not ok. YouTube videos to teach new concepts and independent learning for elementary school kids is not developmentally appropriate. Those at home can easily be a part of in class instruction if the technology was set up properly. I work at an open residential school and this is currently working nicely.
I won't feel good about my children's or the faculty/staff's safety until a vaccination is widely available.
In person classes would be irresponsible at this time, and that is not likely to change by fall
In person learning is essential, and the educators are essential employees. At risk educators or educators that have personal situations that will not allow them to create a culture of strength, health, safety, and shared responsibility in the classroom, due to fear, should take the year off.
If remote learning is the way then as a parent of a special ed child I would like support in helping my child learn and getting what he deserves for education
If hybrid or remote learning takes place more google meet time with the teacher for instruction needs to occur. My child had next to nothing last year and she had to teach herself. Luckily she is a strong student and succeeded but for the child who needs instruction this was not acceptable.
The parents definitely need more resources (ex: clear, step by step explanation videos) of teaching mathematics for remote learning
My children think that the District should consider mandatory video meets for each of their classes if we happen to do remote learning only so that they feel more "present" in their classes.
In school learning is very important for social and educational growth. Please do everything possible to implement safe in person learning.
We feel that it is very important that our children return to school this fall as remote learning this past spring resulted in frustration with learning, feelings of isolation, and emotional dysregulation. For a population that is at little to no risk from this virus, we believe that it is of greater value for our children to return to school this fall.
ALL KIDS, ALL GRADES NEED TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL FULL TIME. NO HYBRID. NO REMOTE LEARNING. AT SCHOOL, FULL CLASS, FULL DAY.
Remote learning is NOT effective.
Opposed to 100% in-school and will consider hybrid but will default to remote if virus spikes happen in the area. If remote only kids WRHS kids NEED live teacher interaction such as Zoom live class time at least a few times a week.
I believe that if it is remote/online schooling that the teachers should all have a plan to zoom at least 2 times a day! Once in the morning to teach and explain the work for the day and then again later in the day to go over the work they did. They need to see the other kids and Teachers even if it's online. One of our kids teachers last year was great with this and went above and beyond! Unfortunately the other was not very good at all and left the kids on their own.
We will be extremely frustrated If anything other than full in-person learning is chosen. The statistics are out there and children are not high risk. It seems to me there's no reason why they couldn't be in school. If nurses can wear masks and treat sick patients, there is no reason why teachers can't wear a mask and teach the children. My kids want to be there, my son is going into fifth grade, I can tell you for sure that while he had amazing teachers last year, he didn't get nearly the amount out of school that he would have had it been in person. He needs in person learning.
I think kids should be back in school for many different reasons including structure, more beneficial learning. My daughter is on an IEP and performs better when someone is reinforcing what has been taught and pushes her to get her work done. Kids perform better and learn more when they are in school. They need the structure of getting up and going to school, not being able to sleep in and get work done when they want to

<p>The extreme ignorance shown in the sample comments give me doubts about the district's ability to anything other than hybrid or remote learning. I am not sure how you are going to handle non-compliant students in the high school. The corridors in normal times are complete chaos. Also why on earth did you get comments from community members? If they do not have students at the school or work there, their opinion is irrelevant.</p>
<p>I'm not optimistic about the reality of having hundreds of kids in a building and preventing the spread of a virus. Even if the children are at lower risk of complications they will be spreading it to adults at home and the staff at school. How could this not cause hundreds if not thousands of new infections?</p>
<p>I am not only a parent of two school aged children but I myself am a special educator and the wife of a WRHS teacher. I am really struggling with what we will do with our children if there is a hybrid model where myself and my husband would be expected to be in school full time with no care alternatives for our children on their off weeks. I am also very concerned with the full reopening of schools where children with special needs and kids under second grade do not need to wear masks. It is a very scary time for everyone personally and for educators to be put on the frontline. Since the school closure we have been quarantined and making a very small circle of people. With the thought of school reopening makes me wonder how quickly and how many people will get sick, some of which will never recover. It feels as though we may be forced to choose between our career and our families which is devastating! I respect everyone's work and diligence in opening safely but I have grave concerns for myself and my family.</p>
<p>Regarding transportation question: Technically, by car... however before/after school care is essential. Thought this best way to address.</p>
<p>I have mixed feelings regarding the re-opening of schools in September. I want my 2 daughters to go back to school to learn in the classroom with their teachers and friends, but I just don't know how it can be done with so many students in each school. The classrooms usually have a good amount of students in each , buses are crowded, transferring from class to class would also be in crowded hallways, and the cafeteria for each lunch is busy and hectic too. I just don't know how social distancing can be kept in all of these circumstances. I believe that having the students return to school would be the best for learning and socializing, however, keeping the students safe is a big hurdle. My 2 daughters really miss the teachers and their friends. One of my daughters can learn remotely without too much difficulty, but she misses the classroom instruction. My other daughter, is easily distracted at home, and has a difficult time staying focused for remote learning. She does much better working in the classroom with teachers and other students. I don't know how you you will do it, but I trust you will do all you can to make the best decision for all. Thank you so much for all your time and effort in dealing with this most difficult situation. God Bless You All!!!</p>
<p>Please keep our kids, families and communities safe!</p>
<p>Schools need to open period. Have teachers stand behind a plexiglass shield if needed. No masks for students. Remote learning is not effective.</p>
<p>Having hand sanitizer available , wipes and mask in case if something happen</p>
<p>The HS needs to do a much much better job Teaching these kids in a remote or hybrid situation there has been plenty of time to prepare. Teachers need to teach this year. My kid is a senior n we need to learn from mistakes from spring</p>
<p>I think that whole remote learning takes away from the social/emotional aspect of school and the routine, in person learning would be traumatic. The worrying, new rules, and experience in general I think would be detrimental to my daughters mental health. Either way I am hopeful that the school will make emotional and mental wellness for the students a huge priority.</p>
<p>I fear for the safety of my children. The unknown threats of Covid and Social Justice scumbags are a threat to any rational human.</p>
<p>I have serious doubts that the district will be able to follow all the safety guidelines for any type of in person learning. But if they were able to, I have ZERO confidence that they would be able to provide safe transportation to and from school for my children. I am also a teacher so if school returns in person, I would have no way to get my children to and from school other than the bus which I just don't see as a safe option.</p>
<p>Remote learning in our district was a joke in my opinion... it's time this huge district look to the towns that Consistently perform in the top 25 of the state and look at their model because we were not even close to it! Parents did all of the teaching and one 30 minute zoom call was outrageous to say the least. Very disappointed with "remote learning". Masks work....</p>
<p>The health and safety of our children, family, and your staff is our #1 one concern and quite honestly... remote learning is the only way to guarantee that.</p>
<p>I believe that for student with IEP meeting will need to happen more often to support some regression that may have happened in the past few months. It is something we worry about for all students but especially those with special needs.</p>
<p>If remote learning is the only option, I would like for my student to have zoom classes instead of just having work to do. She struggled with remote learning at the end of last year. I believe it's because there was no structure to the learning process.</p>
<p>I do not have anything to add except that my son does not yet have his license but should by December and so if school is in person he will drive himself and sister and friends. This is a difficult and we know you are doing your best to deal with this. I wish you the very best at this time.</p>
<p>Thank you for putting the health and safety of the children and staff first. Although I would love for my child to be socializing in school, safety will always come first.</p>
<p>As a household that has two parents that work it would be helpful if remote learning opportunities, classroom meetings etc could occur in the evening after 5 pm or before 9am.</p>
<p>My worry is the bus and not having a vaccine for Covid. There is no way we could send our children to school without a measles vaccine but now we are going to send them with no vaccine and a deadly virus we know nothing about. Also there is no way for our children to social distance on a bus. That would be 10 students to a bus. My heart hurts for all these children. My son loved playing football and basketball. But I would hate risking his life as well as other students and the teachers and staff. Also what about high risk family at home? Many grandparents raise their grandchildren today. The opioid epidemic has destroyed families. Now will this destroy them as well. I want them to go back with all my heart but not if we put anyone at risk</p>
<p>It's not fair for parents who have to work and send their kids to school, to be forced into the protocols they want implemented. We should have the option to opt our child out of wearing a mask the entire day. It's not ok that parents don't get to make the choice for their own kids because they are forced to work to be able to pay their bills. My child has dyslexia and is already behind academically. I have the option to send him to his school every day, while wearing a mask full time, or keep him home and have a bigger delay. He has already stated that he absolutely doesn't want to wear a mask the entire day. He can barely wear it while we shop. There's no good options. People should be able to make the choice for their own kids.</p>

I would love for my son to attend when it is safe. I currently don't feel that in person or hybrid can be safe with only 3 feet when everywhere else it has to be 6 feet. I would like to know how well ventilated the school is as the grade my son would attend does not require masks. How often would the school be cleaned? I also am worried about the social/emotional health of my son where he cannot play or interact with his peers and teachers in a developmentally appropriate way. I am concerned about flip flopping between these three ways of teaching. For example starting in person and then going remote, the lack of consistency is troubling. I am also concerned about the unknown of this disease. What if a student/teacher in the school contracts this disease, how long is the shutdown for? What are the long term effects of this on my child's health and emotional well-being? I know there is no right answer as remote learning is not ideally how I would like my child to begin learning, but for him to remain the safest I would prefer remote learning.
Grandparents. Many children have grandparents in the home - either as sole guardian or in the household. While this is no longer our situation as my parents recently passed I can not imagine the anxiety of children with vulnerable family members in their home.
More google classroom/zoom classes. Actually teach and grade children.
If transportation (bus specifically) is limited or eliminated due to the pandemic, we would certainly drop/pickup our kids as needed if it meant the opportunity for in-school learning.
I believe with the safety measures in place of teachers wearing masks and children requiring them when leaving the classroom would alleviate my concerns as a parent to allow in class learning. Hand sanitizing entering and exiting the classroom would also creat that extra barrier for the spread. It is Extremely concerning to think of these kids having remote learning with no guidance and support of an actual classroom teacher. Going into a new year where the bulk of the learning occurs would be detrimental learning through a zoom class or on their own to hopefully understand new material. I would rather have a shorter school year than have my children learn remotely whether they be out longer during flu season or getting out earlier at the end of the year.
Air filtration in schools
Remote learning in the spring was very difficult for me as a parent. My child was done at 12pm with a 9am wake time. I would hope that more work, structured, would be given. Also would encourage Zoom for grade 7. My son had no zoom.
Please consider the kids who participate in your music program. Some of these kids want to pursue music in college. It is critical that band , orchestra ,ect have an opportunity to continue with these classes in person
You don't ask about out of district schools. My son goes to an out of district school attached to his locked mental health residential program. He needs in person support even if some is done by remote learning
If it ends up being 100% in-person learning, we would most likely send them to school to be physically there, but stagger the days, and do virtual the other days. I think they need to have some sort of in-person schooling for their social and emotional needs.
My son will fall behind if he stays home.
It's very important that the kids go back to school to learn from their teachers and interact with their peers. Also it's incredibly difficult to support online learning with both parents working full time. This is an almost impossible ask.
This survey implies that my child will not be going to school because of the districts choice. The kids need to go to school full time, no masks. Parents can not afford to stay home and be a teacher.
I just want to make sure my child is safe! And I don't feel it's safe yet!
The cleanliness and comfort of the school and classrooms if students and staff are expected to wear face masks. That school is often a furnace.
I want to ensure working parents are a stakeholder as a part of the current task force or future additions to it. We are working parents and 100% remote learning, the way it was taught in the spring, is not an option for us, nor was efficient learning for our child. If 100% remote learning is the chosen option, there needs to be a much better plan on how to make it effective learning that comes from the TEACHER and not the parent.
Guidance should be part of the curriculum.
My wife and I both work full-time. I refuse to participate in any at home learning. I was very understanding for the previous school year. This year coming up I will be very vocal and my child will not participate. If I am unable to go to work who will pay my mortgage. The country can only give handouts for so long. I have been working continuously throughout this pandemic. We all need to be smart and not live in fear.
Open the schools!
During the school committee meetings, the focus was emotional support instead of education. It's obviously important to support the kids who don't get it at home, but emotionally supporting my child is my responsibility. Educating them is the school districts responsibility. The kids will be academically delayed with all of the distractions already; exacerbating the situation is irresponsible.
I will not used the district's remote learning option if it is the same as the spring experience. I didn't not feel it was effective for young children at all (at least at our school). It would need to have more teacher involvement.
In my neighborhood, the internet intermittently works during the daytime hours. Despite many calls to the cable company and router company, we have regular problems. We live in a very large neighborhood with adults working from home. Also, the online learning was very poor from last year. In my opinion, it was unacceptable. There was little to no feedback from teachers. They merely put assignments on Google DOCs and got paid to work all day. I would likely enroll my child in private education if online learning was full time.
My children NEED to go to school , its not fair to parents that work or for the mental health of kids in this district where the virus numbers have been so low, to proceed working remotely based on "what if". Remote learning should come later if people are becoming ill, we need to try to have some sort of normalcy. Remote learning was awful, especially for my younger child, and we got through it ..which is not school to me.Open schools with safety precautions,
Send the kids back to school. Enough is enough
I am very concerned that my young children's will experience developmental delays if they are forced to attend school remotely.
Temperature within each classroom may affect student's ability to comfortably wear a mask.
Thank you all for all your hard work! :)

I believe the district and my child's middle school (Chocksett) did the best they could during the spring but special ed services pursuant to my child's IEP were basically non-existent. While I am agreeable, in theory and depending on existing circumstances, to remote learning this fall, the district must do significantly more to provide IEP mandated services and not rely on parents to be special ed teachers and aides. I am extremely concerned about the support my child will receive this fall as he enters the high school. WRSD needs to do better than it did in the spring to support and educate my child. The spring semester was frustrating and it will be unacceptable for that to continue this fall.
I think the schools should not re-open until there's a vaccine, which will likely be in January.
Open the schools 100%, take reasonable safety measures, hand sanitizer. Have remote learning ready for 2 reasons: 1. to make it easy for students that are sick to stay home and not fall behind, 2. If there is a spike and you need to close the school for a few weeks it will be a seamless transition. Remotely available standardized learning is something that should have been developed long ago. There should be a central core curriculum for every class in every grade, developed by the best teachers in the region, state, country and world. Then these classes should be tweaked to constantly improve the learning experience of all our children. And if someone moves from Wachusett to California on a Friday, they should land in a classroom in California on Monday and be on the same page as all the other students. If there is a snow day, no problem. Child has a severe illness is out for a few weeks, no problem. We have a new pandemic next year, no problem. No more text books, may be alternate in school out of school days to save transportation costs. Smaller schools. Dare to dream.
I believe the kids should go back to school in person. If and when COVID cases develop in the school, then they should switch to remote learning until the schools are cleaned. Then they should return to school in person. They should only do full-time remote learning if the cases in MA spiral out of control again. This time, if they are doing remote learning, they need all day zoom classes, just as if they were in school. My kids did not learn well from the posted online assignments, they just did in the spring. They did do zoom and did not get to see or hear from their teacher in person. This is a very important part of the learning process. For the children's success, they need to be engaged online just as if they were learning in the classroom.
My husband and I both work and cannot drive our two kids (7th and 11th grades) to the school so we rather have remote learning for them. It's safer for anyone at this time.
As a nurse I'm not sure it would be safe to send the children back to school. It's a very difficult time but the health and well being of teachers and students need to come first. I understand there are many different controversial views and this is such a difficult time but literally it's a life or death risk. This virus does not discriminate. At this time, where cases are rising and there's more community spread, I would not feel comfortable having my son at school. This is not just considered for his health and safety but for those of any educators as well. Thank you and be well.
Proof on immunity to covid- to support back to school in-person.
Live remote learning sessions with video
I found the teaching element lacking in the spring during remote school (elementary). There was no actual instruction from the teacher, besides 1 zoom a week to chat which I feel was detrimental to my students learning. My student did not learn well in a remote setting and I believe they have suffered setbacks. If there is remote school at least some of the time, I think all teachers should have class instruction via zoom. I am a full time working mother and being a teacher on top of this is very stressful and has not been beneficial for my student or myself. If a hybrid model, we need to have a better plan.
I strongly believe children need to return to school in-person for so many reasons. We have Chromebooks and internet, however the remote learning was not successful. With 2 out of my 3 children on IEP's it is imperative they return to school. With schooling 3 children at home I cannot give the struggling learners (1 child Dx: of autism spectrum) the support they need and deserve. Home schooling also forces me to not attend work and lose a career I have worked hard for.
I am a teacher in the district (WRHS) so I really have no option but to send my child to school if the buildings are open. If I could stay home and keep my child home I would.
If this is hybrid, is there a way for my freshman and senior go at the same time?
I don't know how schools can safely reopen. I believe the teachers in the district need to be more accountable and provide more support. There are many learning technologies that the district did not take advantage of properly. Teachers can do whole class mini lessons break out sessions and regroup during a time frame. Under current guidelines students are not going to be able to interact in a manner that they are used to.
Please let the kids go back to school who want to go, the ones who want to stay home give them that option. We are failing our kids, most of us are not experts for teaching kids also having to work full time to pay our bills and pay the taxes that pay teachers and your salary. We have emptied our savings to keep my wife home to full time remote teach our 3 kids on one computer 3 different classes for the last part of the year. There's no way we can continue to do this without severely failing our kids, AND their mental health without being able to socialize with others and learn to overcome issues. It is sad to think my daughter with autism is somehow being failed because she is not getting the full attention she needs to succeed at school, social life etc. Give folks a dang option. I KNOW we aren't the only parents in this position. So not only do we pay taxes, but it is also now a necessity for families to have to pay for internet and computers? What about the families just barely scraping by in our expensive towns? We moved here because of the good school system. We knew it'd be expensive to live here and pay the high taxes but we did it for our kids, and in return we get half-assed education. The online learning was frustrating and a joke. Teachers need to teach our kids. That is what you are paid to do.
Please open - as a senior she wants to be in school
Busing is a huge concern. I don't feel 3 feet is good guidance to keep children safe. I think hybrid presents unique challenges for working parents.
Please do this safely
Students parents are both essential workers and will have to choose between kids and job if a decision to remote learn is made or hire someone.
According to my students spring remote learning was NOT rigorous, my highschooler called it "sub" work. My middle schooler basically failed the last semester because she was not held accountable. As a working parent it is difficult to stay on top of what needs to be accomplished.
I work FT outside the home; my son has an IEP - if he is home doing remote learning, without me there, he will get nothing done, so it would be great if one of his teachers or special education teachers would assist him remotely with getting some work done each day, otherwise he will get nothing done until I get home at 6pm. He needs an adult to guide him with assignments. Thank you

<p>Have zoom classes if hybrid / remote. Make class times on the same day / time. If not this creates a barrier for individuals who work. This is hard for parents to manage. Ensure that teachers are working. My daughters second grade teacher didn't seem to work on a regular basis. The support I received was very little. Worcester was required to zoom and log time cards. Wachusett should be the same if not more. If we are going online there needs to be a schedule in place that does not change and the teachers need to provide more learning online through zoom. It can not be the parents responsibility. It creates an unequal environment for the students whose parents work. I hope that doesn't seem angry but last school year was horrid for me.</p>
<p>As a teacher and parent, I feel strongly that remote learning should be the initial phase of our schools opening. The research with children as well as the spread of the virus in indoor environments just is not there to support a return to the school building in person. How would you even begin to bus students safely? If I'm exposed at work, than my child will be exposed as well as his classmates and vice versa. Also, college students are returning to campus from very high risk states all over the country to Worcester, Paxton and all over Massachusetts. Please work to introduce a common sense phased in approach based on research of American children and teachers in schools here. It is much too risky to do anything else when children and others lives are at stake.</p>
<p>I work full time and had a very difficult time being teacher, nurse and mom. I can't guarantee how much I can do.</p>
<p>Remote learning needs to be consistently implemented by all teachers. Information needs to be provided in the same manner for every class. Assignments need to be turned in the same way. All instructions need to be very clear. If lessons refer to websites, Teachers should make best efforts to collaborate to use the same 2 or 3 sites so students aren't required to set up too many accounts. Teachers need to be available for questions.</p>
<p>Shorter school days?</p>
<p>I think it is important for the well being of these children to be in school to acquire necessary skills to succeed academically and (maybe even of greater importance) to socialize with peers for their mental health! I am a teacher but I am not my children's teacher. They need to be around other peers and take direction from other adults. The struggles faced at home are a huge detriment to their mental well being. Send them to school! There's always the option of remote learning for the parents who are not comfortable with it.</p>
<p>I plead with the District to consider what has happened in Israel. I also hope that remote learning be simplified.</p>
<p>I am in favor of hybrid learning initially but want to see my son back In school full time. You need to look at the school systems in Europe who have been back at schools for months and take away from their successes and failures. We can't keep living in fear and we need to try. I will support whatever decision is made by our school system and I trust it's the best decision possible based on the information at hand!</p>
<p>Actual instruction from the staff on a schedule. Not just here you go watch this video and do 100 questions. Need to have a common platform as well- zoom - too dysfunctional last year. Lots of staff mailed it in.</p>
<p>We have an immuno compromised family member and are very concerned about getting sick. Given the current data, there is much reason to believe we will have another surge.</p>
<p>Testing teachers and students regularly for COVID, students/staff with pre-existing medical conditions</p>
<p>in addition to augmented custodial routines, an inspection of the ventilation system including replacement and upgrade of all filters; pool testing of student cohorts every two weeks; dedicated full-time tutors for each subject given that the lesson planning demand on teachers will likely preclude their availability for such targeted re-teaching; consider offering early retirement to teachers who feel vulnerable insofar as their safety is our concern and their reticence may inadvertently impact meaningful student engagement; plan for outdoor student events that help build community safely and mitigate social isolation.</p>
<p>My kids are suffering by remote learning. They need to be back in the classroom full time. They will not be able to participate in remote learning do to parents work schedules and availability to do so. Please check out this site there is no reason why the children can not got back full time. https://www.hoover.org/profiles/scott-w-atlas.</p>
<p>I would be willing to allow my student to attend band and or one other specialized class. I would drive her to and from school. I would not allow her to spend a whole day there.</p>
<p>When talking about remote learning, I think it's important for parents to understand if this would be the same "remote learning" as was conducted during the last 3 months of 2020 school year or if it would be more enhanced. For example my child participated in 1 google meet session a week for 20-30 mins with their teacher which didn't consist of any learning (more of the social interaction and sharing work). The teaching piece fell on the parent (and online programs) following the assigned workload for the week. I would be hoping for a more enhanced remote learning program for the 2020/2021 that didn't rely on 100% on the parent to guide the child through the assignments as well as teach. Regarding requirements of masks- It would be helpful for parents to understand what strategy would be in place to ensure students actually keep their masks on, especially when the schools are hot in September.</p>
<p>Both of my children want to return to school. Both my children are good students getting very good grades and participate in other school activities. I feel at this age they will not be successful if they are taught remotely. They learned nothing this past spring eventhough they had great teachers. Also, they are aware of what is going on in the world yet they are optimistic and not scared. I understand there are many teachers and administrators who are scared. I expect they would keep their personal feelings out of the classroom and other areas children may hear them talk. Thank you</p>
<p>COVID is political bulls**t and being used for mandatory vaccination. Open schools.</p>
<p>I would hope to see the younger kids at least go back in a hybrid model. I am really hoping to see my son in kindergarten go to school. I feel like he will miss out on so much learning if he is taught remotely.</p>
<p>I work full-time. I am not a teacher. I do not want to be trained so my child can participate in remote learning. Do you want to learn how to do my job? Is the district going to pay parents to stay at home to co teach their children? I work in the healthcare profession and feel there is no reason for students not to return to school in the fall. They need the socialization, in person instruction. Most parents work outside the home they cannot teach and work at the same time. Some parents are not able to teach. Every student in this district is entitled to the same education, not "this is the best we can do". By not providing the same educational opportunity to every student you are violating F.A.P.E. Please find a way for the students to return to school!</p>
<p>Hoping for hybrid. Not 100% comfortable with going back full time. And I don't feel like full time will keep anyone safe. Safety for teachers/staff and students is just as important as the learning. Hybrid will give them their socialization and the feeling of less isolation and less separation than just online will. I know some families will struggle with whatever option is taken and thank you for not rushing to a decision.</p>
<p>Keep students and staff safe above all else.</p>
<p>I'm concerned about my son making sufficient academic progress but more importantly, his current emotional distress of all this uncertainty and the serious possibility of 'remote learning'.....</p>

My child is in RTI and most likely needs IEP however did not have an assessment yet. I would be concerned about what the support would look like for him.
If WRSD partakes in 50% in person / 50% remote I will have to stay home and quit my job and use my own methods to homeschool. I would not use WRSD curriculum. Too complicated too stressful with deadlines and timing. Too difficult to use math methods with no teaching supervision. Unfortunately the hybrid will not work for our household.
Remote learning this past Spring did not meet the educational or developmental needs of my 8th and 10th grader. I am concerned about this as the school year approaches and remote learning is a probably with at least a hybrid model. My children were essentially teaching themselves the material. With no teacher guided instruction (i.e. person teaching on the computer in a virtual way), I do not see how my children are going to learn what is needed and progress to a HS diploma and beyond.
My daughter is waiting to be tested at Mountview because she struggles in Math. If she DOES NOT end up on an IEP or 504, would there be any kind of help for her? Some kind of extra help from a teacher or an I.A. She really got nothing out of Mayh in her 6th grade year, so I am afraid she will be very far behind going into her 7th grade year.
Our children need to get back to school, I know the teachers are worried but this is the new normal for everyone; healthcare workers, grocery store workers have all worked through this and we are all taking risks every day. My daughter is too young she needs in person learning opportunities.
I would prefer my child to start in person learning but with so many unknowns with this illness I would prefer remote learning. How can you ensure my child will be safe? I don't understand why everywhere is a 6 feet limit but why in school it was thought only 3 feet would be ok? How often will rooms/desks be cleaned? What happens when a child gets CoVid? Will everything be shutdown again? How will my child be safe on the bus? How are you going to protect the teachers? How will the children in K-2 be safe is not wearing masks? So many concerns and worries about in person and hybrid learning.
If hybrid, I think the remote section should be similar to last spring, rather than sitting on a zoom call all day while a teacher tries to teach to both the class and computer.
I don't think in-school learning can safely implemented at this time and that efforts should be spent to design remote learning strategies where teachers teach online to the students, assign partner or small group projects to complete on google meetup for peer interactions and small advisory meetings with teacher and a few students to check in and answer questions.
If infection rates increase, I will likely keep my child home regardless of wrhs plan.
I would like to hear an alternative for working parents that cannot have their child learning remotely or a hybrid combination.
I believe safety of students, teachers and school staff is most important and should be the highest priority . If the numbers spike again towards fall why would we risk anyone's health?!?!?
Kids need music
If remote learning were to happen teachers would actually need to spend time teaching via google classroom or zoom rather than just assigning work.
Online learning 100% is the only safe way to proceed for the fall
Although it may not be possible, I would suggest that in-person learning would be better suited to the high school and although we are s district, different grades (high school, Middle school, elementary school) could have different re-entry plans as their needs are different. Thank you.
Need more information on reopening the schools
We think the children, faculty, and staff's health is the most important issue. Education experience would not be ideal in a remote or hybrid modality. But it is not a priority given the demands of public health. We have to factor in the risks as indicated by the daily new case/death numbers in August.
Safety First
Pediatricians are for opening our schools for in classroom learning. I'm a paramedic who has worked the Frontline since the beginning of this pandemic we can open the schools safely, show bravery and do your jobs.
Both parents work full time, one of whom is considered an essential employee.
I am very nervous about attending school in person but also want my children to feel connected to the community
For remote learning, I'd like to see more interaction with students, personal checking in, community building, access to school clubs and maybe a block schedule. It would also be helpful to streamline or make consistent access to information in one platform like PowerSchool so that I as a parent had a better handle on what my child was not doing.
Assignments must be better organized in a central location (single source) instead of the multiple sources used the first time. New assignments should also be added as a new entry instead of being added to an existing email or message for an older assignment where they are being missed.
I am worried that my student's IEP won't be carried out as it is written (not enough staff, etc). I am very concerned that he is falling behind even with summer school. Remote learning is extremely difficult for him. If remote learning continues I would like extra help with how to teach and carry out the plan, etc.
Will both middle & high open up the fall athletic season? I believe that is an issue that should also be discussed & parent feedback should be accepted.
I believe the only way to socially distance the children is to have less children in the school buildings at one time.
If we need to bring our son to school vs. bus, it can be done. We just want him back in the classroom to learn. Hopefully FT in person but hybrid would work if we had to. Thank you,
I work, cannot quit my job to teach my child. I have no interest in learning how to do your job. Let the kids go back to school or lay off the teachers and pay for online learning programs with teachers who are in a virtual classroom.
I hope that they can safely be back in the classroom as much as possible.
Sports are absolutely critical.
My child will be school choiced if they do not get art music and gym- in a school classroom. I work full time and cannot assist with school assignments during the workday. Both my husband and I work full time teachers will need to have zoom calls at times that are after work hours if you plan on success.
I am very concerned about safety on the bus. I would like to hear the district's plan regarding buses.

It is hard to determine what is safest for our family without knowing the specifics of the plan.
For remote learning, lessons need to be structured and teacher led or driven. We would expect them to attend class like they would in person. This was not the case last spring. Most instruction was done by us as parents.
We have two children in Dawson Elementary. Safety, as everyone would agree is paramount. However, their needs to be some sort of 'physical-in school' learning. We strongly support the hybrid model of remote and in school learning. This is very reasonable as Dawson has a very respectful school community. I would also have foaming dispensers (or two) in each room. Masks mandatory of course. These are all great kids. They'll do what they need to do. Please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions.
I think all core classes should be taught only on-line. Art type classes - art gym, foreign language - should be offered as a hybrid. All classes synced with the teacher teaching from his/her classroom. Fall sports should be cancelled.
thank you for all of your hard work planning!
Forcing children to wear masks 6-7 hours a day in a non-air conditioned facility is cruel. I believe masks would be needed for in person learning. Further, I worry about the plan for teachers and staff who become sick and the uncertainty potentially for a quarantine to be suddenly enacted. We are a family with two working parents in a corporate setting. I can more easily negotiate work from home with school being remote for a period of time or all year, but juggling a sudden quarantine would be extremely stressful. I also wonder how to handle the trauma of my kids if a teacher got exposed at school, was very sick, went on a respirator or didn't make it. Even more, what about that teachers family and medical bills? Will compensation be provided to them if they become exposed at school?
Finally, recent evidence suggests that students 13 and older are just as at risk as any adults. It seems to me remote learning and focusing on addressing gaps in experience and effectiveness is the better course. I would comply with a hybrid model, but it seems the exposure risk isn't cut much for the risk of a sudden outbreak. Remote is my preference.
We are a household with 2 parents that work full time and occasionally weekends. We are 100% in favor of kids returning to full day school and do not support remote learning. I witnessed regression in my children despite remote learning this spring. It was financially difficult and we will not be able to continue to stay home with the children in the fall, nor will we be able to pay someone to stay with them and assist in remote learning. They are currently in full day camp and the social and emotional changes have been positive. Please reopen full day in person school.
Opening in-person school is important for the economy and for families struggling to juggle work and educating their children. It's time for teachers to be our front line workers. Stop destroying our youth.
If the meetings to decide what should happen in the fall are not being held in person, then I really do not think that school should be held in person either.
I think as a parent who is privileged to be able to choose to keep her kids home, I should do that, and make space for kids who really need to be in school for whatever reason. I'm happy to do that. My concerns are this - for my fourth grader (then third grader) remote learning was really a challenge. The thought of more repetitive tasks on Lexia, math sites, and so on - we absolutely can't handle that. I would much rather receive a framework that helps us understand what benchmarks we should get to in fourth grade, and then let us explore and learn with her in a way that is more appealing to her. I think some combination of access to the math sites etc, actual worksheets, and then more open ended exploratory assignments would work too. Homeschooling is appealing because she could explore her interests further - she excels in math and can do math far above grade level, so there are a lot of opportunities there. She'll burn out fast with rote math websites every day. For my kindergartener with an iep, I want to be sure he can still receive services. Again, we're blessed to be able to take him to outpatient therapies if needed - that's still much less exposure than a return to school. However, TVI and O&M aren't really available outpatient/ private, and so I'm pretty concerned about that. Vision training also can't really be done virtually for the most part. We appreciate the work the district is doing and we're willing to be flexible, team players. Most likely though, we won't return to school this fall.
I am a working full time mother and another mother picks up my daughter and drives her home. Bus will not go down my street and there are no sides walks. An alternating schedule would be very difficult work working parents.
Most, if not all, parents are not trained nor have sufficient capacity to teach all their kids in remote/hybrid environment. In-person schooling is vital to the economy and children's well-being, including socialization, art and gym.
1. To put it bluntly little kids are gross. They have no concept to touch a door knob then not put their hands in their mouths. They also learn from facial expressions, how can kids read facial expressions with masks on everyone? I think not having recess, lunch, or specials is going to make them feel like robots and could have a severe impact on them having a flawed view on school. For my first and third graders they have their entire schooling career ahead of them. I would hate for them to develop a subconscious hatred for school because of the steps that have to be taken to keep them safe. I understand that everyone is trying to figure out what is the best option but let's not use kids as guinea pigs in that trial.
School/ grade Syllabus or curriculum provided for parents to home school
I don't need training on google classroom per se, but I do want to simplify the platforms used by teachers - Class Dojo, Google, individual Teacher websites, 3rd party math websites, etc. With 3 kids in the district it was almost impossible to keep up with so many platforms and websites, which was very frustrating. I may consider asking for paper assignments for one or all of my kids since it was impossible to know if they'd completed specific assignments on time. , especially those submitted through 3rd party websites. Teachers often didn't update PowerSchool with missing assignments for a week after it was due, so I was constantly in reactive mode getting my ADHD child to catch up on late or missed homework.
compromised immune systems of a parent can be compromised if child is mandated to return to school. Remote learning is best option at this time.
I filled it out the best I could but without an explanation of what "remote learning" will consist of it is difficult to make an informed vote. If it is what happened in spring I hope they don't bother. What a waste. Not impressed at all. But if they can figure out a way to provide instruction remotely., then we would be more inclined to do remote.
My 5th grade son is on an IEP and has an aide. He did not do well with remote learning this Spring. I believe it is very important for the school district to get all of the kids back to learning in their schools as safely as possible, especially for the special needs students!
I'm worried about my child's mental health and socialization. Remote learning was a joke. No live zoom teaching. My child learned nothing new. We also have to work. My child would be home alone to fend for herself if remote learning. Isolation has consequences.
We should not be putting people closer than 6 feet apart with masks in a pandemic. They would have to share nothing tactile/surfaces/supplies etc. it's not practical. But good luck.

<p>I fully support remote learning at this time until the virus is better understood and a vaccine is further along in development/deployment. Remote learning needs to be teacher video led and not activities thrown together and assigned as "busy" projects as was done in the spring. There was NO learning and most of us parents were working along our children, it was frustrating and a complete waste of time. The remote learning needs to be done correctly and teacher led videos. Elementary age children need assistance and cannot work independently. The work should be progressive in nature and skill building and a weekly/monthly lesson plans given with adequate time for parents/caregivers to plan and execute. I would welcome a well thought plan that encourages pen to paper activities in addition to online learning for elementary age children. Young children cannot do ALL the work on the computers or tablets. The spring remote learning did not meet our needs (to be brutally honest, the assignments were a waste of time and exhausting) and I have worked with my child all summer to help her catch up. My MIL assisted her with her reading and was an elementary teacher for 30 years and refused to help her with many of the reading and writing assignments. She said they were not age appropriate and were too abstract and not at all beneficial. I felt the same but since I wasn't an educator I did not know. My daughter is on an IEP plan and has done well at home with me and grandparents helping her. Remote learning can be a wonderful opportunity to keep kids and educators safe but needs to be well done! Our kids deserve the best the district can provide and not throwing lessons plans together that do not build skills and development. I would appreciate a timeline of the learning expectations, detailed "what should my child know by November, January, March etc" - these are the benchmarks. It doesn't need to be fancy but expectations need to be known and communicated to the parents and we can strive to ensure our child is on target to meet the expectations and be on grade level. Many parents cannot have their children home but I am fortunate that I can. The isolation is very difficult and teacher led videos would immensely help with the isolation and help children with the mental health aspect of remote learning. If the remote learning is similar to the spring, I will be forced to immediately explore other opportunities to ensure my child can learn and progress. I really hope the remote learning can be done well and help our kids progress. Thank you for asking our opinions.</p>
<p>I have my sons chrome book from school, however, we do not own a home computer or printer. Unable to print materials needed</p>
<p>Remote learning to me means school, remotely. The past three months had virtually no teacher led teaching, and seemed to consist of sending kids a teachers version of a video on common core to teach the kids new or known skills. That and a few PDFs with occasional correction and returning. Some teachers were good, first grade Dawson, some were nowhere to be found, 4th grade Dawson. I can't imagine school will reopen in Holden, focus now needs to be on teaching the kids new skills not sending mountains of PDFs to reinforce skills already learned. We all had a hard time adjusting when this was new, but now it's time to get back to work. This is the life we all live now and we need teacher involvement for more than 20 minutes a week.</p>
<p>Our kiddos need to have some in-person learning options. They need the socialization and SEL benefits with their peers.</p>
<p>We are really hoping the kids go back to school and are open to whatever works with taking precautions.</p>
<p>Students needs some time in school. I understand the safety concerns but for any of this school year to have positive results for kids they need to have at least some time in the classroom, at school, with teachers and peers.</p>
<p>Keeping kids safe is #1</p>
<p>For hybrid or remote learning more face to face with teachers is extremely important. Students should be interacting with teachers most days (online/zoom/google classroom)</p>
<p>It is important to get our kids back to school my kids are ages 2,4, and 6 they need to be social</p>
<p>I sincerely hope that we will get an announcement as to what the plan is going to be with a good month lead notice in order to plan for whatever contingency is necessary. I would like to see remote learning if either full or part time be a little more structured with actual teacher instruction even if that is via zoom or whatever platform is used. Possibly even pre-recorded teacher instruction. If remote learning is going to be utilized, I'm hoping it will be a bit more organized and information to kids streamlined in 1 place. Constant emails and postings of work in deferent places is just too difficult for working parents and kids to do in their own. Inevitably some information and assignments will be lost in the shuffle.</p>
<p>I will not allow my children to participate in in-person learning of any kind unless safety is based on solid CDC guidance that has not been modified for political purposes AND the classroom can support good ventilation with outside air.</p>
<p>My daughter is entering 10 grade with biology course and other courses new to her. I feel that remote learning was unsuccessful and more of a burden on working full time single parents like myself. My daughter was stressed as was I. Worried about mental status and anxiety level. If people can go out to eat and grocery shop they can attend school.</p>
<p>If a hybrid or remote learning strategy is employed there need to be clear expectations for students/parents and there should be a higher quality of instruction and structure for the remote learning portion than existed in spring semester.</p>
<p>If online is the only option it will be important to have strict guidelines to keep kids focused and held accountable for the work that is required. The children who do the work should be awarded with appropriate grading to keep them wanting to do the work. Otherwise what's the point. I strongly believe kids need in person schooling if safe to do so. Thank you</p>
<p>Unless there is an extremely well laid out plan (communicated to me directly, in detail with specifics for my child only) to keep safe my medically complex 8th grader, she will not be setting foot in school until there is a proven vaccine.</p>
<p>Open the country and Make it Great Again!!!</p>
<p>While I am in full support of a hybrid system I am concerned for my child who is on an IEP. If she would require Tutoring. I would hope that the school would provide a Para to do one to one tutoring to help with her schooling</p>
<p>Thank you for offering a full remote learning option! I am relieved! More group discussion opportunities and small group work to focus on student needs would be great! Maybe the teacher "meets" over zoom with a different small group of kids each day. The minimal full class zoom/video meetings didn't seem to go well but we absolutely appreciated the time the teachers took to do them and we understand this was hard for them as well. Just an idea! :)</p>
<p>Good luck trying to keep masks on the little ones all day. My 6 year old couldn't keep his on for 10 minutes while at the dentist office today.</p>
<p>My daughter (11-5th grade) would do fine with any of the options. I'd prefer at home for both my kids however my son (5-K) does not do well with remote learning. He has an IEP and is currently attempting summer online activities. It is a struggle trying to get him to do them at home. He really excels in a classroom setting, and although there are risks to him being in school, I fear he will not benefit from 100% at home learning. Maybe if that is the case, we could arrange for an aid to come by the house a few days a week and help out? Just throwing ideas out there.</p>
<p>I am all for in person learning.</p>
<p>I trust that the district will do what they can to mitigate risks and inevitably kids will get sick, but I believe they will also get sick if they stay at home since the longer the pandemic lasts the less people will adhere to social distancing guidelines.</p>

If the remote learning option is found to be the necessary model to ensure safety of teachers, students/student families, and the community It would be beneficial if an outdoor learning experience for science, Math and English/Literature could be planned at 50% class attendance on a sign up basis, following the safety protocols set forth by the CDC, while weather permits. Parents would be responsible for transportation to and from the learning activity and it would not be a requirement, just considered an enrichment opportunity. This would allow for students to maintain a connection to school and their teachers.
We're very interested in seeing how other parents chose to handle the situation. We are prepared to go with the flow, but we are happy to continue remote learning if that maintains the highest level of safety for teachers, staff, and students.
Remote learning is the safest option at this time. I am immune compromised.
Having enough PPE for all staff and students, regular cleaning regimen beyond just sweeping floors and removing trash, accessibility for all students in the manner in which they require
The schools must be able to ensure that all students and staff follow safety protocols. I feel that a hybrid model would be best to provide in person learning and socialization for all students.
I am very concerned that my children will encounter the virus at school. I am also concerned for teachers that will encounter so many students from a variety of households, some of which would certainly not have been as careful as ours was and is.
For now I believe remote learning is safest for everyone.
Don't forget the safety of the staff. Find a way to make musical groups remain in tact.
If any classes are conducted remotely it is essential that there be set times the students are required to be online and "meeting" with their class, ie Zoom meetings. There were no required times during the Spring remote learning and my student was not able to self-motivate enough to be successful
Our children need to be in school. A 1st and 3rd grader are not equipped to learn remotely. As parents, who also work full time, we are not equipped to teach. Having a student with an IEP is already difficult enough and we're terrified she'll fall further behind. Remote learning completely missed the mark when first implemented.
Teachers are not responsible for getting the country back to normal after the federal government failed to contain this virus. Stop allowing them to push them to risk their lives or the lives of our children. Betsy Devos says only. 02% of kids will die from returning to school during the pandemic. That is almost 15,000 children.
Health safety
Please send children to school. It's really important for their overall well being.
I have 3 children in the district that have all responded to the pandemic and remote learning very differently. If school was to continue to be remote learning it would be almost impossible for my children to succeed without face to face learning and a consistent routine. They would need to have video calls daily(more for my children with multiple teachers) and the partnership between teachers and parents needs to be ongoing
My daughter will be a sophomore taking all honors and AP classes. I can't imagine that it is feasible to limit her exposure in school while at the same time providing her with a top educational experience. If you feel the district can provide this while guaranteeing her safety, and the health and safety of the rest of our family, we would consider in person learning since she'll learn more face to face in a classroom than she did with three months of remote learning.
Not all children will be fine either way. There is no right answer. For some, they will thrive better in the classroom and sink with at-home learning. For others, they will thrive with remote learning. Personalities and at home living situations vary greatly and have a huge impact on how the child will fare. No decision will be fool-proof or will please everyone. Some students will fail, yes, but that is not the school's fault.
This survey did not have the option to indicate that my HS student is in post grad so I said 12th grade.
Although I support partial remote learning, keep in mind about parents who also have to work from home and only have 1 computer in the household. When parents work from home, they still have to work their regular hours and often student needs attention and help to do their schoolwork.
School sports should return in the fall. Even if parents pay directly.
Hybrid needs to be taken off the table completely. It will cripple working parents.
I think the number one priority of the district should be student and staff safety. The only safe way is to learn by remote learning until a vaccine is produced. Students will recover from a little structural difference in their learning style, but no one can recover from death. Even though the young are not seeing the worst of the effects of this virus, they will be the carriers that will infect older love ones that might lose their lives.
If we have remote learning it needs to be greatly improved over what the district did in April, May and June.
Working parents that can't stay home
There is no way we can go back 100% our places of employment aren't even doing that and we are adults
If remote learning is part of the plan, I would like to know that the teachers have had ample time to train and prepare for this model. If l'm-person school is part of the plan, I would like to hear that children will be given time to be outdoors in fresh air, regardless of the season. Our school has plenty of grounds to allow for outdoor play, I see no reason why children can't safely play outdoors for part of the day - in fact, fresh air should be part of a COVID safe plan.
Students REALLY NEED face to face learning and ALL sports/activities available with appropriate modifications/safety protocols!
I appreciate the work and thoughtful consideration being put into this. While I fully understand that remote learning was thrown onto the district without any time to prepare last spring, and I am cognizant that there are many issues of equity in education that need to be addresses, I still must say that I was disappointed in the overall lack creativity or rigor in my son's 8th grade remote learning experience. I am hopeful with much more time to prepare and the knowledge that some (and possibly a significant portion) of the coming school year could be remote learning that there is planning and training taking place now to make this a more engaging, productive and stimulating education no matter what the format.
Help in navigating through the anxiety our children are facing
For hybrid learning I would prefer a shortened school day and 6' distancing, not 3'
My husband and I both have full time jobs. If schools don't resume we will have to look into other options as we will be unable to "teach" our child. Our child already struggles with reading and really needs a classroom setting.
We are working parents and we can't provide our children the proper schooling they need. Please open up the schools.
I'm hoping the kids go back full time. We can't be expected to work from home and be a teacher, this spring was a waste of time

Knowledge of what will take place in a timely manner to figure out family work schedules if hybrid
Children need social in person interaction
I think having teachers "livestream" their daily lessons would be ideal if at all possible until we can get more information about how the virus is spreading in the fall. I think it's more confusing for parents/students to have to switch from going to in school and then remote. If the teachers are better prepared for remote learning, then I feel this is the safest option at this time.
We believe it is essential our child return to in school learning. She is suffering mentally and needs the in person socialization. We feel the benefits of in person learning outweigh the risk.
Please bring students back to school. Remote learning is not good for students. Start them off normally and change by district as needed. This is not a one size fits all situation.
We trust you and the hardworking Superintendent and team.
I'd much prefer teachers focus on planning robust, quality distance learning programs from the get go. It's not going to be safe, and eventually we'll all end up back at home anyway ... I'd prefer consistency for my kids this year.
I applaud the district and look forward to 3 clear, well developed contingencies, I do not need to know until the few weeks before school as we look at the data.
I am not a teacher and have difficulties balancing my work vs teaching the kids effectively.
Send the kids back to school.....
I think we should at least try to go back in person to some extent. If learning is still remote there needs to be a big change with how remote learning is provided in this district in order for the students to learn effectively. There needs to be time spent face to face with teaching from the teacher for each class. The students were not learning in most of their classes and it was very frustrating to hear about so many other schools providing real instruction through zoom meetings 4-5 hours per day and our students were expected to teach themselves strictly by reading the material independently or watching a quick video or parents having to teach them. This needs to change. Service providers were expected to spend hours on zoom calls with parents and students so why couldn't teachers do lessons through zooms or hangouts or at the very least video tape themselves teaching a lesson???
Everyone wear a mask even K and 1st grade
If there is remote learning the teachers have to conduct online classes via Zoom or another application every day and have it required especially for high school students. They are at a critical point of their education The students should not have to do self directed learning. We will have to look at other options if teachers are just giving busy work or expecting students to learn on their own. I was not pleased with how online teaching went in the spring but understand it was a new situation for everyone. In my experience teachers were not helpful. On several occasions my children would ask a question and they would receive flipped responses. I actually think a really good idea would be to have all elementary students remote and then utilize the elementary schools to spread out high school students, if the high school doesn't have enough space to socially distance students. This way towns are not mingling and any outbreaks could be maybe be contained. It would be easier for parents to transport students to schools in the town they reside in. If staffing is an issue a teacher could present the class at one location and have it broadcast to others and have an aid in the class room to ensure safety. We really need to think outside the box. This is a tuff situation. I'm sure you are doing the best you can. Thank you!
Studies are showing kids don't become very sick from covid 19 but every adult in the building could become severely ill. Please keep them safe. We love our teachers and staff.
If there is remote learning or hybrid learning, my child would just have to go to daycare for that time as I work full time and it was impossible for me to do it all.
My child will not be coming to school with the current state guidelines, no restrictions we will be.
If our children have to wear masks and have to be in a "bubble" all day with minimal socialization. We will not be sending them. Multiple studies have shown that children DO NOT carry/pass the coronavirus. Also, not one person in Massachusetts Under the age of 20 has died from coronavirus. We don't shut down the school for flu season (which is more deadly to children) so why are we shutting it down now? Also, "facial coverings" offer 0% protection from viruses. The only mask that will protect from viruses is a custom fitted N100.
We are confident that WRSD will make the best decision for the safety of all staff, teachers and students by choosing a hybrid model. We know that this is going to be an exceptionally challenging situation for all families. As a former middle school teacher, I respectfully ask that you include teachers (not just Union Reps) in this process. Teachers have exceptionally good insight into EXACTLY what students needs are as well as for seeing potential problems. Please include them in this process, their voices are essential.
Teachers need to be more engaging with the students if we are to do remote learning. (More zoom/google classroom meetings to learn material) Both my husband and myself work full time and are not trained in early education to be able to teach the new curriculum for this coming school year.
I believe the safety of the teachers, staff, bus drivers, and those at-risk care takers of students needs to be heavily considered. The teachers should have input into the decision. They should not have to be stressed and worry about their safety, and by contact, the safety of their families.
I am filling this out a second time because I've had time to think. My answers to the questions haven't changed, but when answering I guess I assumed that the virtual learning would look different to what was offered in the spring. I'm looking forward to hearing how the approaches are going to change to enhance student learning. I think what the schools were able to pull together in short notice was great for the spring, but I'd like for my children to actively learn and participate in classes. If we aren't able to get this through the local school system I'll either homeschool or accept placement in one of the public virtual schools.
I think children need to have in person learning for their emotional and mental health.
That many parents are working from home, and cannot help their kids with their school work some /most of days. The on-line learning needs to be as independent with their teacher/peers as possible.
I am very concerned with the impact remote learning will have on Junior/senior grades/testing requirements needed for college.
I am not comfortable with the suddenly new guidelines for public places (schools) to be 3 feet apart when every other public place the recommendation is 6 feet apart.
Our hope is to have our children participate in 100% in person learning.

Remote learning this spring was very weak. If we do remote learning and the quality of education remains that poor, I might just pull my middle schooler and have him get a job until real school comes back. Because he won't have missed anything and would actually gain some real world experience.
My child would be home alone if you went to a remote learning only because both parents are required to be at work. Without the proper guidance, she will not do the work assigned to her and she would fall behind in her learning.
I think it's best to have them come in either full or part time. You can always change this as the year progresses. With proper guidelines in place I think they will be safe.
We have three children in the Wachusett district. During the latter part of the school year the education each of them received with remote learning was variable, and not anywhere near as good as in person learning. With current Covid-19 infection rates low in this region, I would strongly favor a return to in person learning with plans put in place to alter this plan if a significant rise in the infection rate is seen in our communities..
Both parents do not have a work from home option.
Easing younger children in, social/emotional impact, kids wearing masks all day is not healthy, gap in learning for younger kids with difficulty with remote learning
I'm completely not in support of remote learning and want my children to return to school. They learned nothing while participating in remote learning last spring, missed out on key social and academic development, and now spend most of their time gaming on x box.
These kids need normalcy and all these "safety measures" are more damaging to them (physically, mentally and emotionally) than the actual virus. There is no way our children will be attending unless school is back to normal. "Face coverings" offer no protection from the virus unless they are a N100 mask. The flu kills more children than this virus and we don't make these insane rules.
I think it is important for the younger kids to be in person, as online learning would be very challenging. My daughter had difficulty participating in a 45" Zoom dance class. I can't imagine several hours of academics. I understand the risks and the difficulty of the situation. I will support whatever the schools decide.
The plan that would work for students in higher grade will not work for pre-schoolers, I can make a more informed decision only after I know what ECC is doing.
The sooner the plan is available the better so parents can work with employees and potential childcare.
I find remote learning from home very hard as a full time working family, household of children with a 504 and iep, and a household of 6 kids with no quiet time ever!! My family needs school Or my kids are all going to fall far behind as they already have
Safety is most important. Hybrid approach is appropriate from current COVID situation. If things go worse, online learning should be available.
I am also a teacher - so if we are back in-person, I will have to be back in-person as well. However, I do not feel comfortable sending my kids back to school in-person at this time which is why I marked "not sure". As much as I struggled with remote learning as a parent, I feel much more comfortable with that than I do with all of us going back to school in 7 weeks. We are not doing anything inside, only seeing people outside and in very small groups, so it is hard for me to imagine feeling comfortable all of us being in person inside and feeling comfortable with that. As a parent, I would rather see a slow, phased approach to reopening much like our state has had.
My child's anxiety is very high when she has to go someplace or meet with people outside of our house. She is stressing out about everything. I do feel that she as a SpEd/ADHD combined type child would be better off with inperson learning. This does not mean I want her at school, nor does she want to go with her anxiety causing her many problems. I am stressed myself about what could happen if they go back/if they stay home.
Remote learning does NOT deprive students from engagement, social interaction, group discussions, face to face so that the teacher is ALSO engaged with his/her students. Online learning is for people with foundation skills in math and reading that the grade schools need to teach IN PERSON. This past experience with remote learning was lousy for my son and ALSO FOR ME, the parent. How can a student understand automotive assignments through graphs and reading text? They need to see brakes and suspensions. The same is true for math and social studies, etc. It can make sense ONLY IN A CLASSROOM SETTING.
Full time Working parents unable to take on additional stress/ role as a teacher
My workplace purchased air scrubbers and ozone generators to sanitize the air. I don't know how expensive that is, but thought I'd mention it. Also, my decision will be based on how our area is doing with Covid Case count, and also, I'm not sure how I would work if my son was remote learning, the cost of full day child care would kill my bank account, but if we still have high risk, I will just have to stay home. It's all so hard. Thank you for this chance to voice our opinions.
I really hope there is consideration for a different format of remote learning- actual classes over Zoom with the teacher teaching and students participating. Google classroom only is incredibly limited for students who have different learning styles
If there is a hybrid model, please keep in mind that it may help working parents tremendously if siblings attend school on the same days.
A hybrid model seems very chaotic for teaching and creating lessons for staff . How will teacher's be able to do this in such limited time. I'm afraid this will take away from the learning that goes on in the classroom for students. Students at home and kids in the classroom, how can this even be managed? Will you be hiring additional staff in each classroom to monitor students that are zooming in (I'm thinking you won't be) This is putting too much on these teachers. Their focus needs to be 1 or the other: full remote or back to school. Everyone wears masks and the focus is on cleaning . Get kids back to learning & the important interactions that occur face to face in the classroom that have been lost and normalcy and let teachers focus on their craft.
I just want the schools to open safely.
For online only: access to supplies, pair two to three families together for support, create safe social activities for kids, online learning has to be flexible to accommodate parents work schedules
Teachers will need support and training and reliable access to technology. We would also like to see evidence that a remote learning option has a structured curriculum that addresses student needs and strengthens their skills. We would like to see equitable opportunities for participation in remote learning (e.g. all students must have opportunities to speak and participate in activities).
I fully support in school learning for the fall for my children and hope the district supports this as we have shown low numbers as far as Covid.

I don't have any additional suggestions as it seems the task force is exploring all possible options. I just wanted to take the opportunity to say thank you for all of the hard work and effort being put into this. I know it can't be easy!
I dont think its a good idea only because I yave a child that has a very weak immune system and he would be much safer at home.
assisting with remote learning is extremely difficult With younger children when both parents are working full time
Teacher and student safety, appropriate teacher training on remote learning if that ends up being the plan
Please open the school. My son is currently in a private daycare for the summer and he is thriving. Being at home while both parents worked all day WAS NOT HEALTHY!
I am aiming to have my children return to school in the fall, but any in person learning would be better than none at all.
If student go only on a rotating schedule please consider siblings attending on the same day.
I am very concerned about the remote learning platform. While I understand the method used in the spring was quickly pieced together, I anticipate a much more thorough learning experience if we are using remote learning. I appreciated the classroom Dojo app that my K student's teacher used this spring. Documents were uploaded. I could easily print them from my phone. Submitting the work was simple. She also utilized online meeting time via google meetings. It was ideal. The experience my 4th grader received was a bit chaotic. Her teachers absolutely deserve a gold medal for all their hard work. They are AMAZING. But, the google classroom platform was challenging for my daughter to navigate. We spent a fair amount of time daily attempting to locate assignments, find where she was asked to submit them, and weed through a bunch of student comments to locate teacher directions. Additionally, sitting in front of a screen for several hours wasn't easy, or healthy, for her. I am considering formally withdrawing my children from their individual schools and pursuing homeschooling. I am waiting, however, to see what the remote learning model looks like. The decisions being made are surely difficult for all. However, I am disappointed that all of the time appears to be spent on re-opening plans, rather than taking this vital time over the summer to develop a robust remote learning plan for our students. By now it may be too late!
In the spring, we used Google Classroom for our son's online meetings, and the platform froze a lot and wasn't as easy to use or as good as Zoom. Is Zoom an option?
We are not comfortable with our children wearing a mask all day! I feel that didn't learn anything from remote learning and would like to see my children succeed!
If there will be remote learning the parent should be getting the work prior to the student so we can be prepared and know how to answer any questions the kids may have
I would love to have my 3 children attend school in the Fall ONLY if they are not required to wear masks
Keep the kids and staff safe at home
The most important consideration is the health and safety of students and adults at school. The decision to reopen must be based solely on science and facts.
The "protocols" that are being presented here are really no different than procedures that should be followed in any cold or flu season and THEY ARE NOT FOLLOWED! You are kidding yourself if you think this is a good plan to combat covid in school. This is a joke, it is not possible and no one will follow the rules especially kids. They all think they are immune to the virus, it is no big deal for them.
Masks, no masks in schools
I would prefer school tablet. We have technology, but its not the best. I would opt for hybrid model only for classes that require hands on instruction -- such as robotics, science experiments, etc.
I answered that both of my children will be riding the bus/van, but would not be opposed to dropping both off if this was a way to make in person learning more of a reality.
Why isn't 6ft socially distancing mandates in the schools? My children both have respiratory issues, and the the 3 ft distance concerns me.
I think it's a bad idea to open school buildings to students until the pandemic is over. Give the teachers the tools and training they need, and remote learning can be as effective or better than in-class learning.
I am a teacher in another district so if we all go hybrid and the schedules don't align we will have difficulty supporting this model.
The risks of returning to school are much too high and not worth the potential consequences. No student or teacher should be risking their lives to attend school, when there are much safer options at this time. It just takes one person, one droplet, for this virus to spread like wildfire. Although remote learning isn't ideal, my kids adjusted well this past spring and it's truly the best option to ensure their health and safety.
I will only feel comfortable sending my children if social distancing(6 ft) and masks are required until the virus is gone. I also want to be sure my kids aren't sharing school supplies like in previous years.
If it is a hybrid model, I would hope to have my 3 children attend in person on the same days if there is any way to that.
Both my husband and myself are essential employees and we are unable to work from home. If a hybrid or remote learning takes place my boys will end up having to go to some kind of a program or we will need to pay for childcare similar to what we had to do in the spring. In that situation, I am not sure how remote learning or a hybrid system could work or would work. Who would help them log into their google classrooms, would they be able to bring their devices to the childcare facilities, would anyone there make sure they log into the class zoom meeting scheduled for 10:00 am? During the shutdown we ended up helping the boys finish their school work at night and on the weekends. If the boys are expected to participate in remote learning during the day when both of us are at work I am not sure who would be able to assist them. Remote learning was necessary in the spring and all did best they could in a difficult situation but I hope in the fall special consideration is given to children of parents who are unable to work from home. I understand concerns over health and safety of teachers, other staff and kids but I think we need to remember that school is not just about learning math, reading etc it's also about social growth, emotional well-being created by learning from your friends, routine and sense of stability that our children get from attending school in person. Thank you for your time.
Thank you for all the work you're doing for us during this difficult time.
Even with the current state of Massachusetts having covid-19 seemingly 'under control' - it would be best to start with a remote learning plan and then gradually move to in class. This phased approach is like the same approach that Massachusetts took to tame the virus locally, and we should use it here as well. We need to keep our teachers, faculty, and most importantly, our student SAFE. One child becoming sick, one teacher becoming sick, one staff member becoming sick is too much.

6ft distance at least between students
If hybrid, multiple children in the same household stay on the same school schedule.
My primary concern would be the ability of the faculty and staff to enforce the state mandated protocols for social distancing. I would also be concerned about children congregating in the lunchroom with no mask on.
We can teach our children to read and write remotely. What we cannot do is replicate the social and emotional learning that occurs in schools. Please give the option for in-person learning.
Re: transportation - I will have to find a way to transport my kids to/from because the bus is a bad option at this time. I feel that any in person learning will result in a new surge of covid cases. I desperately want my kids back in school but I think it's the least safe option.
My kids would love to go back to school but NOT wearing masks, and under unrealistic set up. Our schools don't have air conditioners and we know all too well how unbearable it would be for kids to keep a mask on when their faces are all sweaty. Very difficult for my kids to even concentrate under such stressful classroom set up.
There needs to be clear and consistent expectations between the grades of any remote learning happens again. Two of my children's teachers did phenomenal jobs and the other, it wasn't enough. The younger grades (K/1) just don't work remotely—it's so difficult for them to engage. If remote learning is implemented for first grade, I doubt we'll be sending our son. If fifth grade is done well with a HIGH level of involvement from teachers with instruction, some remote learning may be possible. We do not want remote learning, and having it at all will definitely put us on the list of looking for other schooling options. We love the teachers and staff at DH, but we can't do all remote for all ages again.
Bully in the hybrid/100% plan will need to be addressed in the event that a student or teacher transmits covid 19 to others. Contact tracing will be easily able to identify the primary infected person, even at the student to student level. There could be some serious mental health implications in these scenarios.
Thank you for this survey. I am sure a lot of parents think "just send them back" but I am scared of this virus but also want my kids in school it's so hard. You guys have a lot on your shoulders I appreciate all you do.
Testing accessibility, amount of community spread of coronavirus, masks for staff in close quarters, protocols for quarantining staff and students who are sick or live with sick family members
My background is microbiology and infectious disease. I feel strongly that there is NO way to contain this virus and make it safe. Kids will get sick, parents and teachers will get sick and some will die. As a parent of a special needs child and a teacher I am just looking for reassurance that if the cases explode in Massachusetts and in our community specifically that there will be remote learning available until a vaccine is ready.
I'm new to the district, I have never been to the school, met any of the teachers. I would need a tour for my child and family to do so before I can make a decision to even send my child. My child did not complete a full year of preschool due to Covid. My child went to a private preschool in Princeton before moving to Rutland. We know no one in Rutland or have been given any information about school in the fall.
If remote learning is instituted, teachers need to be teaching and students need to be learning, not just playing on educational apps. I think you should maximize the platform by having 1 teacher from the district teach all students in that grade on a zoom call or google meet for several hours a day, morning session 9-1130am and then an afternoon session 1-330, with all teachers alternating weeks or days that they are teaching. Or divide teaching by subjects or topics. Considering the size of the district, teachers would only be in charge of teaching about 4 weeks total a year or less. Teachers can master topics and put energy into making that topic exciting for the kids. Plus kids will get to learn by various teaching styles etc. When teachers are not on their zoom/google week teaching, they can follow up individually with their students and conduct small groups to interact with their students and have them participate in discussion, etc.
I believe all children should be back at school full time.as parents who work full time it is hard for us to focus on the tasks that my child has to do i understand safety first but children need the social interaction with other kids.
It's insane to think it will be safe to be back in school without a vaccine available. No one will be safe. However your Excellent communication and timeliness is appreciated.
It shocks me that we won't open up Bars till we have a cure or vaccine but we have no problems opening our schools and using our children as ginny pigs . I'm not comfortable sending any of my kids at all , regardless how careful we are . I'm not willing to take that chance .
It is very important for schools to be open for in person learning. Remote learning this past Spring was busy work and there was no real learning or teaching at the high school level. Safety protocols can be taken and masks can be worn But keeping the high schoolers home for the next year will be detrimental to their education as they are trying to prepare for college.
Safety of students and all staff is priority - I do not believe the state and district can guarantee that and there is no acceptable risk when it is avoidable!
Thank you for all your work to figure this out. My recommendation would be that if we are remote at all there needs to be district guidelines on what kids get. I had 3 children in the same school this spring and their experiences were drastically different. They were also very different from grade level peers across the town. I think there needs to be consistency in what the plans look like, the number of assignments that need to be handed in, they quality of teacher feedback, and the amount of teacher interactions on zoom or google meet. There was very little instruction provided. They were given assignments to complete but it was up to the parents to actually teach. I think it's important that teachers create lessons with instruction and also provide real time instruction. However, this should be as consistent as possible so what our students get during this time isn't dependent on which teacher they are assigned to. Thank you!
The sooner that parents know the plan the better. Our family is trying to determine if I can go back to work or take a leave without pay to support children if hybrid or remote learning model.
If hybrid please consider siblings going to school on the same days/ remote on the same days.
We are a household with 2 full time working parents. One parent is an educator in the worcester public school system and could be difficult depending on what is decided for both districts. There has been no mention of morning and after care. Is this an option still?
If remote, more parent consultation / meetings in ongoing way (for younger kids) to understand education status and goals for individual child Guidelines for closing/changing to lower risk model that are clear for people to anticipate as much as possible.

I believe the safety and health of our children and staff come first. Remote would work until there is a vaccine. I would like to see half remote, half in person but rather be safe then sorry. I would like my son to have the normal school socialization ect but it's going to be far from normal so I'm not sure if it's worth stressing out the teachers, staff and students just to have in person.
Send the kids to school, this is getting a bit ridiculous. There are millions of people in this state working everyday and have been since the pandemic started! Myself and my husband included. Our employer's figured it out and so should you. I'm tired of hearing about teachers too at risk to work, or who can't leave their kids, this isn't about them, this is about the kids. Somehow millions of workers in the state have figured it out, so should they. It is the districts responsibility to teach kids, and you need to figure it out! Imagine if grocery stores closed because they didn't figure out ways to protect employees and serve the customers. Imagine if hospitals closed to protect staff, or UPS, or HomeDepot. How ridiculous that would be! Time for teachers to step up and get back to work. Kids NEED school for so many reasons and what is happening is taking a huge toll on them emotionally, physically, mentally, and educationally. As for this past school year, all "learning" stopped the day school was cancelled. There was zero, and I do mean zero effort put into "remote" learning. One 15 minute zoom meeting to say hi does not do squat. And, yes I mean one 15 zoom a week. Pathetic! Not only that but when my son stopped doing the weekly zoom meeting, do you think the teacher reached out to me to see if he was ok, or the principal?! No, no one did. Imagine if he was in a high risk home and no one ever did a wellness check to make sure he was ok! I'm so disappointed in this districts handling of remote learning. Time for this district to put kids first and open up!!
Lower class sizes, have specialist teachers teach classrooms to get class numbers down, get creative with classrooms - in libraries, gyms, and or outdoor while weather permitting. Kids need peers, teachers, and adult role models (Counselors, admin, support staff) right now! Secure the funding and train staff to make this year safe and successful for all!
I want more than anything to send both of my kids back to school and feel safe doing so. However, I do not feel safe sending my first grader into a classroom with no masks required. Therefore, I am seriously contemplating homeschooling him. I would like to see the district not rush into making a decision. I would like to see returning to school in a phased manner.
So much has been said already regarding quarantine requirements for positive testing for covid once school starts and questions need to be answered and plans implemented for parents to understand. My concern for hybrid learning is that I have children in both elements schools in Rutland. I worry they will be on alternating schedules for in school and out of school. For remote learning we need more than what we had in the spring. My 1st Grader needs to be taught by someone. He is not interested or stimulated by watching videos and listening to videos of books. The only thing I could get him to do was worksheets and even that took minutes leaving a huge void to fill during the day. My daughters 3rd grade experience was slightly better, but again benefit from real video live teaching and being able to interact with her class in some manner.
The teachers are paid to teach in a classroom! If they cannot then they should retire from the position as many young teachers would live a job, The lack of learning that went in this spring was disgusting! Many teachers post on social media socializing with many people at beaches, parties, etc so it is ridiculous for them to say that they aren't safe coming back to teach, This district lets the teacher's union dictate everything! It's about the kids, Right? Well then make the decision about the kids not yourselves. As far as the rumor that spring sports will be cancelled yet again so that fall sports can be played in the spring, DISGRACEFUL! That had better be a rumor. Guidance has yet to give any input or instruction to rising seniors and "they were too busy to do schedules this spring...". Doing? Oh that's right we had to plan multiple celebrations for the class of 2020, while forgetting that there were other grades at the high school..... The class of 2021 may not have a year at all! What do they have planned for them????? I understand the risks but the teachers are holding everyone hostage and making the decision for everyone. Medical staff, grocery store workers, police & fire didn't have a choice to just work from home, did they?? This district has gone so far down hill in the last 8 years...,
There should be zero consideration for remote and hybrid learning. It is not an acceptable form of education and is detrimental to the growth and future of my children and all the youth alike. Stop bringing politics into the school system and do what is BEST for our children!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
My child is on an IEP and remote learning was extremely difficult and stressful for her but I am also unsure about sending her back to school if things get worse again with Covid. Will there be other options provided for home learning for children with disabilities?
As a child with a 504 plan, we need a better plan on any kind of remote learning. One one one zoom meetings with the teachers would help
Being an educator myself (university), I really do feel it's important for students to return to in-person education or some hybrid. I do need to STRESS that the education that will be delivered remotely (even if part time) should really be delivered no differently than if it were delivered in person. There needs to be actual lessons delivered by instructors - what was given this past spring by a majority of the instructors was atrocious. We have been incredibly happy at WRHS so as you can imagine, we were very disappointed. Some instructors did deliver lessons routinely and it made all the difference in the world! Although we can fully appreciate the logistical nightmare that this poses for the district, we can't forget that our students deserve better than what we saw this past Spring. Thank you for all of your time and efforts put forth to making this work out for our children.
We are co-parenting the raising of our grandson, entering 9th grade. My husband and I are in our late 60's. We are extremely concerned about the safety of all of the students in the Wachusett School District, and all of the staff involved. Losing one year of (in person) formal education is nothing compared to losing a single life, or having anyone live with compromised health issues for the rest of their lives. I am not convinced at all that opening schools at this time is wise. Too much risk, all around. We need to stay the course and do the best we can while isolating.
Remote is the best way at this point. Even 1 death is too many. Also, if teachers are trying to do hybrid (and manage remote and in school at the same time) the quality delivered may be more tricky to obtain. Safety of ALL district students and staff is paramount. There will be more time on learning if remote and there won't be a 75 foot line while a class waits in the hall for 30 minutes for their group's bathroom break.
It was difficult for me to stay on top of the assignments my child completed/ did not complete... Powerschool was not updated timely - assignments were handed in late. I was only aware when teachers e-mailed me. As a parent I would need more access to see assignments to keep on top of this. Our family prefer total in school learning. No remote learning at all. And no masks in class - only in hallways. I cannot work with a mask on all day - unreasonable to believe a child should have to do this. Thank you for your dedication during this trying time.
I am nervous and uncomfortable sending my children back to school in the fall. The only true way to safely have the students get "back to normal" is with a vaccine. Human life is precious and not expendable.
Supporting remote learning is not feasible for working parents. Kids need to be in school.
For students (my son) to have an updated 594 plan that coincides with remote learning.
will before and after school programs be available if schools open fully?

Safety as always should be the top priority. An airborne illness with no mask mandate for everyone in the building leaves full remote learning as the only safe option. We will not be able to reverse permanent damage done to organs or reverse death if covid enters one of the buildings. Remote learning will not be forever.....
Remote learning was ineffective here. My junior did very little, and basically learned nothing. She cannot self motivate or self teach. Biology was the worst of it! Even with the best of teachers who reached out to help, in person learning is 100% more effective for her. Tough decisions ahead, but please... our students deserve the best education they can get. Remote is not the answer.
We are looking forward to our kids having a 100% in-person School year
Protocols if a teacher or student in a class test positive. Some parents including myself could also be working from home and remote learning will be difficult with young children who are not entirely independent.
Social/emotional online support would be needed.
Outdoor classrooms, taking outdoor breaks and recesses every 45 minutes to air out classrooms, hire more teachers, split days in half.
Child safety and teachers are my main concern.
With much more extensive testing in place than was available in the spring, the district towns all saw <5 new positive cases in the most recent two weeks. Most towns saw no new cases. Please use the data rather than fear as a guide to try to get students back in classrooms, with a gated process in place to allow for periodic reevaluation and a move to hybrid and/or remote learning if the positive test rates increase. Beyond the associated educational challenges with remote learning, there are major, lasting behavioral implications for students not being able to see and interact with their peers in-person. Those need to be considered as part of the decision-making process.
I also teach but out of district. I need to ensure that my son's schedule coincides with my school schedule.
I'm sure the district will make the right decision. Personally, I would like to see more control over this virus. My fear is until DOH has a better understanding of this disease there could be another outbreak. Governor Baker has done a wonderful job of keeping MA citizens safe. Where other states reopened too soon, we are seeing a resurgence of increased cases and deaths. I work with the elderly and have had to take strict precautions with my family so that I am not being exposed and putting other's lives at risk. I also fear getting sick because of my age and I don't want my son to lose his mom.
In school learning is not safe without a vaccine and with the state guidelines. A 3 ft. distance is not safe in any other circumstances during this time, so I am not sure why it is considered safe for children and teachers. I would rather the district focus on making remote learning more robust and finding ways to provide structured socially distant activities/clubs/opportunities for students to interact with their peers in productive ways. This would help motivate them for remote learning. My daughter is currently participating in a fully remote summer program which is fulfilling and providing her with the opportunity to interact with peers, completing labs and learning about a subject area she is interested in. There are ways to make remote learning work. Please do not force kids and families into an unsafe environment just to please people who know nothing about running schools. Provide socially distanced ways to support families and students who struggle with remote learning and need to be in the building. Do not try to fit all students in when there is a safe way to do school during a pandemic.
Teachers need more help to support the new model. Middle school needs more guidance counselor interactions with the students for regular check ins. Stress and anxiety will be very high and this needs to be handled mindfully.
The school day can absolutely not look like it did during the Spring. I am done with excuses from teachers and want access to a full school schedule, with normal presentation of the material, just as if they were in the building. I am very disappointed in the projected attitude by the majority of our teachers complaining about educating our children outside the building. All teachers need to put together a remote learning plan, without reducing expectations or curriculum presented per grade. I would ask the district administration to remedy the gaps our children are experiencing to their education and not simply react to teacher demands. If teachers are getting paid a full salary, they will be teaching a full schedule -no more two hours a day 'office hours' and one assignment a week. That would not be accepted during the regular school day and should not be now.
I agree to remote learning, however with a hybrid model for kids with an IEP/504 to receive services needed in school. For example if a child receives speech or PT they go into school for those services and collect any paper work to be handed out while there. Also a hybrid model for families willing to participate who's children absolutely need to be in the school, due family circumstances, and/or extreme difficulty with remote learning, With remote learning I think paper packets should be handed out to all children as well and dropped back off at the school for teachers to review, be it a hybrid model for kids to go to school even 1 day a week , or 2 half days, or even an outside social distance pass off of papers and check in with the teacher. I think the kids should be in school the least amount of time possible.
While I agree that the students learn best in school, I don't think it is safe at this time to open schools back up and let hundreds of students come and go everyday. We don't know if they have been exposed to Covid or not, and some parents would be dishonest just to send their kids to school knowing the risk of them spreading Covid.
Multiple students at different levels in same family. After school programs. Bus service. Classroom aides and support; counselors for emotional transition back to school.
I hope that the district will try to implement taking students outside of the class ie the playgrounds or fields to try to conduct learning or take breaks outside if recess is not an option. Children and teachers will benefit from fresh air.
Based on the current conditions in our State I am comfortable sending our daughter to kindergarden.
Get back to school!!
Return to school, routine, socialization is important to my children's development. I anticipate I would be in favor of any return to school option.
My father is currently dying. We cannot afford for either of my parents who live next door to us to get coronavirus! Remite learning is the only learning that works for our family at this time.
6 hours with a mask is going to be difficult!
This spring was not very successful and not manageable. The format was chaotic and I also work from home. I am not sure how this looks for the fall but if it went like the spring it will not work

Children need normalcy and socialization. Masks are a distraction to learning and pose a greater health risk when worn for extended periods of time. All studies done on children show extremely low rates of transmission and infection (without wearing masks). So why do the state guidelines contradict scientific evidence? If schools eliminate sports, extracurriculars, specials and events And/or if remote learning is continued we will find an alternative to public school.
As a house with two essential employees, remote learning is a concern for my children.
Lunch in classrooms and not in cafeteria. Lunches only brought to school. Reduced class size for in person attendance/ hybrid approach.
The kids need to be with other people and not left at home alone. Its not healthy. I have had my children all working. If you do just on line learning again. My kids will continue to work at jobs as they have for the last few months. Physically and mentally locking them up in the house is well... Insane. They need people. My Kids are lucky they can work in the family business most don't have that option. Do the right thing get them back to school and athletics! Please & TxS!
Will there be contract tracing if a positive test is found? Will there be mandated reporting of positive tests for families sending children to school? (There should be for both) Will teachers be provided training on how to better use remote learning technology? A lot of the decision making comes down to what the state safety mandates are. Will masks be required at all times? What happens when someone breaks that rule? There needs to be a culture of safety throughout the school community - not always directly for the safety of the kids at the school but also of what those kids can bring home to at risk family members. The more I write, the more I think we should just stay remote for the time being.
I would be happy to volunteer to help with any planning that would help get our kids in school. I feel strongly that the kids return to school this fall, fully in person would be my first choice. If they are on a hybrid model, it would have to require both of my children be on the same schedule to allow my husband and I to still work. Our children are in two different schools so they need to be in the same rotation. A full week in school is much more preferable than a partial week if a hybrid program is considered. As a 2 income home, it's stressful to try to plan our future for the kids and work without knowing what school will look like for them. We also feel the need for after school programs as an option.
Two full time working parents
The remote learning model should look much differently for elementary than it was this past spring. Teachers should be providing live lessons, more instruction, small group and/or 1:1 live sessions. A model of here is what to do, do it independently and once a week sometimes not even social hr with the teacher was not effective.
My biggest concern beyond health is that we work full time and our children will be left alone yo home school and I don't believe this is safe
I appreciate the work that is going into this very complex plan. I would ask that as much advance notice as possible be provided to families once a decision is made. My youngest child relies on the town sponsored before school program to accommodate our work schedules. As much time as families have to plan for alternative child care would be helpful. If students are remote only, I would ask for more work be assigned with required synchronous learning at the middle school level.
I believe "specials" (i.e.arts/music/PE) are a necessary part of the learning curriculum - for mental health as well as exposure and learning. I also strongly believe that there needs to be a social justice course/curriculum that should be started or incorporate into the kids curriculum . I understand there is an "acute" pandemic and many things already to taken into consideration - but there is also this "more chronic " pandemic of racism that needs to be addressed and that our kids in the Subaru's of Massachusetts need to be aware of .
Get the kids back to NORMAL. Open the schools full time. Enough already.
As 2 working parents it's very very difficult to have a child remote learn
Very happy to take whatever precautions are required to achieve in person learning. We are prepared to wear masks, wash hands, sign contracts, quarantine, reports symptoms - whatever is required. We love this school district but our youngest really struggled with the remote learning model. If there is not in person school we will need to seek other schooling options.
Remote learning did not go well in our household. My twins have adhd and need to be in a classroom. I also am back to work and im not sure how remote learning would work. There was way too many different log ins and it was too complicated for me to have anyone else assist the boys with it except me. I felt they lost ALOT of the knowledge they had gained from the beginning of this year. Now i cant even get them to try to read with me they now hate learning because of this pandemic. I dont care what i have to do but they NEED to be with a teacher this year! Please please please i will do whatever i have to for them to be in school or have a teacher come to my house but they will not learn anything if we go to remote learning again! It took an emotional toll on all of us and was the hardest thing ive ever had to do... my boys need a teacher! Is there a way the school could send a teacher to my house if some of the learning has to be remote? I could even have a few kids here... i know so many parents of 7 year olds who feel the same... elementary school kids need to be in a classroom... especially those who already needed extra help!
My wife and I are both teachers in other districts our biggest concern is if Wachusett decides on a hybrid or 100% remote plan how will we care for our children who are home if we have to be at work? We can not afford child care and they cannot stay home alone we have no one to care for them in either of these situations. We also will be hard pressed to support our children in their learning since we will have to provide remote teaching to our own students. It is extremely difficult and stressful to teach your own children at home while also working as a teacher for students we are responsible for. I think if a hybrid model or remote model is chosen the expectations need to realistic and we all should not expect students to make progress as if they were in school physically. Everyone's metal health will be pushed to the limit in both of these situations.
My kid is young and small. She wont wear a mask for 6 hours let alone 5 minutes. I don't care who mandates it (State/Feds/Town). Its not going to happen. And, I do not want my kid's first experience at school to be a string of punishments incurred by some [illegal] state mandate enforced by the faux 'mask police'. I'd also like to see where all the tax money is going. In detail. If school is closed, or if we are doing remote teaching, then I suspect the budget would be much lower and thus taxpayers should get some dollars back (Especially if we have to play breadwinner, spouse, parent, AND teacher). Additionally, parents need to know well in advance what the schedule is actually going to be. In our household we have 2 parent and 3 jobs. We need to keep those jobs in order to pay the bills (and of course feed the bloated budgets of local state and federal programs and officials.). One week on and one week off wont work. Lastly, the whole social justice parade is far overblown. I would assume teachers and administrators teach equality without the need for some special program or class. I would rather see sports, music, and art be present in the schools than some politically motivated "social" program underscored by Karl Marx and his [broken] philosophy. If anything, teach kids about the Constitution and what it really means to be an AMERICAN. Not Irish American, not Italian American, not African American - just American. Lastly, it seems clear to me that education should be moved out of the public sector and into the private sector. One size does NOT fit all. Allowing people to choose what is best for them and their children is the only option. Schools need to compete for students and thus raise quality and lower cost. Not to mention that the private sector can do the same job or better for [at least] half the cost. Of course, we all know you are nothing but slaves to the Teachers Union and care little for the actual kids. Union or die right?

<p>We want our child to return back to school ONLY when it is safe to do so for our child and all of the staff/faculty of the school. We do not want to take any chances with anyone's safety. Remote Learning seems to be the safest and We as parents don't feel the need to rush with this decision. Remote Learning seems like the safest option but We would like to see a more robust Remote program with more teacher/student interaction and more teaching done by the teacher(s) themselves. We are sure the district will make the safest decision for all and at this time we feel like a return back is not safe.</p>
<p>Children need to be in school!! Remote learning is ineffective.</p>
<p>My first grade daughter at PCS has several life threatening food allergies - she has a 504 plan to accommodate this - and I am especially concerned about how the school will handle food in the classrooms. She has done well in school - both on-site and remote - but the socialization and access to the full educational experience is important to me. If there is a hybrid model, I would want her to participate but would also need to know that her 504 plan is adequate and supported properly. Being well-aware of the state guidelines and having to help create plans at another local school, I don't see how PCS or many/any of the WRSD schools could possibly in operate 100% in-person safely and following the current public health guidelines.</p>
<p>We cannot put our children, families, and community members lives at risk or safely proceed with in-person learning.</p>
<p>Live streaming of classroom</p>
<p>I would perhaps consider driving my children to school depending on what the bus situation is but might not be able to do this every day depending on work schedule.</p>
<p>I firstly would like to thank you for your supprt and efforts to keep pir kids safe. As a mother and a nurse I have some concerns with my kindergatener as well as my daughter who will be entering a new high school for the first time. From what i can remeber about high school, which was a while ago, one of the busiest places was the hall way between classes. Perhaps keeping the kids in the same classroom and having the teachers change rooms in stead of the kids, when possible could cut down on possible transmission. Hybrid learning with seperate days for kindergarten seems plausible however it would be important to have a seperate teacher for the different classes on different days. Again, to reduce chances of transmission between classes. Another thought is bus drivers are already struggling to keep kids from doing crazy things on buses, will there be an extra authority figure present on the bus to help ensure the kids abide by social distancing rules. I would also like a plan on eating as surley many children will be together and without masks Thank you.</p>
<p>Young children are SUFFERING without socialization. Older kids might be okay; young children are NOT.</p>
<p>We definitely feel things are different for different age groups. -It will be very difficult to maintain social distancing & proper mask wearing for the older kids (7th grade & up) who are very concerned with friend/group acceptance. -Whereas 2nd-6th grade students can understand the need & would be more accepting of following the rules. -Younger than 2nd grade, it will be hard to get the students to understand & even harder to enforce. We have already seen these type of scenarios play out in the different age groups at the town pool this summer. -We have seen non-distanced groups of older kids without masks of any kind walking around together. Some 8th graders have said "I don't care..." making it hard for our 8th grader to not feel judged/left out if he follows the rules appropriately. We're not sure that it is fair to continually put that pressure on our 13 year old. He has told us that it is real hard so we are limiting our time at the pool to avoid this pressure for him. -However, our 6th grader & his friends have been doing a great job distancing with each other. We've seen our 11 year old cover his face when someone got too close to him and/or when he's in the diving board line. If our children do go to school, we should be able to drop them off & would love to pick them up but that may not be possible if both of us are working making afternoon bussing needed.</p>
<p>My child who attends PCS has a 504 plan for food allergies, and I am concerned about how food will be handled in the classroom or at meal times. I understand the proposed guidelines address the usage of the cafeteria for meals and that many believe it will be safer for children to eat in the classroom. My child sat at the nut free table last year but also has other life threatening allergies to foods commonly in school lunches. Children eating lunch in the classroom increases the risk of an anaphylactic reaction because of food particles left on surfaces that she may touch. My concern is for her safety during lunch, and making sure the solution to her safety does not make her feel excluded.</p>
<p>I think it's critical for children at lower grades (k-2) to attend school in person because the extremely social development at the young age, and also if students need special learning assistance.</p>
<p>I think it is insane to think that schools in the WRSD can run without this nasty virus wreaking havoc on our ENTIRE community. If schools reopen we will see widespread death in our five towns. There is no way to keep everyone safe in schools right now. Kids, teachers, parents, extended family members will ALL be impacted.</p>
<p>For hybrid learning, students in the same family should attend on the same day to minimize exposure to the same group of individuals. Attending differing days increases the families cumulative exposure and is more harmful than necessary.</p>
<p>Research shows that kids do not transmit covid. Parents need to be provided this information. Teachers are not trained to do online learning - quality of online instruction is critically low. We will look for alternative schools if public schools go online. Also, school hygiene rules could improve. (Indoor shoes, bathroom rules) We would buy school food if that would be prepared locally with fresh ingredients.</p>
<p>I don't know how i would be able to participate in a hybrid or remote learning plan as a single parent with an infant as well as 3 school age children and working full-time it would be very difficult to provide for my children and teach them and or find someone to watch my children for free and teach them since i wouldn't be able to afford daycare nor have the time to homeschool.</p>
<p>I believe safety should be the first priority in opening school. The recent upsurge of COVID-19 across many states and the fact that as social distancing has decreased, cases have increased here in Massachusetts indicates that reopening would be unwise at this time. There are many school districts across the country particularly in California that are announcing plans for remote learning. This seems the wisest course of action given the realities. Until we understand more about COVID-19, and it's both short and long-term health effects I will not be sending my students to school. Medical research indicates that children can and do get COVID-19 and can have long-term health effects. In more rare cases they have died. Until there is a vaccine or anti-viral drugs that can treat and / or manage the virus, I will not be sending my students to school.</p>
<p>You have our support 100% in whatever you decide is best. Thank you for your hard work during this crazy time.</p>
<p>I don't think we should rush to head back in the schools. We need to be patient and make decisions that are best for all. We will get back, this will not last forever. No rush at this point.</p>

The sooner the district can develop a plan and inform parents the better. Please do not announce the plan for opening a week before starts. As working parents we need to know the plans to open school asap so that we can make arrangements for our children
Is there a way that some classes could be held outside? I know that TPS and PCS have an outdoor classroom space which could've utilized when weather permits. If parents opt for the remote learning option are we locked into that option for the entire school year?
The science supports schools being open as the risk for them is non existent. I'm discouraged the school district and the administrators are so easily manipulated by obvious political agendas.
My greatest hope is that learning takes place outside (DH certainly has the space). My children need to learn outside of the house. They need a different teacher. Their social communication skills are suffering the most. Any opportunities to allow them time with their peers, I am open to. I think morning meeting, and specials are the activities I most hope to see happening. Those reset their minds to school and I think building off that would make the remote academics more effective. We have decided we will not use the bus and will drive, as we are both home now everyday.
(Off topic slightly)... If remote, please consider allowing our paraprofessionals to work with IEP children 1:1 based on the family. As 2 full time working parents on the front lines, we are VERY active in our children's learning but need our paraprofessionals to be utilized with assisting with fluency/kids needs on IEPs. Thank you for your consideration
I think we will see many lives effected in our community. So many colds/flus/etc. go through buildings like wildfire. Think of one student coming to school carrying COVID without symptoms, all the classmates, multiple teachers (even in elementary school), bus driver, kids on the same bus, paraprofessionals, etc. all could get it and carry it home to their families. Before any of these people know they are carrying the disease soooooooooo many people will be impacted. The full effects of this virus isn't known yet and many are sick for days and days, some even months and months with lifelong side effects. IN OUR ENTIRE LIFETIME, IS ONE YEAR OF SCHOOLING REALLY THIS IMPORTANT? I think not. Please make the safe choice for all parties involved!
I believe it is irresponsible to open schools in the Fall.
Thanks to the WRSD for being proactive in gathering information and strategizing during this very challenging time. As long as the safety and development of the kids is the top priority, I'm sure the right decisions will be made. Thanks again!
I believe hybrid learning supports both mental health and physical health for the students. To support the parents' mental health, it is imperative that there is consistency in the learning tools and communication. Considering how quickly we all had to react, the district did an AMAZING job pivoting and keeping the students learning and safe.
Not feeling good about sending her back in. Our youngest has a rare genetic disease and we are very nervous about bringing Covid home.
Social emotional health must be weighed heavily in decision making. Extended social isolation will present significant negative effects on developing children.
please do not re-open unless we are seriously confident we can protect BOTH the students AND THE STAFF
If online teaching is at all going to be part of the plan, there needs to be some kind of teacher accountability to make sure they are truly teaching a full school day. During spring online education, my child had a teacher throw a link to a you tube video on classroom, and then checked out of teaching for the rest of the week. My child received a subpar education. It is for that reason that we would look to transfer to an online school if the district can't do in person learning at least part of the time.
Safety needs to be the top priority for the students and staff. I do not see how it is going to be possible to open the schools to in-person learning and have everyone stay safe. Please give the teachers the time and training to really teach through a remote platform so that our children continue to learn.
If there is remote learning going forward, I would hope that it entails substantive instruction.
If the district decides to implement 100% remote learning (which I truly hope is not the case) I think teachers should be 100% responsible for teaching the students. They could teach from their classrooms and structure the day to mirror a typical school day for students via Zoom. Basically, it has to be completely opposite of what went on this past spring. My children were kept busy and learned very little. My daughter will be entering the 7th grade and so desperately wants to return. She is a big fan of the hybrid learning platform (which I am as well) My son will be entering 5th grade and is more nervous about returning to school because he doesn't think elementary school children can follow directions and guidelines. But he likes the hybrid option as well, if returning is an option. I know this isn't an easy decision. There are many issues that needs to be considered, and I understand that, but we can't keep kids home forever.
Remote learning as it was carried out in the spring was not an effective learning plan. We did better when we branched off on our own. The daily zoom calls were constantly switching times and were ineffective with an entire class present. Juggling 3 kids at home with our oldest only entering 2nd grade, the remote learning would need to be consistent. We would also not consider in person if my two children had staggered schedules from one another meaning I would have them dropped off and picked up at different times in the day. I am most concerned with our incoming kindergartener and what remote learning or even social distancing would look like at that grade level. At this point in time we are strongly considering homeschooling in order to have a consistent program without the need to change as risks of the virus change. In my opinion a well thought out remote learning plan that is engaging and effective would be the best option until enough research is conducted to ensure student and faculty safety.
I am truly concerned about the teachers in this situation. Are they needs and opinions being considered. What if they are high risk and get sick? Our teachers are amazing and work so hard for our children. How will they be protected and feel safe in the classroom if the decision is to be back in school fully and/or hybrid.
The kids need to have social interaction with each other!
If parents choose to have students do remote learning in the fall does that mean they have to do remote learning all year long or could they move back into the physical school at some point?
Teachers will absolutely need adequate training whether it is remote or in-person. I am concerned for their safety as well.

<p>We will base our decision about our child attending in-person school on reliable data. If data shows an increase in cases in our area, shows conflicting outcomes or if the available data seems tampered with or skewed, we would prefer to err on the side of caution (remote learning) and would encourage the district to do the same. If we chose to send our child to school, but he reports a lack of sanitation or adherence to rules by students or staff, we would like the option to change to remote learning.</p> <p>If we chose to send our child to school and numbers increase in our area or there is a change in the physical or mental health of any of our family members, we would like the option to change to remote learning.</p> <p>If, after a time, the district notices that the quality of education in the school building is less adequate than remote learning due to the need to monitor health, sanitize, distance, etc. then we would hope this would be recognized and that the school would return to remote learning.</p> <p>We appreciate all that our district is doing to educate students in these difficult times and understand that there are no good solutions or sure things. First comes health and lives.</p>
<p>I wish there had been one more question to ask which option we preferred.</p>
<p>We were highly disappointed in the remote learning plan provided during the spring. WRSD is known for its strong schools and supportive community, and we felt let down in both areas. Our hope for the new school year is that more training and planning has been accomplished before the start of school so that faculty and staff are on the same page and better prepared to educate and support the students.</p>
<p>Of most importance has to be the safety of the students and teachers!</p>
<p>I am advocating for school to reopen in the fall. The American Academy of Pediatrics has stated that the mental and physical benefits of in-person learning outweigh the risks from the coronavirus. Numerous studies have shown that the children are not transmitting or contracting COVID-19. They are not at risk. They are not putting faculty at risk. There should be a plan for those (students and staff) who want to be at school and for those who do not. For parents that are terrified, by all means keep your child home. For teachers who are terrified, teach those remotely. The rest of us should continue with school. It's the only way to make everyone happy.</p>
<p>Remote learning teacher training starting ASAP!</p>
<p>Schools need an IT Department to support tech issues. Twice over the summer I have lost internet service for better than a week. This would make remote learning a challenge and yet accountability - particularly for HS students is imperative. A hybrid option may seem like a best option until a spike in Covid-19 occurs or a continued decline in cases/vaccine.</p>
<p>We will follow the district's plan to the best of our ability. Please prioritize the safety of teachers/staff as well as students. If it is full-time remote learning only, there will be limits to what we can reasonably accomplish with our children at home while working ourselves.</p>
<p>Dr. Robert Redfield, director of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, said he thinks "the fall and the winter of 2020 and 2021 are going to be the probably one of the most difficult times that we experienced in American public health." Why would we even consider opening schools? We are going to pay dearly in our community and overwhelm the hospitals in the area. Not smart to open in the fall. If you do, it will last a few weeks and then the damage will be done but it will be too late!</p> <p>It is only one year of school, it is not the end of the world but it could be if you open up and all the kids in this area start losing their grandparents, and parents with compromised health. That is not worth one year of school! Please make the safe choice!</p>
<p>I think doing hybrid method is a good start to returning to school.</p>
<p>My answers are contingent on what my wifes school district and town does where she teaches.</p>
<p>If the remote learning and/or hybrid systems are implemented this year, I would certainly hope that it is a more streamlined and robust program than what was rolled out this fall. I am an educator and I was very disappointed by our remote program this spring in comparison to other neighboring districts. Also, I think that it is very important to collaborate with other neighboring districts before devising a plan. I Believe that these decisions should really be more of a state directive but, at minimum, we should be on the same page as our neighboring towns and districts.</p>
<p>In school learning only!!!</p>
<p>Your plans you have developed are great. My only concern is that if we go with the remote learning is that children in special ed will need a lot more help which means we need our staff!! If we what to succeed as a district then our staff that were pink slipped need to come back in order to help our kids. If the district decides to do in person schooling then the precautions that you have developed are great but there needs to be frequent mask breaks and while outside for recess masks should be optional for students hence the mask breaks. As far as eating in classrooms, some kids have issues with that and would like to eat in the cafeteria but I do see that that would not be possible to social distance. As a parent with 2 kids, one in high school and one in middle school and I myself working in Elementary school in the district if we go with the hybrid model, it will be hard to be at work helping my students and worrying about how my own children and if they need help. Basically we need to do what is best for our children.</p>
<p>None of us want 100% remote learning. It was difficult for new concepts in math. Relaying lessons/new concepts to children have to be improved. We had videos from teachers last spring that were so small and unclear that we couldn't even see the problems that were being solved etc. The kids were frustrated and felt rather helpless. Scott Hill 7th grade math was the worst teacher I have ever experienced. I'm happy he's retiring as he ruined math for my kids and actually down talked my kids and my husband and I when we asked for help over the spring. He is horrible. The kids want to learn and strive to do well and he was not helpful to anyone.</p>
<p>I don't believe WRSD is prepared to successfully operate a fully online/remote learning modality.</p>
<p>If there is remote learning - I believe that there has to be a standard approach for teachers to post and collect work; and teachers must be provided training in technology and methods to teach remote learning. I would expect the school district to have a task force working on a 'remote learning programs' now and then provide teachers a full week or potentially 2 for training on 'how to do' remote learning. Some teachers excelled and others were miserable failures at this last year - therefore I would hope the task force would be collecting best practices and that there would be very clear expectations for ALL teachers this coming year.</p>
<p>Having three children in three different schools in our town this year combined with two full time working (essential) parents - managing and keeping track of a hybrid program would be incredibly challenging. For us the choice is preferably either full time learning in school or all remote but a combination/juggling act will not be feasible or practical.</p>

I would love to have the kids back in school. However, I am afraid that it would last only a few weeks until someone was sick. I do not want to risk children, staff, or faculty coming down with COVID. I think regular classes should be on-line, but potentially smaller groups of children with special needs could possibly meet in person. I think it should be this way until there is 0 community spread, a vaccine or treatment. That said, education by email, which is what both of my children had all spring, is not sufficient. Teachers need to be trained to conduct classes by Zoom and to have personal contact with children, and to build community. Feel free to use existing resources like Kahn Academy. Please ask that kids read independently for fun through high school. Thank for the thorough report by the committee and this opportunity to respond to this survey. Thank you.
For the children's mental health needs they need to be back in the classroom where they learn best. My child is on an IEP and was on track to finally meet grade level for the first time ever in her life this past year and never made it because of online learning. She has a lot of ground to make up now and needs help that I can't give her from two hours a day while I am trying to work at the same time. Safety measures are important and can be followed to keep everyone safe.
Teachers need to teach. Posting content is not teaching. Every teacher should teach their class every day. Even if on-line. Parents are not teachers and if we are home, most are trying to work.
Alternating between remote learning and in classroom learning at school with a 50/50 ratio is not a feasible or good idea for both parents that hold full time jobs. A majority of employers require that employees be present onsite at their designated jobs and they simply do not have the flexibility with there employers to flip flop between sending their children to school one day and staying home the following day to provide at home schooling on an alternating every other day or every other week schedule. The district needs to open fully accepting all students and instill a daily screening protocol for every child and teacher or admin who steps foot on campus. For example: my current employer has been open since this crisis began and implimented a 10 question yes/no answer protocol for every employer. All questions asked revolve around any symptoms in relation to Covid-19. Additionally, a full time nurse takes and documents each employers temperature, if any questions are answered "yes" in relation to symptoms or the employee has an elevated temperature they are simply turned away and asked to follow up with their doctor and or self quarantine. A similar approach or protocol could be implemented at the beginning of each school day with the help of volunteers and or school staff members.
I think it's very important to attend class on site all or part of the time. The social aspect, as well as the ability to recognize where a child is struggling with fundamentals is much more attainable in person.
No medication and no Vaccine= uncalculated risk despite all the safety protocols. Shielded Doctors and nurses contracted the Virus and died despite all the safety protocols. It is wise to wait for the all clear signal.
Will need to provide additional options for students that may need more individual teaching that does not have IEP if we have to do remote learning
Children whose immune systems are still developing should not wear masks for long periods under any circumstances. Alternatively, children should not be put in front of computer screens for extended hours and anything over 2 hours per day at this age is excessive. Both of these proposals seem drastic in nature compared to the current infection and transmission rates pertaining to children and Covid-19. I'm afraid both of these proposals will have negative long term health consequences for in a large population of students.
If any of this is remote learning, we would very much appreciate actual physical paper/workbooks etc. to be sent home as well as online work because there was entirely too much screen time, in our opinion, for our child given their age.
I'm concerned with my daughter being able to wear a mask for the entire school day. I'm also concerned about staying in one room for most of the day with lunch being in her classroom. Like many parents I don't know what to think.
I have been back in an office environment for 7 weeks at reduced staff levels. We started with 1/3 of the staff and last week increased to 50%. People seemed ok until the mention off 100% onsite came up for next week.... That's when people became very anxious and fearful. As a manager I've had hours of my day with crying and hysterically upset workers. This experience will be similar to what the school will face at 100% onsite. If you go to 100% onsite learning, I believe it will cause issues with the children's anxiety and obviously am concerned for their mental state of mind. I know this is beyond difficult, but for the safety of the children and faculty, I believe there needs to be some form of remote/onsite combination of school return at least to begin with, or start with 3 weeks of remote and ease into the 50% return. Thank you.
Begin strong with high expectations - the schools that did so in spring (while Wachusett rolled out a lame, vague, disappointing attempt at "online learning") achieved a surprisingly high rate of success. Your teachers and students will adapt and adjust as necessity demands if you allow them to rise to the challenge. Pass/fail courses are a cop out and a disservice to college bound high schoolers. With so many restrictions on activities, make the most of the extra time and energy the kids have available now.
Not sure at this point.
Keep teachers and students safe! Remote learning is the only way. Spend the time to improve the remote learning schedule.
School should be done in person. Remote learning is not working.
Risking lives to support the economy is not the correct answer. Teaching staff need to be able to make appropriate plans for remote learning NOW, not on the fly as they were forced to during the spring. Reopening schools next month will lead to further closures as staff are exposed and/or fall ill, forcing the district into a "panic distance learning" model, just as we experienced in the spring, which is unfair to students and staff.
Right now, with how information continues to change concerning the COVID-19 virus, it is very difficult to know how we will proceed at this point. I am a firm believer in the public education system, but my focus has to be on the well being of my child and the other members of my household. I truly don't envy the school districts task this summer.
Adequate devices for children to use... can not possibly be graded as harsh due to parents having to help primarily as teacher.
I really hope they go back in the fall. I think if most kids can wear masks and teachers with face shields it will be ok. There are less cases now in MA with numbers dropping. Encourage outside classrooms (or class sessions where possible in nicer weather.) Could teachers get tested regularly? Could kids In k-8 be in school while high school kids do online learning since they are most likely To be more independent and can learn better remotely where younger kids need more "hands -on" instruction? I feel completely comfortable sending my elementary kids to school in fall. My now 4th grader got very little out of online learning and he's a very good Student who loves school. It's just not the same and I feel the being in school (while modified) is best.
If we are going to be expected to further assist with home teaching I would need some info on the material being taught (example info) given the way I was taught things such as math is quite different today. Thank you
Please consider in person or hybrid learning. Socialization is SO important for mental health and happiness
I am not sure how full time working essential employee parents will be able to teach remotely and work full time. Hopefully you take that into consideration.

<p>I know the decision of what school will look like this fall is not an easy one and that no matter which option is chosen it will not work for everyone. However, if remote learning is chosen there needs to be a huge change from what was offered this Spring. This is not meant to be critical of teachers, as I know it was a lot for everyone to adjust to. Clearer instruction and greater participation from teachers will be necessary. This option also needs to be mindful of parents who work. Not everyone has the ability to make sure their (often multiple) children are set up on zoom meetings throughout the day, while also making sure they're meeting the requirements of their jobs.</p>
<p>I am concerned about the safety of students and staff for in person school. I also wonder about the masks that will be worn and the access for students who rely on lip reading to access information. I appreciate that this is an impossible decision because there is no perfect answer. I applaud your efforts in collecting feedback from the community.</p>
<p>No comment</p>
<p>Both parents work full time - no time for distance learning - kids WILL fall behind</p>
<p>I honestly don't feel that the students should return to school face to face with the suggested restrictions. I wear a mask at work and it's not a safe or comfortable thing, I'm tired, frustrated and it can be hard to focus in the heat, etc. If they cannot return without restrictions like this...then I don't feel it's safe for them to return at all, we're just going to give them more headaches, stress and health issues to deal with.</p>
<p>We have already requested to homeschool and are planning on an online school option outside of the district. I LOVE our teachers and our schools but the limits COVID-19 puts on everyone has made such an impact that we feel the district will not be able to recover during this school year to offer our children a solid education. There are too many "what if's", safety concerns, and other unknowns. We hope to have our three children return for the '21-'22 school year. Stay safe!</p>
<p>God bless all of you spending time trying to figure out how to deal with this terrible situation. I am ok with remote learning, but it has to be rigorous. I don't want my kids slacking off just because they do not go to a physical school. My company has many remote employees. Remote work is a reality in today's world and students and teachers have to learn the skills involved. Good luck!</p>
<p>Hybrid learning would be the best option</p>
<p>Children are excited to go back to school. At this time they do not understand the circumstances which they would be attending. This could end up causing more problems than continuing to stay home for a longer period of time. Additionally the district can't possibly promise that a fully in-person or hybrid model will function the way it's planed out time due to unforeseen circumstances surrounding this illness. Currently the MA numbers are on the rise once again. If children return to school consistency is key and that can't be something that is guaranteed right now. I especially want to point out that district members are meeting over zoom because they're not comfortable meeting in person. Children and their educators shouldn't be put in an uncomfortable scenario. It isn't just one student coming back to school. It's their parents and siblings as well. If parents are working out of the home it's another element of exposure. If siblings are in another childcare setting that's a third element of exposure. And teachers are facing that same scenario in their environments by bringing possible cross-contamination from their lives into the school building.</p>
<p>I'm surprised that testing was not mentioned in the district's report (other than as part of the survey results - where over half the faculty thought it was important). Why not implement pooled testing? This has worked in other countries. If cases continue to increase in the U.S. at the current rate (even if not necessarily in Massachusetts) I see testing or a vaccine as a requirement before sending my child to WRHS. We have an immunocompromised family member so it's too high of a risk - expecting high schoolers to follow the recommended guidelines is overly optimistic.</p>
<p>I think the students should go three days to school and two days remote learning. That way half the school population will be in classrooms aka Monday, Wednesday and Friday students attend school and remote learning Tuesday and Thursday. Second half go to school on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday with remote learning on Wednesday and Friday.</p>
<p>My son with Autism really thrives with in person learning at ECC and we have missed it greatly. He has struggled with the video chats with teachers.</p>
<p>It's a request that you go with only remote learning for now until there is effective medicine / vaccine in the nearest future. We do not want to risk our children's health. Kindly make remote learning more effective with regular follow ups</p>
<p>Schools are a essential workplace also. The kids should came back!</p>
<p>If there is going to be remote learning , the teachers need a much better plan than this last spring. With changing the different ways to assign work, programs not working, and teachers not communicating with the parents, it was very stressful. There needs to be a set schedule and website set up for each class. Communicating through emails to parents and very young middle school children does not work. There also needs to be some face to face teaching by remote zoom or Microsoft's teams. Assigning websites to children to look at to learn something new does not work.</p>
<p>Go back to school</p>
<p>I think it is imperative to have the kids back in PERSON in school with as full a schedule as possible. It is impossible to Educate effectively in a remote format format whether hybrid or otherwise. My child learns and processes through talking and reading facial expressions and is at a serious disadvantage with remote learning. We should be considering the damage and karmic results of another failed year. I am seeing a serious lack of interest and motivation in college searching and moving forward to setting age appropriate goals. I advocate strongly for including ALL sports and extracurricular activities. I drive by baseball fields and lacrosse fields and visit indoor Basketball and Volleyball courts- hundreds upon hundreds of kids are playing without masks and parents are in the stands cheering loudly without masks or much social distancing. This viral crisis is in eyes of the public health officials but it is not in the eyes of many, if not most, of the families you serve. As you plan and decide please please keep in mind The children who want to go to school and parents who are not operating out of fear but rather confidence and conviction that their bodies are strong and not germ filled, contagious or deficient. Please do your own personal Research. Do not rely on the general news headlines for your information. Please be a critically thinking steward to your community. Thank you for your efforts.</p>
<p>There would absolutely have to be more meetings with teacher / students one on one.</p>
<p>It would be helpful if there was a syllabus for remote learning as well as flexibility for days to complete the work. My daughters father sees her on weekends and would like to help me by doing some of the school on weekends. A comprehensive curriculum laid out so it can be managed and planned.</p>
<p>Socializing is just as important as the academics</p>

<p>Thank you for the work you are doing and considering all forms of learning. As a parent of a child who will be entering public school for the first time as he enters Kindergarten in the fall. It's trying to know what it will all look like for these children and their first experience. Of course however it happens will be how they experience it and they won't know any different, I just hate the thought of failing my child the first year he attends school. I would have more confidence if I knew what virtual school actually looks like but then again as a working parent with other children, to manage it all for an entire year seems impossible. But of course, I want everyone to be safe and stay healthy but with so many unknowns how do we know what the right choice is. My son is already nervous about a new school and making new friends that I wonder what will he gain from virtual learning without the social interaction which plays such a large part in the Kindergarten experience (in any age group really) but so important those first few years of school. The thought of keeping him in a Pre-K program for another year is disheartening but I can't see how the virtual learning will really promote school for him. So many things to think about. Safety being number 1 but I have faith that the schools will decide what is best for all when the time comes. I just think children benefit for the school experience and to hold them off another year from getting their needs met by wonderful teachers and interactions with their peers will be hard. But we will all love through it and this too shall pass.</p>
<p>I live in sterling and my kids go to school in Paxton. They have an hour bus ride then school all day then the ride home. My concern is my kids being in a mask from 7:15 to 3:45. That's an extremely long day. At this time I'm more leaning towards remote learning. I've been thinking a lot about this. Is there a way that possibly the students can have Shortened school day? Like instead of the full 6 make it a 1/2 day. I don't know. Just a thought. Thank you for your time.</p>
<p>Will children who may have compromised health systems be allowed in school if hybrid or full return. If yes, are there additional precautions for them.</p>
<p>I think split time is almost impossible for families to navigate. How do we have kids home when both parents are at work? Even at the high school level some kids dont have the maturity or motivation to engage remotely when parents aren't there to enforce learning. For 2 of my three it would be manageable but for 1 it would be a nightmare.</p>
<p>We feel as if the political environment needs to be removed from the decision of whether or not to give our children the best education possible.</p>
<p>Work load consideration for working parents if remote learning.</p>
<p>I am shocked and dismayed by the survey comments about masks and the apparent lack of scientific understanding about this disease among our community members. I don't feel safe sending my child into school at all! And how are you going to handle all of the day-to-day medical needs that kids have when nurses get sick? What about health plan and 504 revisions for medical kids? How are our kids supposed to handle going back to school if a teacher or staff member dies? Or a student dies?</p>
<p>It will be important for all teachers who were pink slipped to be rehired in order to meet demands for the 2021 school year.</p>
<p>I believe it is irresponsible to open schools with the rise in covid across the Country. . As a parent and a teacher we do what we have to . keep them safe and keep them learning. This is going to be a total mess if we try to incorporate anything but the remote. Kids are not coming back to their version of school. Social emotional health ,if we bring them back in the fall, is going to be a serious reality for many students and I don't think it is fair to anyone to try And work through these issues With kids when we are still battling this disease and are demanding these unattainable protocols. Please open schools when there is not a threat to anyone. This virus will not go on forever and once we can get them back to a somewhat normal day , when restrictions begin to lift, the transition back into school will be much more effective. Bringing back students in September is going to be a huge culture shock and a whole new way to go to school ..for what? That may chance a month or two later because the virus is rising. Keep their school days familiar with remote teaching and give teachers the time and money to begin planning more effective strategies than last year. Providing training for parents will also benefit their student and increase parent involvement. We all must work together now. It is not ideal but we all must do what we can to keep students learning and away from this nasty disease. School is NOT a babysitter Service so parents can go to work and that is what in person learning will become. Schools will See many many social emotional behavior Problems surface if we bring them back too early. It is not fair to them.</p>
<p>I was not happy with the remote learning. I understand if we need to do this for the safety of everyone however there needs to be more training for teachers. We need to do zoom classes. Sending assignments once a week is not teaching. Watching movies then having to answer questions about it, is not teaching. We need to step it up at the High School level.</p>
<p>The remote learning was a good bridge program for the emergency phase of Covid. If during step 3 or step 4 of the State's reopening plan the WRSD can not or will not open the schools, then we will explore private school or private tutoring. The school dayConsisted of 2.5 hrs of education and 3.5-4 hours of other activities. There are safe options to stream line the programs but the kids need the social interaction. The parents need to work to pay the taxes to fund the school district. Our support of WRSD is part of a symbiotic relationship. Live up to your end and we will do the same.</p>
<p>Do what's best for our region and not just what others are doing for a strategy</p>
<p>The students need to get back to a normal life</p>
<p>My child would be in daycare if not in school 100% of the time (because I am also a teacher in the district) so Im not sure how he would be able to participate in remote learning. Material would need to be recorded so we could work on it after hours.</p>
<p>Parents have to work to be able to afford to live. I understand the safety aspect, but what difference would it make if we go broke and end up moving out of town for cheaper alternative living arrangements. And if the reports are true that people of gotten COVID multiple times, that sounds like the virus is here to stay and we have to deal with it like the common flue.</p>
<p>My child had a hard time adjusting to getting work done at home and understanding the material as there was less interaction with the teacher.</p>
<p>I feel like My children fell behind with remote learning. I feel it would be an option for a snow day or two, however not for months at a time. It was a tremendous amount of stress for my wife who struggled working from home balancing a career and keeping tabs on the kids in making sure they were on task. I feel the kids need to go back, especially at the middle and elementary levels.</p>
<p>My student will need a parking permit , we sometimes have printer issues if work needs to be printed at home and brought in. My student being a senior with a 504 plan needs immediate zoom meeting with guidance counselor for college planning . I think guidance counselor of seniors with IEP , 504 should be reaching out before school opens</p>
<p>Good luck... this is tough</p>
<p>My concern is child has asthma and I just don't know about masking every day. Hybrid might work as you will be able to distance better. thanks for reaching out</p>

I feel
It is extremely difficult to implement effective safety measures at the high school given the sheer volume of students there. While I want my child in school obviously getting the most of her experience I worry that the proper amount of distancing will be difficult to maintain
Safety is most important to us. I have heard talk about socializing and how important that is but kids are not supposed to be getting to close to each other anyway, so I don't think that's as much of an issue. I don't see how 100% in person can be safe. I see all of these states starting to close down again.
I work far away so half days would be a struggle. If it's decided to split time in and out of the classroom, on and off days would be better than half days.
I would like to see them go back to school
If remote learning is where we are headed Glenwood Elementary in particular needs to give our children REAL LIVE lessons DAILY. Last year, the 4th grade "changing rooms" fell behind because of lack of organization, no offer of live lessons and the entire lessons were to be taught by parents. This is unacceptable. At the Elementary level, One teacher should be assigned to a small group of children and stick with that same group the ENTIRE school year offering them IN PERSON zoom lessons (like they did in the Worcester School District) at least once a day. Ever child needs a chrome book to be sent home to use all year.
Bring back schools to normal life !
Children deserve to be schooled in a real 3 dimensional world with their peers.
I believe the hybrid model will be best in order to adhere to social distancing guidelines as well as allow children to have some sense of normalcy to socialize and learn in person at times with their teacher and classmates. Hopefully certain teachers could be dedicated to "remote only" learning in order to strengthen that curriculum (unfortunately remote learning at naquag was really sub par this past spring and my husband and I had to come up with a supplemental curriculum and activities to fill up the school day and feel that our son was receiving an adequate education). Perhaps other teachers could be devoted to the "live, in person" instruction and/or somehow have a "live feed" via web cam of their instruction for students doing remote learning during lessons.
My husband and I are all for wearing masks as well. It is a very very small burden and research seems to show a very positive effect in mitigating spread. My kids have been wearing masks in public this summer and will do well as long as the adults are setting a strong example and wearing theirs as well. Thank you for all of the work you are all putting into these plans. We appreciate your time.
I fully support face to face return to school in the fall.
For lower grades where mask usage is unlikely and remote learning is less successful it would be very helpful for the school to offer a pre-packaged homeschooling curriculum to encourage some K-3 students to be homeschooled either in place of in-school work (to keep numbers in classrooms down) or as a way to augment the remote learning plans that involve a lot of screen time. The remote learning plans I've seen are very ineffective for kids in that age group.
Remote learning will be a hardship as both parents work full time
I hope the schools open in the fall. I do not believe my child received an education the last three months of the school year. It is unreasonable/in some cases impossible to expect parents to quit their jobs they need to support their families to help teach their children. It is unfair to ask parents if they want to feed their children or educate their children!
I have been working from home and do not feel equipped to do all of the teaching and remote learning. I am aware of the risks of school being in session but truly believe the benefits far outweigh the risks at this point.
I think the in-person time is very important but some quick concerns/thoughts: The requirement of wearing a mask all day would make it difficult especially because, after a while, they become uncomfortable, sweaty, even difficult to breathe. For teachers, it can be difficult to hear them because you need to speak at a much higher volume. What if someone takes their mask off? What if the children are unsupervised without masks on? Will there be consequences? What if a child is sent to school 'sick' and then others get sick as a result? Because I will 100% ask who was sick in your class and will not be quiet about it. Will there be new rules set in place for stay at home 'sick' requirements? I understand that for some parents, it's difficult to stay home but the end does not justify sending sick children to school. What about the safety of the teachers/staff? What is being in place for teacher/staff safety? Have not heard much about that. Remote and/or hybrid learning can be effective but they should be more structured around learning, growth, and expectations. Versus here are some assignments that literally take an hour to complete each day, that is not learning, that is busy work..
Need a strong plan for face mask use along with safety training for kids so they understand how to keep the yams others safe.
I truly believe that students need to be in school to receive the best education both socially and academically. My husband and I have always supported education in our home after school hours but we cannot replace the experience that a teacher has.
Consider adding a second adult to busses to act as a monitor. That way, the bus driver can focus on driving, and the monitor can ensure the kids are remaining in their seats with their masks on.
Our children need to attend school full time in person for their own health and well being !!!
If the Covid cases go down and stay down I feel children would benefit from some in school learning, even part time. Thank you! Stay safe
I truly was disappointed in the lack of learning this past spring, especially at Mountview. I do not want more of the same. It was by far atrocious how little some of the teachers did. To have a 6th grade social studies teacher do 1 zoom call was appalling! I realize this was very unexpected, but it was a disaster to see how poorly some teachers are at adapting. My child is on an IEP and has to constantly conform to the majority, yet you have adults who put forth very little effort. I found it disheartening to say the least!
In regards to the hybrid or remote learning, it is imperative that we receive chrome books. We do not have access to 2 computers. Also, we would recommend that all paperwork be printed out for us in packets that we could pick up at the school. In regards to in school learning (elementary School) hand washing should be very important and not sharing any supplies. As we hope that there is some in school learning, I don't see our 2nd graders wearing a mask for 6 hours.
I do not think it is possible to keep children socially distant at all times, and I do not feel it is fair to potentially expose teachers to the virus. Also, many parents have compromised immune systems and children can transmit the virus. If one student, teacher, or staff member gets the virus, even with social distance measures in place, it will likely spread to others.

We had a real issue in the spring with the slow Holden internet, the programs being used freezing up, work the students did being lost not saved. I think if remote school is going to be a reality internet speeds and the ability to handle a high load of traffic need to be considered. We also have one student going to Monty Tech.
Not so much the technology as I think we got that situated this year but more so the curriculum especially Math. Our son has a tittle 1 and his teacher did assist us with this and it was extremely helpful. We would certainly hope this help would be available next year if remote learning is going to take place. Huge thank you to you all who have had some seriously tough decisions to make and all the teachers who have and continue to work so hard to make this some what doable from home!
I believe even understand these circumstances that it is important for students to have a relationship with their teacher in person from the start. It would be very hard for a younger student to have any type relationship with a teacher without at least meeting them a few times and starting remote learning from the start.
If the district chooses the hybrid model, it is important for families with multiple kids to have the kids in school the same days and at home remote learning the same days. This still allows for the opportunity for some parents to work.
If there is a hybrid model both children would need to be on the same schedule. I am also very concerned as to what the strict safety regulations will do to a child's mental well being.
We support you to reopen the school
Overall, I would like for my son to be at school even if it is only for half days (with online in the afternoons) or a another hybrid model. I am worried about his physical health and that of my family, but socially and emotionally he needs to be back with his peers. He also did not learn with the online model used in the spring. He did not work to gain knowledge and internalize the material, but rather completed assignments simply to check a box. He needs teachers to explain materials. He needs dialogue. He needs someone to push him and encourage him. Not digital paper pushers. I am concerned about the health of all students, staff and faculty. So, whatever model is chosen, we will all make the most of it, but our choice is to be in the building-at least part time.
I just want my kids to get the opportunity to learn, but also want them to be safe. Remote learning was very difficult. I am hoping if remote is what will happen going forward it will be more consistent. Using one program (ie goggle classroom) across the board. More parental support options, and more materials needed to complete the assignments more effectively. I felt helpless if my kids were struggling. Their teachers did an amazing job trying to help them but there was only so much direction they could provide through email. I am not a teacher, and I certainly don't want to teach my own kids, but I would feel more confident if I knew I had a place to go to get some support so I could help them. My son has a 504 and not one accommodation was given. He has them in place for a reason, and being home and left to do tasks all on his own became VERY challenging for him. I would really like to see more support for kids like my son.
My child has a difficult time wearing a mask for 10 minutes never mind hours. I'd love for them to go back to school but feel if they do it'll cause them more stress dealing. They are not going to like being separated from friends, wearing masks, etc. My child already hates school so this would make it worse.
My child struggled with remote learning a lot! I worry about him coping mentally if the school remote learns.
children should be supplied with chrome books and/or printed materials if it goes to a hybrid or complete remote learning plan
Please, please, please do everything you can to get kids back on campus in the Fall. As stated in the governor's address a month ago, the risk of stunted emotional, physical, mental, social and educational growth far outweigh the impact that the virus appears to have on children and their ability to pass it on. Virtual learning addresses the education of children only, which is still to a lesser degree than in-person. After the experience of last spring, the negative impact on the other spectrums (emotional, physical, mental and social) is significant and immeasurable. And that is coming from a parent of a smart, well-adjusted child. I can only imagine this is amplified with families in lesser scenarios. Not returning to campus in September would be disastrous, with long-term consequences that will become increasingly difficult to untangle the longer virtual-only learning continues.
It is not healthy, mentally and socially, for our children to have remote learning. It is not an education to be "taught" from a computer only.
Please visit the local neighborhoods. If the concern is child to child spread, these kids have been hanging out together for months without any masks. I routinely see gaggles of 20 or 30 kids wandering through my neighborhood. I also see it all over the town of Holden. I understand the concern and the need for safety, however, I do not think that the administration is actually seeing what's going on with these kids. The greater concern could probably be the administration itself. They are older. The kids are not going to see the impact of this like the older people will. Look at the models in Europe. Do the research. And stop falling into the narrative.
I believe hybrid learning is the way to go until the numbers go down again. As for pre K, I am totally lost for ideas.
My entering Freshman is not in an IEP but likely would end up needing some sort of intervention if we end up with a full time remote learning situation. He struggled terribly with online learning this past school year. He needs the 1:1 teacher interaction to stay engaged and on track.
My only concern with my child returning to the classroom are hygiene of the school and the safety of students and teachers.
I'd prefer schools to open only when safe to do so.
I understand that everyone wants to go back. We still need to protect our custodians, cafeteria workers, aides, and teachers. It my seem pessimistic, but I know that teens and pre-teens tend to have less understanding of the repercussions of their actions Than adults, and I worry that they would purposefully bring the virus into the school to force remote learning, with possible fatal consequences.
OPEN UP 100%!!! My child did not do well remote learning. There is no need NOT to open the schools as usual.
If students are brought back to school in any format, what is ventilation like in the school? Thank you.
Hybrid or 100% stay at home policies are not practical for families with two working parents. As a school district, the expectation is that you take whatever safety measures you and the state deem necessary, but you accept students when parents are comfortable (or need to in order to work) sending their children to school. We must all accept that we need to learn how to live with this virus as we have all other viruses and diseases. In-person public schooling is a foundational pillar of society and it must be reopened.
I feel the best option is for students to rotate days at school. This way they could attend school part time with less kids on the bus / in classrooms to facilitate social distancing. When possible I think plexiglass shields (clear shower curtains when/where this method would work would be cheaper - like at the Rutland Pharmacy) should be used. This would allow kids / teachers to take masks off when can be hard to take for long stretches.

<p>A helpful example. Kindergartner has four classrooms, perhaps 75% of parents want full time in-person learning, could the school have 3 in-person classrooms and the 4th teacher/class be educated and dedicated to an online/virtual learning model? That way, if another wave of covid hits, there is already one educator on the same point in the same learning plan that the children could seamlessly transition to if they had to stay home.</p>
<p>Thank you for all your efforts during this difficult time.</p>
<p>My daughter at ECC needs to be in school. She has educational needs I can not meet at home such as learning to use her argumentative device. My kindergartener is ok being taught at home, it will be hard for us, but that's ok. My honest thought is that children who can learn online, need to, and should be home to stop the spread of the virus. However I feel STRONGLY that severely disabled students need to be in school full time. Thank you all for everything, my heart goes out to all of you.</p>
<p>I am supporting 100% in-school learning. Remote learning does not work for young kids. It just adds more screen time. Also, both my husband and I have to come in for work, our child is home with her grandparents who do not know how to use technology, not to mention having to reinforce her online learning activities. The remote learning during the last 3 months was not enough and not well-prepared. We prefer more homework to be on paper, not on online resources that we have to register and keep track of how many minutes of each site that she has to do. I still think writing things down is the best way to learn, not touching an ipad or clicking the mouse. As for safety, our daughter does not have a problem wearing a mask. That and frequent hand-washing should be enough to keep everyone safe. Please please please consider in-school learning. Kids need social interaction in order to grow. Thank you to all the teachers for all their hard work! We hope to see you again soon!</p>
<p>I'd like to see the schools open for all students on a full time basis with minimal safety protocol, such as hand sanitizer, and disinfectants. Let students disinfect their work area, same as we do in gyms.</p>
<p>My boys (two in WRHS) are active in extracurricular activities. I know and support the district in having the academic part of reopening as the #1 priority, but what direction if any at this time, can I give my kids on sports / clubs etc?</p>
<p>If a hybrid model is in place, what will it look like? In my opinion remote learning needs to include actual teaching and new learning which would be very different from the spring. If a hybrid model is in place, my hope is that my children who attend schools in different towns can have the same in school/virtual schedule so that they will not be home alone while my husband and I are at work - although they are old enough to be home alone, being home for a few hours vs home all day completing school work independently is different. If my children and I are back at school and being exposed to multiple people, I do not have extended family that would be able to safely be with my children while my husband and I work.</p>
<p>Students need to be in school for learning and social interaction.</p>
<p>If there is remote learning, I would like to see more direct lessons from the teachers (recorded or live) instead of watch this video then do an activity based on the uTube lesson. For example, 30-45 minute lesson with teacher then time to complete work on own then get back on zoom/google meet your review or for another subject etc.</p>
<p>Children need to be in school. This is absurd that a decision has not been made. PEOPLE NEED TO PLAN. Your remote program was horrendous and did not work. My soon to be 1st grader needs in school help. Probably needs to be on individualized plan but nobody will do that and I'm told his new teacher will meet him where he is???? How can you do that with your sh***y hybrid or virtual program? Parents have jobs that require them to go to work. How can you do that with anything but full-time school? Get it together people.</p>
<p>I would need before/after school care for my children. As we leave the house early. If school is remote or hybrid I will have a difficult time as my previous childcare provider is no longer taking school children and I have no care for my kids. My husband and I are essential and would have to go into work. If Remote/Hybrid plan is the only option, we may have to leave our job.</p>
<p>It is imperative that children are in a classroom learning. E-learning is not effective. The kids will fall behind . As a working parent, I can't be their as needed and also be productive in my work. Children should not be expected to sit at a computer for hours for instruction and learning new material as it will extremely difficult to absorb it . We are hindering our youth for an unknown virus that may be here for years.</p>
<p>Some of the worst impact I have seen in my household due to the kids being out of school is the social and structural aspect. My kids are good students academically but what they are missing both socially and structurally will have some long term consequences. I hope that they will bounce back quickly once we regain some level of normalcy.</p>
<p>I know the district and the recreation department are separate. Have they been involved in any reopening discussions as far as before and after school programs go? Will these even be open? Will it be limited numbers? It seems like they should be involved in at least some of the discussions.</p>
<p>Please reopen , the kids need to get back to some kind of normal routine and structure. Most working parents won't be able to provide the support needed for the kids to do remote learning , especially if they are younger while at the same time managing their own work responsibilities.</p>
<p>There are still so many unknowns, making it very difficult to answer. Teachers didn't even know they may be asked to teach both in-person and remote. How will they do both? How will remote affect our kids' academic learning and success if others are in-person? What of the recommendations will they actually implement for in-person? What does transportation look like? How, with such limited time, can they implement them all and/or implement a rigorous remote program? What would the remote program look like as compared to spring? At this time, I prefer a remote learning program for my children because I do not believe a return to school safely for any length of time is realistic. In my opinion, the only safe, realistic, implementable option that will be sustainable for any length of time and will ensure adequate academic rigor is remote learning. Any other option seems unrealistic when considering safety and risk and education given inadequate funding, current teacher-to-student classroom ratios, old HVAC systems, shared bathrooms, shared busses, the general nature of children to be intimate in their socialization, and the general environment needed for successful in-person education, coupled with the current exponential increase in Coronavirus cases nationwide and the CDC guidance and considerations related to the risk of COVID-19 spreading in school settings. But any remote learning planning needs to be much-improved as compared to the emergency implementation of the spring. While remote learning was an emergency measure implemented last spring, it was, in general—despite the best efforts of many teachers—neither adequately planned or executed to ensure a “normal” academic rigor. There needs to be accountability for both teachers and students, and a fully rigorous remote academic program with online classes. That remote learning is a best option for consideration and the likely default in any scenario—there needs to be an immediate planning of a rigorous remote learning program.</p>
<p>A hybrid model would be the hardest model to manage. I am not sure how we would manage an alternating schedule of at home and school with work. I do not have a job that allows me to work from home.</p>
<p>I am very concerned about my younger children's adjustment back to school (especially my youngest who will be starting kindergarten). So much of kindergarten is hands-on, play-based, or interactive learning. How will these children be able to attend a full day of school with limited interaction and without traditional recess, cooperative play, music class, etc.? It seems that if these young children will be back at school, a shorter day is necessary.</p>

<p>Please consider the social and emotional toll the lack of school/in person teaching will have on the present and future mental stability of the children as well as parents/guardians. As an educator myself, the experiences with remote learning is that it does not provide a good structure or delivery especially for students with broken homes or parents which are working from home. These are difficult times for everyone but I do believe in person instruction will be very important so as not to build a broken generation. Lack of engagement, distractions in a home environment and no structure in a remote learning model makes full remote learning not a viable option in any extended format. Please consider full opening or at least a hybrid model which I believe will bring the best educational and mental health for everyone. Thank you for your diligent work in this matter.</p>
<p>My son has asthma and coughs all winter. I will want to know if coughing students will not be allowed at school because that might impact whether I decide to pull him and homeschool for the year. I cannot do remote school again. Especially if the teachers are teaching from their own home. My son's teacher completely checked out in the spring and I can't do their remote plan, all on my own, again. I'd rather do my own curriculum.</p>
<p>My son suffers from asthma, therefore cannot wear a mask for a prolonged time</p>
<p>Thank you for working so hard to figure out the best solutions for an impossible situation.</p>
<p>This can't be a last-minute decision because there are too many working parents that will need accommodations. I'm disappointed to see that before/after school was not mentioned AT ALL in this survey as that is a integral part of the decision-making process, notably for the working population. You may not have answers yet, but you can certainly survey the district's opinion regardless.</p>
<p>I believe the school district can implement their own policies as they see fit regardless of "requirements" or "recommendations". I feel that masks should not be required for students, and even teachers, but if they feel the adults should wear them fine, however children should not be subject to that 5 days a week for 6-8 hours a day regardless if surgeons wear masks for hours during surgery. I work in a hospital and that's not daily for them. if they have a long surgery they may wear a mask for 2-3 hours but the next day may not have any surgeries and maybe not the day after that either. so the comparison that doctors can do it so kids should be fine is baseless. being a surgeon is a profession that an adult CHOSE to do, these kids aren't getting a choice and i'm sure wouldn't choose to wear masks if they had a say.</p>
<p>My recommendation would be for the High School to participate in remote only education. It will not be possible to keep our HS students safe and that should be the priority. Our HS students are able to access curriculum independently and can receive instruction from teachers in live zoom meetings.</p>
<p>It is difficult to respond to this survey without knowing what recommendations from the Task Force report will actually be implemented and/or what a remote learning program would look like.</p>
<p>If Online learning is implemented I would like to see zoom classes where students can activity learn. I found that the random YouTube videos that were utilized last time where not helpful because it was material covered by a teacher or person that wasn't there regular teachers. I also think that every student that is on a 504 or IEP should get a extra help forum after school. Finally, online schooling is extra work at home. For the parents too. So, I think that the amount of homework that is assigned should be no more that an 1 hours worth.</p>
<p>I think 50% in school learning and 50% remote is the best option to safely allow kids back.</p>
<p>Remote learning is completely ineffective. I have a child on an IEP and remote learning is a joke.</p>
<p>Keeping siblings on the same Hybrid schedule</p>
<p>I think hybrid learning will be the most difficult for working parents, because especially with more than one child, how does one maintain a work schedule and provide childcare for children who may be on opposite in-person schedules. It feels like it has to be an all in or all out thing for my family at least.</p>
<p>Before determining if we would send our child back to in person school (should that be the decision) we need information on what expectations are for 1st grade, so we understand the extent of how much time and teaching we are parents would need to contribute for a full remote learning option. We struggle as working parents being able to work and ensure our child has the necessary support to be successful in a remote learning model. An additional question - if we choose in person learning initially, would we have the option to switch to remote learning at any time if we decided to change?</p>
<p>Please OPEN schools this Fall. It will be a mistake to continue Remote Learning</p>
<p>The risk for in-person learning is too high.</p>
<p>In person learning is necessary.</p>
<p>There is talk that we might expect a surge in COVID cases in the fall or closer to the winter. While I'm not sure of the validity of this statement, it certainly raises concerns about when it will be appropriate to have our kids return to school.</p>
<p>Our family has 2 teacher in different districts. Three districts. I am fearful of not having appropriate child care and supervision of remote learning if there is remote learning or a hybrid.</p>
<p>Our hope is for in-person learning. My husband and I do not have the ability to stay at home and help our son become the best student he can be, without having to pay out of pocket for a tutor.</p>
<p>If hybrid model and multiple kids in the same school, I hope the district has those kids home the same weeks so the parents can work. I hope the remote portion is better than it was in the spring and is more like a school day.</p>
<p>I am leaning more towards remote learning because I am a parent that is at high risk for COVID-19.</p>
<p>Daycare for working parents, if the district decides to go to hybrid or remote learning.</p>
<p>In my opinion, regardless if you send the kids AND staff back 50% of the time, it's no different than 100% of the time. If someone is infected or asymptomatic, and they go to school, then everyone will get it either way. I dont think it's fair for parents to assume that teachers have the time to follow through with all safety protocols. Their job is to teach, not be a nurse or a janitor. No matter the distance and mask requirements, I know that children will likely not follow the rules, and this puts everyone in harms way. I want to be back in the classroom myself, as much as I would like my children to be in theirs as well, but I want it to be done safely, at the right time. As difficult as it will be for some families, it will be more difficult if one of these kids or their teacher gets Covid. As it is already there is not enough substitutes in the district, and then we would be subjecting kids to another person who has been in and out of many other buildings. In person teaching is best no doubt, but if their days are spent worrying about their safety, if they washed their hands enough, if they can breathe well in a mask, if someone touched them by accident, then how much are they really learning? I think there is no harm in keeping them home. Maybe have them start the year with the teachers they had the year prior so that they had a familiar face that knows them and their learning abilities while still teaching from a distance.</p>
<p>As an educator, I know how incredibly difficult this task is. I appreciate all you are doing to come up with the best plan for the students of WRSD, ensuring safety and a quality education for all. Thank you!</p>

<p>Remote learning needs to be much more comprehensive than it was this past spring - ideally, would include full-time online teacher support, through all-day live video streaming of lessons.</p> <p>If in person school is held, the district needs have contingency plans in place, including two-week shutdowns of classes upon a positive test within the classroom, and availability of grief counselors in the unfortunate event of a COVID-19 death of a staff-member of student.</p>
<p>I'm feeling frustrated that the teaching may once again be put on me. I understand and agree with keeping kids safe, but at the same time I cannot both work and teach.</p>
<p>At this time, according to the scientific data, I feel it would be irresponsible to send kids back to in person learning environment.</p>
<p>Please don't open until there is a vaccine or viable treatment option. Opening will be a disaster.</p>
<p>As also a teacher in the district one of my biggest concerns is my being able to provide for my own kids. This was very challenging in the spring. If there is a hybrid model my concern is how my children learn on the day's I still need to be in school and they are at home. I am extremely concerned that this is not feasible for my family.</p>
<p>While we will not need training, we believe the teachers will and urge that a decision be made soon. There will, without question, be some remote learning next year and our teachers are grossly underprepared. We do not consider zoom read aloud, show and tell, scavenger hunts, or self-directed study via Google search to be appropriate considerations for teaching online. While social and emotional concerns are present, no school can provide adequately in a remote environment. Please stick to curriculum and content. Please teach our children. We don't need to be in "Dawson Strong" teeshirts and crying over how much we miss each other. We need appropriate engagement and rigor. Finally, please survey the teachers. If they don't want to be there, no amount of in person Education will be valuable to the children.</p>
<p>Please listen to your teachers in this situation. Initially, I was solely focused on how this all affects my children - its actually the only thing that worries me going forward. But I have heard from more teachers recently who are stressed and anxious about things going forward and I'm concerned about their well being. We all know that this upcoming school year is going to be different and difficult, but I hope we can all recognize that its only going to be this way for one year. Our family is very open minded as to what is rolled out and we are aware that things could change on the fly. I hope over the last 4 months that your group has been trying to come up with ways to improve the remote learning component of all of this, because there is no doubt that there will be a couple of times its going to be utilized this school year. I think it can be successful, and I hope its for a longer time period (during the day) than in the spring. I don't see why the teachers couldn't record a lesson plan and broadcast it on YouTube so that the students/parents can review it multiple times if needed. I have heard the suggestion of the teachers being in their classrooms and livestreaming their lesson to their students from home. I like that there are many options being thrown out there but I am also aware with the fact that not everyone is going to be happy. I hope that our family continues to remain open minded during the process and we continue to pray for wisdom for your team as you make difficult decisions at this time. Thank you.</p>
<p>Everyone's safety is of course paramount in making this decision. A true education takes place in a classroom, not at home. There will be deficits, hardships and such with this decision. Parents are going to struggle teaching their children as well as have difficulties at work with a possible hybrid or remote learning model. I believe in school learning is the model we must choose. Be well and stay safe.</p>
<p>My daughter has health issues that would make me extremely unlikely to send her to school without a vaccine- period. Despite all of the safety protocols, I can't control what other people do at home or in their lives, so it doesn't matter how safe the school itself is if the people attending are not doing their best. I also don't think that transportation can be safe enough. Our local buses are literally completely full, and even if it's at 50% capacity a bus is too "contained" for my liking. I think we can get to a point where it's much safer to be in school physically, but remote learning can work, and we already know how to do it, so why not err on the side of caution and start the year off as safe as possible.</p>
<p>I think it is very important for kids to go back to school and in person learning</p>
<p>We are 2 working parent household. Being in school would be easiest on us but we understand if that can't happen. While some families may have the luxury to have their kids stay home regardless we cannot. We also need the bus otherwise we will be late for work. Hopefully if the schools do open busing will also be available. If it isn't hopefully an option to drop kids off a little earlier can be implemented. Socialization, even if the schools are on a hybrid are so important for elementary children. We have one on an IEP with Autism who struggles with social situations. Being IN the classroom and learning social cues and how to interact with other children her age is SOOOO important for her development. She can't get that through zoom. We understand everyone is trying to do what is best but I really do not support full distant learning. My choices would be in school 5 days a week first hybrid situation second. I'm hoping its possible to at least start out with the kids in school and only move to hybrid or distant learning if it doesn't work. Thank you for all the hard work everyone is putting in to make this work for all our kids.</p>
<p>My student is in the ABA classroom at the HS and his program is heavily dependent on in person, experiential learning that cannot be duplicated through remote learning. I understand the dilemma this poses for the district and would be willing to adjust to a 50% schedule, and provide as much transportation as possible, if that meant he, his peers and teachers could safely return to an in-person classroom. Remote learning is a nice "check-in" but it is in no way is moving him towards his IEP goals.</p>
<p>I hope that remote learning will include more teacher/student zoom type meetings where instruction, interaction and conversations take place instead of out-sourced links and loads of paper based instruction. I know this is so hard and there is no perfect option. thanks for your hard work,</p>
<p>As parents, we are concerned with the potential setback that children may experience if remote learning only were chosen. By any measure, this method is not as successful as in class learning.</p>
<p>With remote learning I feel my children will need to be held accountable by their teachers as well as us as their parents. Towards the end of the remote learning school year my kids had a hard time staying focused and motivated with remote learning. It was a huge challenge for us working from home to manage their school work and our jobs.</p>
<p>Safety above all. As a working parent I selfishly want my child to attend school full time because I do not know how our family will be able to accommodate otherwise. I feel that if options were offered for some families that are able to stay home and do school remotely and other children attend full time in person might be an option. I think that interaction with other children is very important and is more meaningful in person throughout the grade levels.</p>
<p>I do not think that it is safe to send anyone back into a school building. Please consider not only the students', but also the teachers' needs as you decide whether or not to open in the fall.</p>

I am really hoping for in school full time. He needs his teachers, especially since my son everyday gave us a hard time over the spring. I feel my son and many other children will be more damaged by not attending school avoiding all socialization in these early years over the unknown of a virus. I am scared if we choose remote learning that since there isn't a clear end date it could just continue for too long. Families will struggle to make ends meet if there is only remote learning or even a hybrid option.
I am sure you have thought of all ways to make it work for the children. Our future, our most vulnerable are our children. They are the ones we should be putting first. School is essential for these reason!

The online learning in the spring felt like online homework rather than instruction. The district needs to allow teachers and students to engage in lessons whether video or live with an opportunity for live dialogue for questions, comments and feedback. In the event that schools are reopened for in person instruction, the health and safety of students and staff must be the first priority. Safety protocols must not be compromised in a haste to return students to school. Individuals/families that object to the mask/safety procedures can stay home and opt to use online learning rather than endanger the health and safety of others. Teacher training will be vital to ensure academic success. Platforms for learning should be revised and reviewed to help support learning. Google Meets was hampered with glitches and buffering that directly impacted student learning. I am highly concerned by DESE guidelines of three feet of distance when the CDC, a health agency, stated SIX feet of distance. Commissioner Riley has no medical background to supersede health expert recommendations. Finally, the social/emotional health must be a priority to build a sense of community and provide an environment of positive and fun interactions in a safe manner in every classroom.

having kids in more than one grade a hybrid approach may not work if one kid goes M,W,F and the other T, & TH that would not work for us. Also it is very unfair in grades where kids are learning new skills for example learning to read. Our youngest is not reading because of remote learning. We came from a private school (entered PCS in January 2020). Her classmates from her grade at that school can ALL read now. They did online school where teachers spent the ENTIRE day online with them, the teachers taught them, not the parents. She cannot read, that was on the parents and if its remote for first grade, she wont learn how to read again. They need to be in the classroom or at the very least with a teacher ALL day, parents are not equipped to be their teacher. Has it been thought about to change the school year to warmer months where windows can be open and classes can be outside? If not, this should be looked into. Having a winter recess when sickness is at its peak and then come back when its warmer

With the data we have today, there really is no reason to keep the schools closed. That will only affect our children negatively. We did not have this data in march but now we do and children are unlikely to contract or transmit the virus. Canada is reopening its schools and so should we. Do what you need to do to protect the staff. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/26/children-unlikely-to-transmit-coronavirus-says-study-cited-in-pms-push-to-reopen-schools>
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/07/13/german-study-finds-no-evidence-coronavirus-spreads-schools/>

When we have the technology to do so why would we not do the safest option for every child? Also, meetings with guidance re college apps etc needs to be figured out.. clear suggestions for obtains teacher recommendations for students needs to be articulated.

None at this time.

I am afraid for the health of both the staff and the students going into a classroom, since no one is sure if they can be kept safe even with guidelines put in place. If just one person is sick and somehow infects the class and or/the whole school, and then brings it home to their families it would be a disaster. We have seen how COVID can easily spread to many, many people in a gathering indoors. I think until there is a vaccine, remote learning with online video classes by the teachers would be the best thing possible at this time. Whatever we decide, it's going to be hard for all of us-parents and students.

While we were very appreciative of the hard work put forth by our teachers in the spring, overall it was an awful experience. We have 3 small children, our 1st grader being the oldest and the online option left her frustrated and overwhelmed and hard to accomplish while managing the household. This caused significant meltdowns that we have never before seen. The isolation led to a very sad kindergartener who cried often about missing her friends and hating school (remote learning). She previously LOVED school and enjoyed learning so this was heartbreaking to see. Part of the difficulty for me personally as a parent was the pile of choices. If remote learning is to be implemented this year it would be beneficial to have an actual schedule with specific lessons that need to be done, similar to a typical school day. Supplies including a computer will be necessary for our family to be successful in this type of schooling. We want everyone to stay safe and healthy and fully support any decision that is made but the school district needs to step up and make this possible and much easier then it was in the spring. Things that would be helpful include having teachers use an app that makes it easy for kids and parents to communicate and receive timely responses from staff, packets of supplies for weekly remote learning, chromebooks, live classes (zoom style or something similar, creative ways to support student interactions (remotely, this is essential for their mental health), continuing with specials (if remotely done via google classroom/zoom so they have that face to face interaction with teachers), and lastly frequent check ins and modifications from school personnel to determine the effectiveness of this new model. It truly can not go like the spring went or our children will fall extremely behind as we are not teachers. It would also be beneficial to know what the plan is sooner then later. While parents should start planning for remote learning in regards to childcare we need to know days asap that our child will not be attending school as care will be needed. Centers and nanny's or babysitters can not just keep open a slot without this information so this component is extremely important to have asap to ensure that families have enough time to make remote learning possible.

Remote learning has been difficult as my child does not have any incentive to do his work. In person even if it's 1-2 days a week would give him the push to do what he needs to

Our family's concern is that students would not only be exposed, but also become ill or worse (at any age) and carrying the virus home to our multi-generational family who live with us. All three of our children/students are autoimmune compromised with asthma, and 2 of them also have epilepsy. The safety and well-being of teachers and staff is also a worry - they will all be exposed to and then carry the virus themselves and potentially their families at home. There is no easy answer, for sure. Especially until there is safe, proven vaccine and treatment. Thank you for this survey.

If we begin 100% in-person, I would hope that teachers are able to walk kids through the process/programs on the Chromebook they would use if we go full remote again suddenly. Additional proactive discussions reinforcing expectations if we go remote would be helpful, as student accountability/motivation was difficult for us. Also, remote opportunities for student/peer collaboration like small groups for discussion or mini projects to help with social connectivity would be welcome. I would also like clarification on expectations for make up work etc if a student ends up being out for an extended period of time due to illness.

It's just so challenging, for all of us, as we try to make the best decision here for students, staff, and the community at large. I vacillate many times in a given day about my enthusiasm about going back to in-person schooling. While I love how Massachusetts really seems to have its collective arms around slowing the spread, I see so many people around me not wearing masks and it drives home the point that there is still several weeks before the first day of school and so much can change. And then I see a National news story of the horrid side effects of having this disease, all really just coming to light now, and that underscores how much we DON'T know about this virus. The words of pediatricians truly reverberate for me in that children need the social interactions school provides but not at the cost of this virus potentially tearing through one or more of our buildings. Bottom line for me? Only a trusted, proven vaccine will give me the peace of mind to get back to something approaching the before times. Thank you to all the stakeholders in our district grappling with this challenging decision.
It will be extremely challenging to be able to do hybrid or even remote learning due to both parents working fulltime.
I think it's important to remember it doesn't have to be all or nothing and things can be different for different grade levels. I also think we should keep in mind we may get changes to the required number of hours and we could hyperfocus certain learning in certain capacities. There's a lot of flexibility here that can be considered to do what's best for everyone
I am a licensed ESL and English teacher, and would be happy to help wherever needed.
I have zero interest in remote learning. It was the most difficult and stressful thing for me to do.
I think if it is hybrid learning or remote learning that the teachers really need to step up and go d a better way to keep track of the kids and the homework turned in. SOOOO many teachers lost and couldn't find my children's homework. Work I know was completed and sent in because I was watching over them to make sure everything got turned in and the teachers still misplaced or couldn't find. Maybe they need to grade everything right away instead of waiting and then asking for the work a couple weeks later that was already turned in. They need better tracking options.
IEP support is most lacking with the 2019 plan. Our 5th grader needs more help to do any meaningful remote learning.
I would like the Reopening Plan to be adaptable to current levels of CV19 infections in our state -- in other words, we can open if there are X number of cases or fewer, and if cases rise to Y number, we'll close (transition to remote learning). So there are data-driven provisions for opening (as allowable) and closing (as needed), with the understanding that we may go back and forth.
I feel like that a 100% in school plan would be appropriate to start the school year with the cases being low currently in MA and our district. This would be with restrictions. Then have a plan B if cases rise. I feel we should start optimistic with kids in school. Thank you!
Based on my experience with the remote learning, I would expect a lot more support from the teachers/staff if there is a remote learning component in the next school year. I felt Google classroom was clunky and tough to navigate. The interaction with the middle school staff and my child was very limited and in some cases negative. It is very difficult as a single parent to work full time and keep two children engaged with learning. I would request more creative, supportive and interactive ways to keep my children engaged.
We'll be enrolling in an online school because our children can't afford another year of broken schedules. The district and PCS were unable to adequately meet our needs in the spring. One 45-minute impersonal session with teachers per week was unacceptable. Most teachers gave their very best under the circumstances but that wasn't nearly good enough.
Sending the kids to private school if the district goes hybrid or fully remote.
Don't be bullied by the left wing radical teachers union and the goofs on the school committee.....give them a box of tissues! Open the schools!
Those who are more susceptible to getting hit hard with this virus should stay home.
My biggest concern is helping my son transition back into school and reestablish good social skills and school routines.
I teach in another district, and if my district has in school learning or hybrid learning and WRSD is remote, I would not have anyone to watch my younger kids and assist them with online learning.
As for technology, if the teacher utilizes new platforms, there may be a need for training through a Screencastify, video, etc... This is a multi-faceted dilemma that the District faces... I appreciate the Task Force diligent, hard work at looking at this situation through multiple lenses. Here are some additional questions/food for thought: 1. child care- if a parent is required to return to work, who will care for/educate the children during their remote sessions? Depending on when that decision is made, it will give parents (especially with young children a small window of opportunity to find care) 2. Child care issues: There are parents who are educators in other large school districts... what if WRSD and other school districts have differing plans? 3. What is a student refuses to wear a mask/adhere to CDC protocols? 4. What is the protocol if someone in the classroom contracts COVID and needs quarantine for 15 days? Who will watch those children? a sub? (they cannot be split up into other classrooms per spacing). What is the protocol if a family contracts COVID and they have children in multiple schools/levels/grades?) 5. Are there any ventilation concerns in any of WRSD schools? Thanks very much
School day hours if remote learning is the option so working parents can coordinate ASAP. We have a kindergarten student as our first experience with school so we need to know about orientation and assessments and everything that is commonly addressed prior to school ASAP.
We only have one chance to make a choice for the safety of our children and family. If we play it safe and are wrong we will be looking back at today with the memories of stranger times. If we take a risk, and even if we get it right some of us won't be looking back at all.
I really don't know how you will make it safe. I'm also concerned about remote learning and the teachers availability. I found that teachers were recording lessons ahead of time and not available for live learning. Often only making themselves available 1 hour a day.
If it's hybrid there needs to be actual teaching happening on remote days, remote learning needs to actually be learning not just review. I was extremely disappointed in what PCS offered this last year.
keep our kids home. not worth the risk. The thought of forcing underpaid teachers to be responsible for worrying about reminding kids to socially distance during active shooter drills makes me sick to my stomach.
It is extremely important that students have some form of in person learning. 100% remote learning will not be effective.
I work in the Worcester public school district and will be returning to service the special ed dept. I think teachers will have to be accomodating when working remotely as to when the work will be completed. It is likely that I will only be able to help them when I get home.
What would class size be? Will it be different the. It is now and how will that be handled?
I do not believe that the protocols placed forward by the state are feasible for our kids or school staff. I would love my child to continue his education at Davis Hill, but will seek an alternative if remote learning is not an option.

These kids need socialization ... you can't isolate them in there house It's not mentally healthy they need to see their friends and have a routine, sitting at home all day is not a routine And not healthy
I'm very conflicted about this, as I'm sure everyone is. I don't know if 100% in-person schooling can work safely. Even with added hand-washing and masks, kids aren't mindful about germs. The way stomach bugs and strep spread in past years are a good example of that. And I'm very worried about the budget cuts. If this is going to work, our schools need more staff, not less. If in-person learning is the plan, we need clear protocols for sickness. Even a minor cold can have kids coughing for two weeks. Do they stay home the whole time? There are so many unknowns. I sympathize with those in charge of making these decisions.
My child needs to attend school. She did not learn anything during COVID and was adversely affected by this entire process. If a family is concerned with health issues, let that child stay home and do virtual learning. For the rest, a school environment is vital!
Please consider the children safe an implement a strategy that will slow the spread of the global pandemic. We are counting on you to do the right thing.
How will students that get services via an IEP do so with the remote learning plan?
In the Fall, let's do remote only until the infection rate drops. Starting January, we will do a hybrid learning. And starting March we could consider in-person assuming the virus is under control.
Proper safety measures have to be in place
Hi, I would like to see all students go back to school in the fall. I feel comfortable if there are extra sanitation, disinfection, a lot of hand washing, minimal social distancing (10 or 15 kids in the class) and the teachers and staff to wear masks. The kids got robbed from their education this spring and I would hate to see the same come fall. Lets get these kids back to school full time. Education is important and Our kids make up 10% of our population but they make up 100% of our future. The virus effects the elderly and the frail mostly so lets focus on the kids and works with them so they can grow and thrive. Thank you
If WRSD goes to a virtual platform for the fall, I would request that all classes have mandatory zoom time weekly with each teacher to facilitate the start to the year and regular communication. While my children did well this spring remotely learning I was very surprised that regular zoom contact was not part of the expected curriculum.
My feeling on mask wearing in school has changed since the last survey. I am now comfortable with mask requirements for full time in school learning. I think the union proposals for a phased opening is entirely reasonable and should be adopted. I would like to know more about how schools intend to incorporate testing, tracing and isolation measures. Lastly, I would like to see significant improvements on the remote learning plans from last year: Very little class interaction occurred virtually in my child's remote learning to the point I questioned keeping her in school. I would recommend (and be happy to donate) class webcams for remote learners to participate in the class experience albeit in a limited fashion.
I will only send my child if there is interaction between the students and teachers that are not 6 feet apart.
If the district opts for hybrid or remote learning and if there is improvement to the pandemic (better treatments and/or vaccine) will the district reassess and perhaps go back to in school learning even if it's only for few months? I think the district has done a nice job adapting and being transparent in their decisions. Thank you.
Please strictly enforce masks where distancing is not possible. Promptly suspend students who intentionally cough on classmates as if this is a joke.
I believe you all should make a decision soon so that way we can plan ahead for our children. The longer you wait the more untimely our decisions will have to be.
The emotional and social wellness of our students should be priority
We need to get back to the way its was. Not this plan of sitting in one room for 6 hours with a mask. Its just not acceptable. Reopen the schools and lets get back to the way it was.
As a single parent house hold, self employed and business owner, home schooling is not an option that will work. My daughter also needs assistance with her IEP that I would not be able to accommodate and work at the same time. Please keep this in mind for other single parent house holds and small business owners
If WRSD does full remote learning and it resembles what remote learning was for March through June I will look to enroll my children in a real online program. My children spent very little time on line and/or learned nothing new. They need a full educational program. What was provided in March was vastly inadequate and totally inconsistent from one teacher to the next. I also think the people who need education on how to use the digital tools and educate remotely are the teachers.
Providing acceptable home-schooling alternative options for remote learning, i.e. district approved and subsidized virtual programs, for example, Abeka. Option to pair up high school students with elementary/middle school students to assist with at home daycare and remote learning for households with working parents. Remote learning will need to be interactive and "force" students to interact in order to ensure quality education. Accountability is a must for remote learning.
Thank you for the remote option.
Very concerned about my child who is on a 504 plan, as I don't have the skills or time to school her to the level she needs.
Let the kids be kids. OPEN IT UP !!!
Not everybody has fast internet speeds or the devices needed to make things happen. Some people will need help and due to covid cant afford to upgrade their service or buy a computer or laptop. If these changes are to happen people will need help. Think about all people amd not the majority.
The population of 0- 19 years of age are, thus far, the least susceptible to contracting and transmitting the virus, and/or experiencing any significant symptoms. I am comfortable with my son returning to school full time, with teachers and staff using PPE/safety practices as determined by WRHS.
My concern is the potential for my student to bring home the virus from school as I have a condition that puts me at a higher risk for complications from Covid.
The survey questions did not give an option to select homeschool. I plan on and several other families plan to homeschool, not remote learn, due to the restrictions for in person (I can't have my elementary kids wear masks and socially isolate all day). Remote learning is also not appealing due to screen time for my young children. We love this district and are sad to step away because of this.

Please just make a decision that keeps our kids and teachers safe. If they can safely go back to school send them. If not remote learning full time. No half and half.
Remote learning this year was very poorly executed. 30 minutes a week face-to-face with the teacher does not give students what they need. Everything fell on the parents to teach their own kids which is not acceptable. Whatever directing the district goes in next year needs to be better, with teachers actually teaching, not just checking how many minutes each student was logged in to a website.
We were no happy with the last 3 months of school and the lack of the ability of several teachers to leverage technology. We have already requested to homeschool and are planning on an online school option outside of the district. I LOVE our teachers and our schools but the limits COVID-19 puts on everyone has made such an impact that we feel the district will not be able to recover during this school year to offer our children a solid education. There are too many "what if's", safety concerns, and other unknowns. We hope to have our three children return for the '21-'22 school year. Stay safe!
We have an at risk family member at home so I can't support going to school every day in the current environment. I think even the hybrid model is risky for us, but I also think it's important for kids to have in-person learning opportunities. It would be really nice if there's is some way to get some routine testing in place to help ease our minds on this decision.
I found it extremely complicated and difficult to keep kids up with online learning this spring. I do not think that is a good option for my children's educational development.
The remote learning came with challenges, however, my business was closed and was able to devote the time with my 3rd grader. Business has reopened, and I am unable to work from home. As parents, we are both committed to helping our child get back to school in a safe manner, either all in classroom or part time. We understand the complexity of reopening.{if bus is an issue, we can transport}
Both my husband and I work full time (I am a middle school teacher in another district) and are very worried about online-only model for an incoming Kindergarten student. We are not able to provide the one-on-one support that would be needed to support online learning for such a young student; nor do we feel that we have the skills (even as a teacher & parent who reads to their child every night!) to teach a young student how to read. Furthermore, as an only child, our incoming student needs Kindergarten primarily for learning the social skills necessary and classroom routines that he will need to be successful in future schooling. If K was online-only or hybrid, we are working with our preschool provider to (hopefully) provide additional/alternative instruction because of our concern regarding our child's socio-emotional development. I'm very concerned, however, that there is already a shortage of early childhood education centers in the Wachusett area and the closures this fall put extreme stress on these centers (loss of staff; reduced capacity; etc.) I hope that if the district chooses a hybrid model, an emphasis will be put on providing greater access to early childhood students to have in-person experiences for their schooling. I feel like remote/virtual learning will have a lasting negative impact on the academic & socio-emotional growth of 5 & 6 year olds who haven't yet formed identities as "students / members of a community of learners."
Complete remote learning should be avoided at all costs. It is extremely difficult for most students to learn math and science and other complex topics in a remote environment. Also, social activity is vitally important for teenagers and the isolation that occurs with complete remote learning is very damaging and concerns me. I personally want complete live teaching, but would accept a hybrid for the time being as long as there is a time frame in place to go back to complete live learning should covid-19 cases continue to decline. I understand that some teachers are concerned about exposure and I do understand but complete protection from illness is not possible in any job or any setting at the moment so demanding remote learning is like let's not fall into trap of thinking that remote learning will provide complete protection. I think greater safety could be achieved by protecting teachers through plexiglass and or having students remain in class while teachers rotate to avoid masses of students walking the halls. Thank you.
Life is more important than in person learning and only few more months until vaccine is available
The remote learning came with challenges, however, My business was closed and was able to devote time to our 3rd grader. Business has reopened, and I am unable to work from home. As parents, we are committed to helping our child get back to school in a safe manner. We understand the complexity of this. [if bus is an issue, we will transport]
Asking teachers to risk their health is not acceptable. If there is any risk from Covid we need to ask them to do the work to make online work. And a one size fits all is not practical. HS Zoom classes should be an integral part of the experience. Each school has challenges. Outdoor classes and using different buildings should be possible solution. Please be willing to think outside the box.
Until there is a vaccine for this virus, we don't believe it is safe for our family to have all four of our children, two with heart conditions, return to a building classroom.
You could not enter a school in the district without a shirt on. Yet, we are considering, during a pandemic, to not mandate the wearing of masks for students and staff. Not wearing a shirt doesn't harm anyone. However, not wearing a mask sure does. People need to realize they have a responsibility to protect others that are more vulnerable and not always think about themselves and their inconvenience.
Not sure this is feasible, but was wondering if this has been pondered on. Would it be possible to have the high school students learn remotely, then use the highschool as swing space for the younger students (K-8)? I believe that high school children will have a much easier time learning remotely than the younger students.
My daughter struggles with wearing a mask for long periods. I would be concerned on how she could go somewhere multiple times a day to get fresh air.
The highest priority should be making sure the REMOTE plan is 100% ready to go in case we all report back to school (full time or hybrid) and then a spike causes another long term shutdown. Having the 100% remote plan completely thought through and figured out is critical. Also, I would highly recommend making the classes INTERACTIVE with the ability for teachers to teach LIVE CLASSES over ZOOM/GOOGLE etc. Simply posting assignments with no teacher interaction is not acceptable now that we've all figured out how to learn remotely. Making teachers available over Zoom/Google for extra help is nice, but the actual class itself needs to be taught live by the teacher. We need the kids asking questions, we need them to be called on by their teachers, we need the back and forth student/teacher experience for any online learning that happens. It's the only way to keep them engaged, allows for questions, and will be a far more fruitful educational experience for all the kids. Thanks for reading and thanks for all your hard work planning for 2020-2021 school year.
If the kids go back to school either full or part time, I am hopeful that masks will be required.
I do not want my children to wear a mask for the entire school day.
The acceptable number of sick children and teachers from COVID-19 is zero.
We are willing to do what it takes whether open school or remote.

I am not sure if you have explored the online option that universities have been implementing. Teachers can go to school and broadcast their lectures online. Each teacher can have his/her virtual classroom. Student will join their classrooms based on their regular schedules. I'm more than happy to discuss this option in further details if needed.
I think the most effective hybrid model would be to allow students to attend school as much as possible in the beginning of the school year. It is warm, classes could be held outside, windows can be open. Then move to either all remote or to a more sparse hybrid model. I really think it's important for these very young students to form a bond with their teachers before remote learning can begin.
Safety is our number one priority when it comes to our child
I feel strongly that students & all school personnel should be required to wear masks for any in-person learning.
I work in a different school district, all districts should be on the same page so working parents can balance work and their kids school
If hybrid learning, my children would have to attend on the same days, even though its different schools.
Daily screening survey for COVID symptoms should be available online as a Google poll that students could quickly complete on their phones/chromebooks, with paper forms only as a backup. This reduces contact, resources, and time. Is there a way to measure ventilation in each classroom and to improve it? (Poorly ventilated enclosed spaces increase risk of transmission.) We appreciate the inclusion of face-to-face time with teachers, and the care going into this planning!
Please consider how uncomfortable it is to wear a mask all day and to go back to school under restrictions of social distancing. Is this really important and necessary at this time? This is very stressful for teachers and kids. Also consider the stress of the parents expecting their child to come home with such mental anxiety. People in general are very stressed and full of fear never mind to put our teachers and kids through this stress and force them all to wear a mask all day long. There is no benefit on sending kids back to the classroom under such circumstances and learning can not occur while a person is concerned in such way. It's best to keep our kids at home until this situation improves. The cons are bigger than the pros. There is really nothing positive to send these kids or teachers to the classroom at this point. Imagine losing a family member to this dangerous virus. Can we get this person back to life? This will bring much stress and anxiety to all the members of the family. There is not going to be any social interaction really there is not, the concern will be extreme. We will happily handle the remote education until we can comfortably and peacefully send our kids back to the classrooms. Thanks for caring about our feedback.
My child wants to be at school as much as possible but it needs to be as thoughtful and SAFE as possible. No one's life is worth the risk. If you make a "mistake" that saves lives I am behind you 100%.
I'm a teacher in another district I'm not sure how my children will participate in online learning if I am to be at work and they are at home. They needed a lot of adult support to get work done and passed in each day. If I am not there to guide them I don't know how successful they can be.
None at this time
Hoping for safety protocols & strict daily schedules as if in HS
I think it is unconscionable that our nation, our state, our district is even considering opening up schools for in-person teaching. It is an insult to not just the students, but the teachers and staff as well. I will absolutely NOT be sending my children into a building. Period. And will choose an online program if something is not arranged to remote learn in our schools. We a society deserve better than this mismanaged disaster plan that has fallen so very short of effective.
How about teacher on classroom videoing classroom time/subject/camera for students who choose to or Hybrid at home remotely or if child sick, ect.?
PPE requirements / availability for students / teachers (N95 vs KN95 vs Surgical mask vs Cloth mask etc). Will school supply? or are students responsible for acquiring Physical size of classrooms and max occupancy to safely maintain social distancing Will the school provide ample alcohol based sanitizers or are students expected to have their own. What will be the frequency for cleaning of "high touch" surfaces, hand rails, door handles, desk tops, elevator buttons etc. This should be shared knowledge for students / parents. If a student / teacher has an illness will they fall into a "covid quarantine" category? what is the process criteria for ill students / staff to return to the facilities?
Please reopen 100%.
I hope that the mental and social aspect of returning to school is considered as important as the health aspect. Our children are quickly falling behind in their educational standings.
Social Distancing 6 feet, class sizes breakfast and lunch time entering school in the AM, exiting school in the afternoon, keeping bathrooms sanitized and stocked, having an infite amount of PPE, how can the custodians keep up with the disinfecting, keeping all students, staff and family members healthy, mask breaks students properly wearing masks over nose and mouth and not playing with them, the air quality in the school, clean filters testing students and staff regularly, anxiety and stress caused by virus, what to do when students or staff get Corvid 19 Substitute teachers/assistance
What's the plan if staff/ student turns out to be positive while school is in session?
Opening the schools in September is a big mistake. As much as we teach our children, there will always be a huge risk that they will in fact not practice appropriate social distancing and sanitary requirements. I work on sever COVID19 clinical trials (treatment and vaccines) and we see spikes of the virus (not only in the US but globally) when hybrid or lessened restrictions are in place. It is definitely too soon to be thinking about any on site school participation. In addition, there are many children that have their elderly grandparents living with the, as partial caregivers or even those that have relatives that may have cancer. With any hybrid schooling, not only are students and parents at risk, but there is a population that have exposure with those that are more at risk (elderly grandparents, family member with cancer, etc). Trust me, I do want my children back onsite at MTV and WRHS, but not at this time where we risk more exposure.
As a mother of a child with significant learning disabilities on an IEP, social & emotional difficulties, mental illness, and whom also has asthma, I am not 100% comfortable sending them back to in person school full time, but remote learning was a 100% failure as far as getting and keeping them involved. They will also be entering a new school this coming year, specifically due to their learning disabilities. Remote learning was also a failure because the only way the school told me they could legally communicate with me was through email, and it left me behind and in the dark with a lot of things because I was receiving too many daily emails, with multiple instructions on multiple platforms that I'm not familiar with. Remote learning wasn't set up for children with significant learning disabilities. Although my child was in a smaller, special Ed classroom, it still left them behind and confused with no real way to catch up or modify work efficiently for them.

It is important for kids emotionally, socially and academically to return safely to the classroom with proper protocols in place. I don't feel it's in the best interest to continue with 100% remote learning.
I know you have a tough decision with this topic. It is highly controversial and equally divisive. With that being said, the important information for the district to utilize when making this decision is the factual data.....not emotional decisions or concerns for the political climate of our area or teachers union. The physical, emotional and social health of our children is at stake. (And really no physical threat to our children at all...) My family's stance is that all children should be back in the classroom, full time in September. More and more data is being released from around the world in countries that have children back in the classroom, and the findings are pointing in the direction that school is not the COVID incubator the media has made people fearful of. https://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2020/07/13/world/europe/13reuters-health-coronavirus-germany-schools.html The data in Massachusetts CLEARLY shows that children are not dying from this virus. Of the 6,229 positive cases in 0-19 year olds there have been ZERO deaths...again...no children have died. Massachusetts is not the only state with zero deaths, this is not a unique statistic. Positive cases in 0-29 year old group results in a 0.072% rate of death. Positive cases in 0-39 year old group results in a 0.13% rate of death. Positive cases in 0-49 year old group results in less than a 1/4% rate of death. Positive cases in 0-59 year old group results in 0.59% rate of death. When we look at adults above 60, the rate of death rises to 6%...this is where the districts focus should be solely centered without question. Those individuals working in the school system over the age of 60...or even 55 for argument sake...should be offered retirement packages for their safety and well being. Our children should be in the classroom, in school, in person, Monday through Friday starting in August/September. If the district and the teachers union can dispute these facts (published daily by the MA Dept. Of Public Health) then they should. The facts show there is NO reason to hold children out of school. Period. Children are not at risk from this virus. The vast majority of the people working in our school district have such an insignificant chance of dying from this virus that it absolutely cannot warrant any other decision than allowing our children to attend school in person, full time this fall. (Let's not forget that 98%+ of all deaths have underlying conditions as well. Again we now know who too protect) Get the kids back to school!
I personally would love my kids to be able to go back to school in any format. I am very supportive of any restrictions that will need to be implemented for this to happen. I think it is important for the kids to see the teacher and their peers in person. I feel kids are losing a lot of social/ emotional skills by being at home all the time. I am a parent who works from home full time, I am not able to assist as I should my kids with remote learning.
If the district and the individual schools cannot enforce social distancing and mask wearing guidance as defined by the CDC then my child will not return to in-person schooling.
My kids need to be back in school, remote learning isn't going to help them prepare for their next ventures and my wife and I need to work full time to pay our bills. My Junior didn't like the remote learning and had a hard time getting anything out of it. If they don't back in our district I will find a school that is going to open and send them to it.
I would like a clear picture of what in school learning will be, i.e. would my child be able to have outside recess, as well as art, gym, music, and as she's pulled out for math how would these activities be addressed. Thank you
We have a strong preference for in person schooling only. If this is not offered, and have to look at alternatives, we would lobby for our town to pay a reduced school district contribution.
Thank you for your hard work during these stressful times. You can't please everyone. Just do your best to offer options if possible.
The school should take the temperature of each student before entering school.
While our child will miss out on the social development he needs and would get by going to school in-person, we will most likely opt for distance learning. We have several reasons for this, but in part, we are doing it because we know others can't. There are children who need to be in school because of the services provided that are critical for them. By keeping our child at home, hopefully that will help reduce the numbers and make it a tiny bit safer for those families who really must have their kids in a classroom setting. It won't be easy for us, but we will make it work somehow!
If hybrid or remote learning is implemented, please remove the requirements for electives. I feel that it is hard enough for my student to be motivated to complete core curriculum without the burden of gym, chorus, seminar, etc.
I work fulltime at a doctor's office and my child, along with many others from your school attend Sterling Nursery School, which is private owned and will not be able to do the remote learning portion if the schools choose to do hybrid or 100% remote learning which means it would need to be completed in the two hour time span between when i get off work and when he goes to bed. Also in this time span we need to take the dog for a mile walk, make and eat dinner, he needs to shower, and he has chores. I am a single working parent with sole custody because the other parent is on drugs and resides in DE. Remote learning will not be completed because there won't be time. And that's not my son's fault. Also, think of this from a child trafficking/pedophile angle... those horrible people want kids to stay home so they can continue to be on social media unsupervised all day or even outdoors and at park unsupervised. I'm sorry. But we need to protect our kids from THOSE PEOPLE! If his day care can be open full time right now, so can the schools!
I can't imagine a viable version of in-person learning. This is augmented for students on IEPs or 504s who may have impulsivity or other behaviors that would make it difficult/unlikely for them to follow appropriate protocol, which impacts not only them, but the other students. I can't imagine the challenges you and your team are facing with the pandemic. My opinion is that those would be augmented exponentially by a too-early attempt at in-person learning. Thank you for all that you do!
We hope you will offer subjects like music, art, and foreign languages this year regardless of the way school will be taught.
In school learning only, Google meets was a joke

I applaud this survey as a quick dip stick of where the community stands. I feel like it's very hard to answer the questions as the actual plans for any of the three models has not been presented in full detail. The reopening task force report is not the opening plan.

I want my child in school, when it is safe. I have not read the actual steps WRSD is taking in REAL time with REAL budget numbers to make it safe. Am I sending my child to a class of 5 or 20? Share information about the HVAC systems--is it fresh air or recirculated. How many rooms have windows that open, the square footage of classrooms. I was in a grocery store today and they came over the loud speaker to announce how many people were in the store at their last hourly count and how many they are allowed to have per the regulations. If I heard correctly, the grocery store was allowed less people than our schools hold and I'm rarely in a grocery store for more than an hour. What will the process be if a student or a teacher tests positive? What happens if there is not a sub for a school nurse? Is the school closed for the day? Are families held liable if their child is asymptomatic and infects others? The facts matter and will influence our choices. There has been very little substantive information provided so I can't really pick which style is best at this time. Have you run mock ups of how long it will take to get kids into the school, wash hands, socially distanced and work through a school day that way, to see how much time on leaning they will get? That information matters. If my child is getting 3 hours of instruction at best in a building but at a significantly higher risk for illness, he can get 3 hours of remote instruction at home and everyone stays safer. If remote learning, or a phased in approach to live learning, is the choice, which honestly given the time frame seems like the only safe choice, the style needs to be different from the spring. I applaud the teachers who stepped up and worked to make the spring the best it could be. This district is not consistent and it causes stress and confusion. I wish the district had been using this summer to offer employees and families training opportunities. I have heard of none offered and we are about 6 weeks out from the start of school. If there was a choice of an hour a day of in building, live schooling, I'd also sign up for that, with the rest of the day being remote. My concerns come from the duration of time inside the building. I don't support the hybrid model. I foresee the scheduling nightmares with that. I would support a weekly in person OUTDOOR morning meeting kind of learning opportunities, even once a week, to help build class continuity and rapport for as many grades as appropriate, or as mentioned above, one hour in the classroom. Even if the classes were split into two groups, that still could be manageable--in the lower grades. Maybe in the upper grades, you get an hour in person based on the subject matter. Also, I'd like the district to look into offering a way for a family to buy devices--not Chromebooks, but at a reduced cost for both children and staff. Chromebooks are not the best product for virtual learning. I'd love to be able to buy 1-2 new laptops that support Chrome/Google but are larger in size and faster processing. If the district found a supplier at bulk rates (like many private businesses do), our family would buy a device therefore allowing more successful remote learning for all. Staff may even be interested as I heard they also struggled with Chromebooks. I also hope that the platforms are being explored. Google Meet seemed serviable, but not top notch. I used a product called Canvas for a remote class I took and it was super easy. I also feel as if teachers need to be supported more in the community and by administration outside of the buildings (e.g. principals support teachers). So many of the WRSD staff live in our communities. They are parents and teachers in this district and they work hard to get budgets passed and wear multiple hats in the community every day. Their lives matter too and I hope that central office administration and school committee are asking them what they need. The stress on them is enormous and I fear for their mental health in light of all of this. At the School Committee meeting, the data presented shows the teachers have reservations about going back. From the ones I talk to, they don't love remote learning so what are their reservations and how are they being dealt with? No plan will be successful if developed in a vacuum. I'd hoped to see open (virtual) meetings from administration and school committee with members of the public other than the bi weekly school committee meetings (like the coffee chats.)

Offering teachers that were laid off remote tutoring opportunities

as a parent that work 3 jobs, I will do my best to provide all help for any home schooling that may be needed, but really hoping that the children can go back 100% for it will be difficult to make sure things are in on time.

Our kids need to get out and socialize beyond social media! Consider the burden on working parents of full Remote learning!

I have many concerns. If they go back to school, I'm concerned that safety protocols will be extremely hard to enforce and that we have to rely on parents to do the right thing and quarantine their kids if exposed or ill and not send them to school. I'm also concerned about busses. If we have remote learning I would prefer to see them actually have class meetings each day and not just assignments so they can somewhat interact with their class and teachers.

I'm concerned because my daughter, who has an ineffective 504B plan needs an IEP and needs testing. How will this happen?

I would like to know how parents will be notified if someone in there class is covid positive? Will all those kids need to quarantine also? I have underlying health condition and would like to be prepared for the potential spread in my childs classroom.

Middle school comments-The remote learning was poor this past spring with no set schedules for classroom learning. The middle school teaching was - watch a video and do a worksheet. This was a terrible approach. Oh and the option to try to catch up with a teacher only during certain hours of certain days. I would expect Zoom classes led by a teacher just as if the kids were in school. This would have the opportunity for the kids to ask questions real time as needed and apply learnings. Parents are not replacing the teachers and are meant to supplement the classroom learnings. Parents are working their full time jobs and should not be expected to step in for teachers. Yes remote teaching is hard but so is working remote and we are all figuring it out. The teacher communication was inconsistent and power school was not updated timely. Submitting work on google classroom was a huge challenge. Many instances of the work getting done but somehow not submitted correctly and neither student or parent was aware until power school was updated. High school- much better experience with reasonably clear expectations and timelines. Would still like Zoom for all classes just as if they were in school.

While I don't feel comfortable sending my kids for in-person and would opt to remote only, based on the utter lack of transparency in plans for how remote learning would work for 20-21 I can't be sure I'd still enroll my kids for remote. I am considering homeschooling as remote schooling 2 grades was utter chaos with uncoordinated assignments between the grades. When looking at survey results, please be sure to look at any disparity between answers that say they will keep their children at home no matter what AND looking for alternative schooling options. That shows you how badly the parents trust the district to effectively implement remote learning.

On top of the failure of remote learning, my kids' IEPs were wholly disregarded and they did not receive any of their services owed to them, but since we were caught by surprise 1) I let it slide for the district and 2) I had very little outside support at the ready. (I want to highlight, though, the school psychologist gave a ton of her time to connect with my kids, and it was an absolute treasure to have had that time with her - and probably saved one of my kids from falling into depression. She is amazing.) With the summer, I expect to have better resources that I'll find myself as the district has utterly failed the kids in inclusion classrooms who need some support (like a small group para) but not a special education teacher. Given what has been shown publicly, I don't expect anything better to come in the fall.

That said, I would be open to in-person services only (speech, school psychologist, etc) while remote for general classwork. However, remote needs to be considerably more engaging and coordinated so that a parent can implement more effectively per household vs per grade. Very few parents have 1 kid, or all kids in 1 grade. The work needs to be better coordinated between grades so that parents can help scaffold the information between their kids. I shouldn't have a kindergarten activity assigned one week, and then a month later the same activity just scaled up a bit for a 3rd grader. That activity needs to be the same week, we need to have similar materials to get for both kids per week, and better opportunities for grouping instruction in the home. And we need to ensure that kids and teachers are talking with each other, have video calls more than once a week in smaller groups, and training in google classroom et al for the elementary kids (not just their parents).

Let the kids go back. Covid in kids isn't even an issue.
My concern is the social aspect in a remote learning environment. My child needs to have that face to face time with friends. It's healthy and necessary
I think the arrival time should be staggered at the high school if more parents are dropping off their kids. Also I think masks are necessary. I wear one all day myself at work and you get used to it. I think the older kids will be fine with it, not sure about the younger ones. I support a hybrid model so there are less students in the schools and if there are any issues then remote learning would be fine as well.
The safety of my child is my number one priority. While he may be healthy with no KNOWN (At this time) underlying health issues, his father & sister both suffer from asthma. So I hope that the district considers these types of scenarios as well. To me personally, the risk is not worth the in-person schooling unless a well thought out plan is generated by the district to ensure the safety of students, staff and families. Good luck!
most concerned about the high school due to size and number of individuals there each day. would only really feel comfortable if my child was in single classroom w single group somehow w minimal movement throughout building
Remote learning would be extremely difficult on families that rely on two incomes.
We just can't risk our children's (and teachers' & support staff's) health during this pandemic. We are asking them to take risks that corporate America is not even considering. Our kids deserve better. So do our teachers.
It is important to be realistic to what is SAFEST for the children and staff. It is equally important to have proper expectations for what kids need. Kids need socialization and warmth from their teachers. Thank you for everything you are all doing! This isn't easy for anyone.
This is a risky time period in our history with an unpredictable virus we have never encountered. Information regarding safety protocols change almost on a daily basis. According to health experts, it is unwise to bring students back to school campuses. Covid-19 will be present and schools will need to shut. How important is it to risk developing permanent health issues or fatality in our community. Better yet, how important is a child's health, quality of life, or death? Putting students under one roof, sequestered to a classroom or space is not returning to school or a true school model. Even at 50% (at WRHS), this is an unsafe, dangerous environment for all students, staff, and families. Please consider life.
We need children back in school.
I felt the online learning was not efficient and my child was not able to learn in that way. I feel children need the face to face learning and social interaction.
While I think Massachusetts is possibly the best state to reside in during this awful pandemic - thanks to the strong leadership making informed, intelligent decisions focusing on safety - I also would not feel comfortable sending my elementary (4th&K) boys into any sort of public environment without having had a vaccine for coronavirus and the pandemic under control. I appreciate your taking parents concerns into consideration when making decisions.
as working parents, i would be interested in hiring someone to help assist my children with remote learning. if remote learning is the decision it would be helpful to have resources avail
We are grandparents raising our grandchildren. We both need to continue to work. We feel that children are a very low risk of contacting the virus so we feel that they should return to the classroom full time. We gave done our best with remote learning but it cannot compare to in school learning. There are so many new ways of learning and the teachers are up to date in the methods. We revert to the old methods especially in math when the 6 ways to learn to add, subtract, multiply and divide are offered. In conclusion we have no qualms about sending them to school full time.
It would be good to have packets of work or workbooks sent home if hybrid as my son goes to his grandmother's where there is no internet. Virtual classes should be similar to classroom for continuity, time and style, questions and answers
I do not feel safe sending my daughter to participate in school with a large group of students. However, if hybrid learning can allow a small group, I would be much more likely to want her to participate. My biggest concern is what would happen if Covid started to spread in the school. What would it take to switch to only remote learning? I am also concerned about her having to sit in her desk for 6 hours at school. I think that is asking a lot of young students that is not developmentally appropriate. If childcare wasn't an issue, I would be more likely to consider remote only no matter what.
High schools teachers need to teach the material needed for our children to have the necessary foundation knowledge for future studies. It was apparent in the spring that the teachers do not have the technology and/or skills to be able to teach remotely or hybrid model. Live streaming classrooms will be necessary for hybrid model. Our students need good quality interaction and teaching. Bring in technology to do hybrid learning and bring in professionals to teach after traditional hours for the upper grades. Turn the gym and cafeteria into partitioned classrooms. Split the high school into 4 segments by grade. Grades 9/10 to school from 7-2, grade 11/12 to school from 3-9. You need to spend money to make this happen. Government needs to pay for this. Hybrid or remote learning will be an injustice to our children's future.
If children do return to classrooms and I send my child, I would be concerned about a plan for how positive covid cases would be handled.
As a medical professional it would be ideal to do remote learning but as a single mother who works full time days and who's child has an IEP as well as not wanting to go to school in a normal year I think it would be a disaster as it was this spring. My son would not have his aide, his accommodations and no supervision during the day to stay on task. It was a nightmare to get him to do any work. I can't be home to make sure he is working. My so is in the TLC program so small classes would be great as well as the other influences he would have he is ADHD .
If school doesn't reopen for in class learning, either my husband or myself will be forced to give up our career. We cannot afford to live on one income. It is an impossible position to be put in, especially with no additional government support. Unemployment payment from the forced COVID closure didn't begin until right before phase 1. It is critical that you have in class learning as an option. If parents choose thy hybrid model, it must be THEIR choice, not an option that's forced. It's your responsibility as the leader of the school district to present safe, in class learning for the students and parents. Do your job.
Any time spent in the classroom is better than none. Especially for my child with the IEP.
Start with remote learning then in January gently move into hybrid. Then in April move into full in person. This will give time for everyone to get back to a normal way of life. Hoping no masks will be needed as well as no more social distancing by may of next year. Too much time, energy spent prepping. Do a gradual reentry like I explained otherwise too stressful for teachers, students, staff,..chaotic and creates fear, anxiety, frustration. Kids need to be kids.
My biggest concern is parents sending kids to school sick as before they couldn't go to school if they had a fever but I believe if a child has any symptoms they should stay home and participate in remote learning that day or while our sick. How will this be addressed. Also I two children at DH but one will be starting kindergarten how will that work. Big new school so many new intimidating rules. Also if remote learning will it be more interactive, where the teachers are teaching during a zoom session?
If before/afterschool is open, we will access that and wouldn't need bussing

I favor returning to an in-person five day a week school schedule. The incidence of severe coronavirus disease in children is very low. Additionally there is no evidence that children are a significant vector in spreading disease to the elderly population or other populations at risk either by active disease or asymptomatic transmission. Also, they do not pose a serious health risk to teachers or other school personnel with an intact immune system. I feel that the proposed modified school schedules will negatively impact children's educational and social development, and that these negative consequences far outweigh any unproven potential benefit in slowing, halting, or reversing the coronavirus pandemic.
I strongly feel that the safest plan is to keep the students and teachers home, giving everyone the necessary tools to learn remotely, and reassess what might make sense for the remainder of the year after the winter holidays.
If remote learning is the plan, regularly scheduled zoom-type meetings where lessons/topics are discussed in a class-like setting. Can also be recorded for any students who can't make scheduled class time.
I think it is imperative to do whatever is necessary to get the students back in class. There are so many reasons why to do this. -Academically they will prosper in class not at home. Remote teaching = ineffective teaching. -Socially they need interaction with other students. -Meals that many students can only get at school - Look at the data. Students at these ages do not transmit the virus. It's clear. -Some families have parents who MUST work and cannot give up their jobs to monitor remote learning. Please let's give it a try.
Ensure support for teacher safety
Remote learning must be planned and executed much better than last school year. With scheduled academic interactive classes, and activities If we really want to be a successful we cannot have the same as last year
I am not comfortable sending my children to school for 100% in person. I would consider hybrid for Jan or 100% remote if the teachers can be held accountable for being accessible to the kids, hold meaningful & educational zoom meetings where they actively teach the children the new material. Teachers need to be available 9am-3pm, just like normal school for children who have questions, not a limited 8am-10am window. It is near impossible to safely send the kids back to school, but the remote learning standards need to be revised for the teachers to actually teach the kids. Ideally, remote learning Sept-Jan, then revisit in Jan to possibly move to a hybrid plan.
Please improve the remote learning experience, the kids need to have much more face to face interaction with the teachers. Last time it was once a week.
We believe it is crucial to get our children back in school as safely as possible. All necessary means should be implemented to do this. Remote learning was not an effective learning strategy for our children (3 at that point; we had a senior). We are deeply concerned about the lack of academic preparation our children received remotely and truly hope the district does everything possible to give parents the opportunity to choose in-person or remote learning.
My 8 year old daughter with Down Syndrome and Autism needs in person 1:1 schooling. If WRSD does not open full time for her I will be seeking out of district placement. Her disabilities are significant and she is unable to participate in remote learning. She has suffered significant regression and emotional distress during this prolonged school shut down.
Kids need activities other than academic work! Teachers should not be allowed to give the kids the day off. This happened during remote learning in the spring - it was completely unprofessional. They are getting paid to teach - so please hold them accountable. We are hopeful that if remote learning happens in the fall that the teachers will be engaging the students in a live atmosphere - not just assigning websites for them to look up.
This spring there was remote learning and no remote teaching. If anything is to be done virtually, there needs to be structure and teacher lead 'classroom time'. Also, for kids with 504 or IEP's remote learning is very difficult. I would hope there could be options for those students to participate in-person full time if possible.
As many parents are now working if a hybrid model is used parents may need older siblings as child care. Therefore I feel it important for siblings to be at school in the same days despite what school they attend.
If on line learning is what is chosen, I would like to see more mandatory attendance and more opportunities for getting grades rather than meeting requirements/does not meet requirements. There wasn't enough motivation with the way it was in the spring.
If remote or hybrid learning is implemented, a grade system and not pass/fail should be considered. Sign-ins and structured times for student participation within normal school hours should be mandated rather than an open option. Kids need routine. The previous remote learning had no structure, no requirements with minimal consequences for students. If hybrid might be the way, don't let students slip away. The impact from the spring will be felt this fall with a tremendous amount of reteaching by teachers. Given the potential cutbacks in staffing, resources will be strained but MOST of all is the educational loss for students which remains to be seen for years to come. Let's learn from the past and make changes to improve the quality of education. COVID is not going away any time soon. Disclosure: I am a concerned parent and am neither a teacher or employee in the school system.
If abiding by health guidelines for in-person learning would render meaningful student collaboration and interactions impossible, then I hope the school would choose to focus its energy on making remote learning as meaningful and innovative as possible. I also would ask that the school considers the trauma that could be created by having such an isolating and socially restrictive learning environment in an in-person or hybrid reopening model.
The seniors need to attend in person. They will not be ready for college if it is all remote.
We currently have one extra computer for both kids to share. They cannot be online all day, especially at their ages. It really affects their behavior. I'm hoping that they will continue to receive some paper assignments as in the spring. There is too much uncertainty at this time to decide if we will choose in person, hybrid, or remote. Now, I prefer the hybrid option. But this depends on students being six feet apart, not the three feet currently referenced by the state. Also, if class sizes are as large as last year, there will be as many as 14 kids in a class. I can't imagine how this will work for kids to be separated. I also think the 'pod' model with ten kids doing everything together is the best choice for now.
I appreciate all the thoughtful work and effort that has gone into planning for our kids to return to school post-Covid.

<p>My junior daughter was to get her license in April, Covid delayed those plans. As of now she still hasn't been able to get it, but if she did she would potentially like to drive to school, but in the past knew that juniors don't always get parking permits. Once she gets it, if she were to get a parking pass, she could also bring her brother and sister to school (9th graders), therefore taking 3 kids off of a bus. If a hybrid or 100% remote learning were to happen I would love for the teachers to potentially work from classrooms so they could zoom actual classes. I think the kids need to be held accountable to actually show up to "classes", have attendance taken and have work that is due. "Optional" and "not mandatory" can't be in the directions for them. An example is St. Johns had zoom classes with attendance taken and rules for the classes (no eating, appropriate dress, etc). Their kids basically had full days of classes with the teachers. I worry about the fall sports being cancelled, for the Juniors and Seniors especially. If this happens can they play in the spring, have a shorter season or play less teams, have parents drive instead of bussing, etc? Can courtyards, outside areas be utilized while the weather is nice . If schools aren't ready in September, can a slow opening be done, perhaps starting with a hybrid and depending on Covid numbers start opening slowly. Perhaps have incoming freshman come in to see the school and try to adjust to the new school and maybe the Seniors can still help them while they start their school year. Then open up more to larger groups/grades. Once teachers and one group get used to the school and new rules.</p>
<p>My 7th grader is on a 504, but that radio button would not work, so I selected IEP. Not sure if you can change my answer through the back end.</p>
<p>The children with IUP's and the ones with educational delays need to have in class work. I have seen first hand how the at home learning has delayed my son educational progress. My middle son has autism and his IUP needs to be followed. This topic should be addressed, as many kids who are delayed need that one on one help. Thanks</p>
<p>We should have in person schooling. Remote schooling is not as effective.</p>
<p>As the parent of an incoming kindergarten student it is extremely important that my daughter meet her classroom teacher in person. I know keeping young children physically distanced can be challenging because they are social beings, but seeing a face in person and being in the school is a significant developmental necessity if at all possible. She would benefit greatly from learning a routine at school for at least two weeks before she had to go home and work from our house. The first two weeks could be held outside mostly, weather permitting, and the students can learn some of the online tools they will use in person. Also the teacher can get to know the students a little more to determine whether they might need more support in certain areas seeing as these students have not yet been screened. Thank you for this consideration. I truly feel like students at all grade levels would benefit from seeing the eyes of other students in person and meeting their teachers in person.</p>
<p>If teachers are afraid to be around kids, they shouldn't post pictures of being out social with large groups of people..... You are letting the teachers hold everyone else hostage! If they can't reach in school, they should take a leave of absence. Every job in the world requires you to meet their standards not the other way around. Tires of kindergarten teachers complaining on social media about being scared to be around their students. Eliminate kindergarten as last I checked it is not required by the state. It's merely a babysitting service that the district was forced into putting in full day kindergarten that we can't pay for! High school and middle school kids must go back to school in the fall! They learned next to nothing this spring thanks to very poor planning by the district. Your school committee meeting accomplish nothing and it's tone for you all to get to work! The superintendent doesn't care about this district and it is so obvious! He is unwilling to freeze his raise during financial crisis. That speaks volumes! Also the high school principal has run WRHS into the ground! When the pandemic hit, he ran to Florida for a family vacation and has had almost no communication with anyone! What a joke! I hope you all realize we are the laughingstock of the state! A once respected district is a shell of it's former self. The only requirement to teaching in our district is to have received a diploma from WRHS.....</p>
<p>Teachers need to understand the importance of consistent teaching with all subjects. Some teachers 'checked in' while others didn't which sends the message to kids that if they aren't doing it, why should the kids? There are good teachers and there are teachers who were hanging at the beach. And kids knew this.</p>
<p>I believe we should not be returning to school during a pandemic. We do not know enough about how the virus affects children or is transmitted from and to children. Students will likely not show symptoms, which puts all staff at a huge risk, not to mention students' families. While our numbers are low right now, that can change so quickly and it is not worth the health and possibly lives of our students and teachers/staff to push for a return. Even with a hybrid model, parents will have to figure out childcare. I am happy to hear that remote learning will be offered, but interested to hear more details about how students will be taught and when students will be responsible for getting work done. The logistics of what happens if someone tests positive are a nightmare. Please make a decision based on what is right for the health of our kids, families, and staff members and do not let business and politics drive this decision. Thank you!</p>
<p>We believe students need to be in person at school as possible. We also would like to see sports or some kind of physical activity a part of the program. Their mental health is critical and our high school students want to be in school in person. Thank you for all of your hard work. We know this is a most difficult decision.</p>
<p>We are teachers in another district and may need to attend live school or hybrid school in that district. Therefore, our need to send our kids to live school is determined by the other district's opening plan, not necessarily our own feelings on the safety in live school. We need a clear plan for rapid and clear communication when/if covid students or staff are discovered to mitigate spread. We are a high risk family and the fact that we will be connected with 3 schools in total over 2 communities, increases our exposure!</p>
<p>Children are not LEARNING when operating remotely they are just "checking the box". They have too many distractions at home to allow them to effectively concentrate. Children can also not support the unrealistic expectations of remote learning. Parents need to manage their schedules , help them get to the different zoom classes. I had to hold my children's hands every step of the way last spring. This is not sustainable when parents are both working . I firmly believe that this virus is low risk to our youth and fully support being back in school. People everywhere are returning to work and teachers as well need to go back to work in class. Provide exceptions for high risk teachers and let's get back to school.</p>
<p>I am very concerned that the mandates will require in person learning. I truly hope they are researching the best ways to keep are students and staff safe!</p>
<p>I support full reopening.</p>
<p>I think it is important that the children should return to school in the fall with some safety precautions. This needs to be reevaluated frequently.. Hopefully the cases do not increase and that the district will decrease these requirements if that is the case. I think the Hybrid model is going to be confusing for students and parents alike. Most parents work and finding coverage for your children is going to very difficult. As well as keeping up with all the different schedules. I also afraid that there may be staff who are so afraid that they will be yelling and scaring the children if they are not following strict protocols. I have seen this out in the public, people yelling at others for having their masks a little down on their face or walking the wrong way in an isle. This will effect the younger children for the rest of there lives. I hope there will be training and some attention on how to redirect children about the safety precautions.</p>

I don't feel my son got a proper education his 8th grade year. He did not do the work or learn enough to move on to High School. I would like to hold my son back and repeat 8th grade so he is not set up for failure going into High School. He is already discouraged and I feel that I as a parent should have the decision of him repeating a grade he never fully completed in the first place. I will be intouch
Reopening schools, even with a hybrid model, is imperative for our children's mental health. Kids need to be with other kids their own age in order to continue to develop healthy peer relationships. Also, teachers need to teach! The remote learning that was presented in the spring was completely unacceptable! My child had less than 30 mins of school work a day. There were no new lessons given and zero feedback given. If these teachers don't want to do their jobs, the jobs they are being paid very good salaries to do, then perhaps the district's tenure system should be re-evaluated. There are countless teachers Looking for jobs who would be willing to teach our kids. These children need to learn and they need to be challenged. And these teachers need to do the jobs they were hired to do!
My children need more than anything to be back in school in-person 100% of the time. Remote learning does not work in our home, not one thing was learned this past spring and my children are becoming depressed without any type of routine. They have fallen so far behind already and remote learning cannot continue!!
I'm not sure what the answer is. I'm extremely fortunate that we can be flexible due to our jobs. Other families are not this lucky. There was a woman who brought her known Covid positive child to daycare because she had to work. She left him in that daycare for 8 hours. I'm sorry but there are definitely parents in this district who would do the same. Might want to think about this with your plan. Thank you.
My biggest concern is how teachers would be expected to manage teaching in-class sessions, if the schools reopen, while also teaching those students that opt to do 100% remote learning. I appreciate all of the efforts that the task force has put into building these models and I know that there is no easy answer but I have concerns regarding the schools opening/shutting down/reopening if the virus hits any of the schools. I also feel as though remote learning should have more of a regular schedule for the students to partly mirror what a regular school day would look like.
I just want to say thank you for all you are doing to provide the best possible education for my child during these difficult times. Safety is my highest priority.
If it is partial or full remote learning, the plan needs to be better as it did not work very well last spring in terms of what the kids got out of learning from home. Please offer weekly packets or workbooks for kids to complete, especially the younger grades, as not all parents have access to printers and parents who are working from home cannot spend hours helping the kids navigate various websites to complete assignments.
I think live daily teaching is important for remote learning. I also think for elementary students Glenwood should not departmentalize whether in person or remote. It is hard for a teacher to get to know students with reduced time at school and I think the child needs a consistent touchpoint for distance learning. I also think departmentalization for in person teaching puts students at an unnecessary risk. I think if in person teaching does occur there should be a shortened day since students will be moving less and specials could be taught remotely at home in the afternoon.
I hope school will open.
My child really struggled being at home & secluded away from peers as did others I know of. I think it's important to get these kids back to school & socializing even if it's a hybrid model.
Safety is my #1 concern. I also want to ensure that remote learning is more comprehensive than it was in the spring, as children seemed to learn little and engagement with teachers was minimal.
Remote learning students need to be able to obtain same Honors and AP classes as in class students. Also, will remote learning affect their ability to sit for an AP exam? Will measures be in place for remote learning students to be able to keep pace with in person learning such as in math and English, and will they get the same support for college planning? Thank you
I am open to the possibility of sending my children to in person classes at school once a vaccine becomes available.
I have a child that is only 3 and is immunocompromised and high risk at home. It's not worth the risk of my other 2 children going to the school and possibly bringing covid home to her. I don't think it's possible even with all of the precautions being carried out 100% that it would prevent the spread of it if it reached the school even by one person. The remote learning worked very well for us and the teachers were fantastic at making it work.
Besides the insurmountable problems dealing with distancing in classrooms, transportation and teacher contamination, the children must return home to their families. Many of the families have someone with complications that could kill them if they were to contract the virus.
I don't believe that the reopening of the schools is safe at this time. If things change, I may be okay sending my child to school, but as of now, it makes me anxious.

Based on our experience with remote learning this past spring, and virtual summer camps, our 1st grade daughter does MUCH better if the remote learning is interactive in small groups. Simply a check-in was good for seeing friends and her familiar teacher this spring, but it wore on her quickly. She does best if there are just 4-7 students on a call and she has many opportunities to speak and engage. Otherwise, she loses interest and disengages, and I have concern about even more extroverted kids being active first leading to her losing self-esteem and clamming up, feeling even more lonely. My older daughter in middle school is shy online, and is unlikely to engage much and be happy with that. But this is in fact not good for her socially; for her, too, small online groups would be ideal so that she knows she needs to engage--and she will be much happier as she does. If break-out groups in Zoom can be done, then coming back as a class for broader discussions, that would be ideal. 1 hour in morning, 30 min in afternoon to report on work done and discuss that work as small groups or as a class. Remote learning was too light in zoom calls for both kids this spring. My kindergartner disengaged (there was not enough accountability; she would have loved to continue more academic discussions online, showing her work live to her teachers). My middle schooler was bored--she did all the work diligently, but was not challenged. She barely got feedback, and she was bored with all the review focus and lack of discussion to go deeper in those reviews. I feel that safety-wise, online is best. Our family's risk will go way up if the kids go to school, because we as parents are lucky in having very very low exposure otherwise. Hybrid would be great for them socially as well as academically. I like a hybrid model (or all remote with occasional in-person activities), with very very low risk through strict distancing measures, because they could still see peers and teachers in-person, but not be ostracized or feel left-out if we choose to keep them remote. Our kids have been fine at home until they started seeing other kids playing with others. Neighbor middle schooler is having friends over playing in their pool. High-risk for spreading illness, which our daughter understands. But breaks her heart--she feels incredibly left out. Both kids have now started showing real indications of loneliness, feeling left out. Sadness. Heartbreaking to see. We want to stay in our public schools, but we also need to strike the right balance of mental health and protection from illness. COVID impacts all organs, and it is not clear yet whether kids who get it symptomatically or asymptotically might be at higher risk if they get it again, or as they get older, or have lasting effects. And our teachers are at high risk, as are family members at home. I am an educator at a university, and am happy to volunteer as a parent small-group facilitator (or tech assistant--I have taught remotely a lot myself) if that helps small group zoom options going. There may be some creative things that can be done to support learning and mental wellness this year.

I think for the teachers that want to teach in school do that with children who do. Let the high risk teachers do remote learning with the high risk family children. Do both. Everyone wins. Less in classroom therefore more safe and no one feels school is forced on them.

Children need to be in school, learning with other children. There is a tremendous value to discussions that happen in person the generally do not occur when on a video call. The district should provide all kids/teachers with the clear face shields as opposed to masks/cloth coverings. It is easier to understand when someone is speaking because you can see their lips. It is also easier to see the non-verbal communication associated with facial expressions. We cannot afford to have additional disruption to the learning process. Get the kids back in school!

A possible hybrid solution could be 2 weeks in school then 2 weeks remote learning thereby deep cleaning could be required only every other week. What is the district's solutions if someone (student or teacher) comes down with Covid-19?

I feel my decision will be largely based on what protocols are put into place. I realize it's a fine line between being safe and allowing kids to be kids. I do not want my child to wear a mask for 8 hours day. If that's the case we will most likely not return to school. If children take off masks once seated at desks that is more understandable. Frequent hand washing, some sort of distancing I understand is needed but kids shouldn't be stuck at one desk all day. Extra fresh air would be great during this time to get kids outside as much as possible. I also worry about the bus. Most kids take the bus- mine needs to because both parents work. How can you distance on a bus? It's very hard to know what's right.

Live stream and play back / recorded options will be important for remote learning (to stay connected with peers, teachers, and learning). Thank you.

We are new to the district starting in September. I am a nurse and it's very concerning to think of the schools physically opening. As much as I want my children to physically meet teachers, new friends & their school buildings there's too much risk to start in classroom learning for the fall. I think it's more important the emphasis be placed on remote and what the expectations are of faculty and families. We are a blended family of 7 children, 4 attend Shrewsbury & 3 have been in Uxbridge and will be relocating to Holden. We had one teacher & para in particular that provided exceptional remote learning. M-F classes, reading groups, social lunch bunch meetings, and independent work. They went above and beyond the other 6 experiences we had. But from this particular example I can say it's do able and can be successful. This same child has an IEP and her needs were all met and possibly more so from the remote program.

Don't see any other option but remote learning until a vaccine is found. People will continue to send children not feeling well into school because they don't have coverage or can't take time off, Keeping the the spreading of this virus going.

I am a single mother and I may have to go to work. I think if the kids can have the teacher coming to our house for times to times it would be great. Thank you

Kids should be back in school. From a social development standpoint kids need more interaction with people outside the home.

My child will need to have an aide during the day if there is remote learning. If I can't be home to help my child during the remote learning, he will need his aide to help him with his school work. He has a learning disability for reading/comprehension and writing. I would not be able to provide that service to him.

If school is remote, I think having the teacher live in a classroom or house teaching would benefit my children. The 2 months of "school work" that my children participated in did not teach them. It was more like busy work. If they actually had a teacher on the screen then I think they will learn more

Despite the hardship that remote learning can place on a working single parent family, I believe it is the only viable safe option. We have all gotten our feet wet putting it into practice this past spring, so continuing on would be less disruptive than a hybrid model that may face shut down.

Remote learning does not work in this household

Please consider the most important services that you provide students: access to teachers, access to electives such as music, arts, recess, access to guidance counselors and SEL support personnel. It is difficult to cut other services, especially if it creates a burden on families, but difficult decisions must be made. In favor of supporting the absolutely essential services above, consider cutting bus services for all elementary students to control transportation costs. I would gladly take on the burden of driving my K student to school (and likely will anyway given the risks of not social distancing on buses) in favor of having music for her! I wonder if other parents would agree.

The availability of onsite testing and the assurance the nurse will send kids home, which often didn't happen before. Penalties for parents sending their kids to school while sick.

I think it is important to consider the teachers with children who need to also teach and teach our children. If I am expected to go to school and teach full time what will it look like for my school age child.

<p>Keep safety first - students and teachers should not be rushed to return when it's not safe. Learning can be done successfully online, but schools cannot realistically expect parents to oversee learning as much as in the Spring due to parents working. Online learning needs to be more efficient and information and resources should be centralized vs having a number of different places for information, which confuses even the students.</p>
<p>My middle schooler is concerned about having to wear a mask all day at school. They are hot and uncomfortable and don't always fit well. You also can not hear what someone is saying as sound is muffled and it will be very difficult in a learning environment. As a parent I am also concerned about washing them daily. I am also concerned that schools aren't doing temperature checks. I know logistics are tough, but I don't trust other families to keep their sick kids at home, particularly if they work and don't have childcare. I will most likely NOT send my children on the bus to limit exposure but I have no idea how to get my high school student to and from school (she will not have her license until December). Remote learning needs to be required and graded. Extra help sessions need to be available. My junior will need SAT prep online and hopefully online test options. I have concerns about the SIZE of the high school. My teens do not social distance or wear masks around friends without being constantly reminded. At the high school level you have all the social stigma. Enforcing this in the high school seems like a nightmare. I hope these comments are helpful.</p>
<p>I want the kids to return to school as long as their is safety protocols in place without being too overtop that's the kids are scared. I have a 1st grader and a new kindergartener coming into the fall and I don't want them to be scared of the protocols are too ridiculous to follow. I also want the kids and teachers to be safe. As Massachusetts are numbers are really low right now and as long as they continue like this I think we should be able to send the kids to school in the fall. Remote learning will be very hard for me as I'm an essential worker(nurse) and my husband also works full time and cannot work from home. This past spring was very challenging so if we do have to do remote learning some of this burden needs to be taken off working parents who can't do it all. There needs to be a better system in place. I also feel like in the fall while the weather is still nice, can they do some teaching outside? Just a thought if they are going to take recess away from the kids to atleast get them outside in the nice weather. Hoping for the best.</p>
<p>My preference is for at least some in-person learning in the fall. However, I will have serious concerns if the district is not able to follow guidelines that will ensure that everyone (including teachers and staff) can stay safe. Thank you!</p>
<p>I think it is important to make virtual learning mandatory and grades to motivate students. Students need to have grades on report cards and get Fred back about virtual assignments.</p>
<p>If learning was remote, there will Need to be marked improvements in the way it is done as compared to how it was done in the Spring to keep on par with how in person learning is.</p>
<p>I strongly object to children having to wear a mask in school. I would propose appropriate social distancing so that masks do not have to be worn. I feel the children's ability to learn will be negatively impacted by them wearing a mask in school.</p>
<p>Mask wearing for faculty, staff, and students should be mandatory and universal at the high school level, to include appropriate sanctions for non-compliance. This is a public health emergency and masks have been proven to be the best currently available tool for mitigation of the spread of the disease. Leadership is needed on this matter. Additionally, social activities and engagement are so crucial to development and socialization at the high school level - clubs, extracurriculars, etc., and not just sports - so there needs to be some effort devoted to keeping these activities going.</p>
<p>I was surprised to see the low % rates of parents who thought masks were important. Mandatory masks and a plan for enforcement are a must for HS. It is the most reasonable way to limit spread especially given that they might be sitting in the same room with the same people for a good portion of the day. Plans for more rigorous and engaged learning in remote capacity that works actively to not only keep students on track academically but also works to build community to mitigate the effects of social isolation.</p>
<p>Influenza (flu) vaccines should Be made mandatory. The combination of flu and COVID will be very hard to manage.</p>
<p>Please consider working parents when creating remote learning opportunities. I also feel that schools need to limit the amount of printing that students need to do at home. Is there any way to create packets or make all written work able to be completed on the computer without the need to print worksheets? When considering reopening, it would be nice to give choice because one solution definitely does not work for all families. If students are to go to school on certain days in the hybrid model, please consider making students from the same family attend school on the same day even if they are at different schools. Many older siblings need to help their younger siblings. If they are not at school on the same day, families will have trouble finding care for the younger siblings.</p>
<p>A hybrid school year would be extremely difficult for parents with essential jobs. Essential state employees should be given more options than parents who have the ability to work from home.</p>
<p>Please think of the safety of ALL personnel that will be inside the school buildings. There is not enough evidence to show that children truly do not spread the virus like adults do; there is too much about this virus that is still unknown. Teachers and staff will be at a huge risk being in an enclosed room with students for 6.5 hours a day. If the district does reopen, please consider mandating masks for all students in all grades. The PreK, K, and 1 teachers should be protected just as much as grade 2 and up. I also would suggest giving parents and families some visuals as to what exactly the school will look like with safety protocols in place, and also an idea of what the physical distancing measures would entail and how that affects instruction. Instruction while adhering to the safety protocols will most likely not be very developmentally appropriate (at least in the early childhood classrooms), with little opportunity to socialize as the way parents are envisioning. We support 100% remote learning, although we do believe the district would need to make some changes in how it is implemented and how students are held accountable.</p>
<p>We have no vaccine. The virus is not under control nor does the federal government feel responsible to assist the people in any way. We live in a time when personal responsibility and safety are truly in our own hands. Unfortunately I'm not even sure if I still believe in community.</p>
<p>I hope that students can return to school with all restrictions including masks and social distancing. Remote learning didn't work. Students were very disconnected with the teachers, friends and not really learning. I am all for in person learning. We will do whatever it take and be flexible as possible to make it work.</p>

<p>A hybrid model is the most sensible and practical option to go with. This will allow the students, teachers and staff to adjust to an in-person school while adjusting to the new COVID related procedures. In addition if there is another shutdown due to COVID outbreaks (as predicted by Health officials) the students and schools will be positioned to adjust to remote only. A return to in-person school at this time is going to be costly and will require a significant adjustment period for students and teachers for daily screening, disinfecting and distancing procedures. This will cut into class time which a hybrid model would mitigate. Since the outbreak of COVID19 PPE supply chains have been strained resulting in mass shortages in health care and human services (I work in the field and was involved in these issues). If school systems open up across the county along with the current increased outbreaks in the US these supply chains will be taxed again and WRSD should expect and plan for PPE shortages in any return to school model.</p>
<p>The list of screening symptoms in the attached documents are outdated. It does not include the 3 different types of rash and COVID toes that are now known to be very common forms of COVID19 infections in younger people. There is recent data showing that, when tested for COVID19, patients with rash and/or COVID toes are positive for the virus. In addition, the idea that young people do not spread the disease is wrong (see data from Texas and Florida).</p> <p>I am also concerned about what would happen if my son gets COVID and needs to be isolated. Would he have access to remote learning? What is the protocol for that. I don't want my son to miss a lot of classes and have a hard time catching up. Not all teachers are good about the make-up work. As I write this, I strongly feel that the full time in person model should be discarded. There's no way you can accomplish sufficient social distancing with such a large high school population. You don't have COVID19 testing in place. You would need to test each staff and student every 3 days in order to be able to do contact tracing and avoid starting a big outbreak in the school and the surrounding communities. It is a disaster waiting to happen and, if all schools in the state choose this route, we'll end up isolating the whole state again. The most safe model is full distance learning model. Most high school classes can be taught synchronously via Zoom or Google meet. High school students (or at least most students) should be able to adapt to this. It is not as good as in person but we are living in the middle of a serious pandemic. Pretending we can go on business as usual seems immature and foolish. However, the lack human/social interaction in the online model is a concern. I think a hybrid model in which students can have one or two in person classes a week (no more than that) would be beneficial. That social interaction encourages connection to the school, teachers and friends. The higher risk may be easier to manage with the proposed guidelines. It would also be great if some small (10 or less) club activity (with masks) that meet once a week be available. Physical education such as basketball, football etc should not happen (unless is tennis). For the record, I'm a Professor of microbiology.</p>
<p>Please let us know the plan quickly so accommodations can be made for things like transportation, internet speed, work schedules etc.</p>
<p>Be honest with yourself, parents and your students. The school district is not capable of providing the same quality of education with Hybrid or on-line only instruction.</p>
<p>If there is a Hybrid Model, the schedule must have siblings on the same schedule whenever possible. I really think the idea of in school/remote learning be examined more. Such that teachers/staff (and students) willing and able to go back to the classroom, can teach and learn face to face while at the same time reaching students remaining home remotely (via video/zoom, google, etc). Also, if students will not be allowed break times/recess, specials and/or switching of classes, required to wearing of masks, etc. the school day should be shortened by an hour or so if possible. Thank you</p>
<p>Thanks for all the hard work!</p>
<p>You need to provide training to the teachers so they can deliver quality online learning. Also require zoom instruction not weekly optional meet ups. Also require teachers to put in grades in a timely manner so parents can gauge kids progress. Get rid of pass/fail grading. This spring was a very bad example of remote teaching.</p>
<p>I guess I am wondering why college students are being told they will be going back to school remotely, but younger children are being welcomed into the school buildings. That's my only concern because it leaves me wondering how it's any different for them. I certainly want to educate my child and I want what's best for her, but her safety is my number one priority during this pandemic. Thank you for sending me this survey and including the parent community in your decisions moving forward. Be well.</p>
<p>At the moment, my wife and I are uncomfortable sending our daughter to school at this time and considering our options. We are concerned that colleges, and things like the RMV are not opening but Grad school children are okay to go to school. I personally do not feel there is not a nationwide standard across the board that makes me feel confident sending my daughter back to school.</p>
<p>Concerns about a child that has a compromised immune system (which we do) - in person learning is not acceptable. Also knowing earlier than later about what the reopening plan will be would better for Teachers, parents and students - so everyone can plan accordingly.</p>
<p>Consistency, please.</p>
<p>To follow the science and not the politics.</p>
<p>Has there been any consideration given to utilizing tents for outdoor classrooms as a means to lessen the chance of spread? Outdoor learning has shown to be a successful way to learn. There are many models across the globe that exist and studies to back it up. Is the district incorporating any of this into planning?</p>
<p>All work submitted by a student must be reviewed and feedback provided.</p>
<p>If learning is a hybrid of in person and remote the rotation shouldn't be less than the incubation period of COVID. So 14 days in school then 14 days remote to further help prevent spread.</p>
<p>I absolutely will not send my child if 100% of the students are back. I don't believe you can keep them or our family safe Without a hybrid model.</p>
<p>100% return to school will not be safe given today's medical knowledge of COVID-19. We would not send our students to in-person education without at minimum hybrid model.</p>
<p>As parents, we are concerned that if 1 child or teacher gets sick, it will spread and everything would be shut down again.</p>
<p>Is there a plan for if students become ill? How and when would parents be notified? What does that mean for the class? The school?</p>
<p>Looking at the reopening plan, it seems like the risk is very similar between the hybrid and in-person models. Does the district have the space required in each of the schools to de-densify the classrooms for a fully in-person experience?</p>
<p>Prefer remote learning until confidently safe for in class learning.</p>
<p>The middle school remote learning was unacceptable and needs to be improved. The elementary school remote learning was fine.</p>

<p>Because of the nature of kindergarten we would ask to hold our child back 1 year (and start at TPS next year) if the plan is to be 100% remote or unsafe in-person (if a politically mandated in-person opening happens instead of evidence-based). We're wondering if you would consider opening more in-person classes for the younger kids, de-densified across all buildings in the district, and holding more online classes for the older kids? (Instead of 50-50 time for all ages?) Thank you for everything you're doing!</p>
<p>I feel as though measures can be taken to be safe in classrooms, and this virus is something that will be here forever now. I don't believe we can wait for a vaccine to resume regular schooling, as it may be years for a safe vaccine to be ready. A year and a half or more of no schooling will set these kids back too far.</p>
<p>If any type of remote learning is implemented, parents who work full time will be unable to assist their children with class work. Zoom class meetings can not be mandatory as younger aged children that need assistance may not have it until after 6pm in the evenings. Any plan must be a weekly a plan and allow time for working parents to become the teachers for their kids. They should also be compensated for their work and receive tax breaks since they will be educating their own children.</p>
<p>Going back to school in some capacity is necessary for my kids' education.</p>
<p>Kids have to go to school. If they don't Parents will have to quit their jobs to stay home for remote learning leading to having to sell their homes and move somewhere cheaper as there will be a lack of income to support the families. All of this is doing more damage to the children then anyone. They are being robbed of their experiences and friends. If people are scared then they should stay home and figure out their own plan and let the rest open up and move ahead. This is all bulls**t more people die of the flu then this every year. They have a shot for the flu and a lot of people don't get it what makes anyone think that when there is a shot for covid that they will get that either.</p>
<p>doubtful that in person schooling can be done safely</p>
<p>As of July 17, the national trends are truly disheartening in regards to the way the federal government and part of the public have responded to the Pandemic; the conversations on school reopenings need to be based on experts and data. I'm seriously concerned about the health and well being of our educators, staff, and students in the district. With numbers shifting quickly, I don't feel confident to send my children to school. Although the online experience was different last spring, I was very appreciative of the great work my children's teachers made with the tools available. I believe budgets should fully address all the needs the district will need to keep the lives of our teachers, staff, and students a top priority. Thank you.</p>
<p>My question is that, if the students are in school (whether hybrid or full time), what will happen when another student or teacher in their class tests positive for the virus. Will the entire class then need to quarantine for 14 days? And if so, how will these students participate in the in-class portion of the learning if they are now forced to stay home.</p>
<p>We appreciate your hard work.</p>
<p>For those students who struggle with certain subjects and remote or hybrid learning is implemented would In person tutoring be available?</p>
<p>Safety is my greatest concern</p>
<p>If a hybrid model is used I hope it involves in person learning each week vs every other week.</p>
<p>I would not consider 100% in person learning a safe measure at this time and therefore the Fall semester. I would reconsider in November timeframe based on the condition of the country and vaccine news.</p>
<p>I prefer remote learning but as teachers/school clinician my husband and I will need to work. Childcare is an issue. I'm very concerned for safety. ***It would be ideal for the district to start first quarter remote and use this time in summer to improve online learning practices.**** Then develop a hybrid model depending on cases in the fall.</p>
<p>Good survey. I hope the data can help guide decision-making and resource allocation. As you most certainly know, this data is a snapshot, with school still ~1 month away. We've not seen the impact of Phase 3 in MA. You might consider re-issuing the survey if we see any numbers trending in the wrong direction in MA or New England. People that selected hybrid, like myself, could be on the fence between hybrid and 100% remote and will likely shift in the direction of 100% remote. This is so hard friends. Thank you for all your hard work.</p>
<p>If we go 100% remote learning, Wachusett should have all elementary schools with the same work requirement expectation. In the spring, Houghton 1st graders were completing two assignments a day and other elementary schools were completing two a week. Regarding the work load, if remote, elementary teachers should communicate a lower expectation to ALL parents at the beginning. Not after we have complained about the heavy work load. If we go remote, Wachusett should strongly consider alternatives to formalized education and provide children more opportunity for play-based learning and less worksheets and youtube videos to watch. You have an opportunity to do a better job starting the remote learning process this time around. You should take it.</p>
<p>My son had ADHD and he will not learn anything if 100 percent remote learning is selected for this coming year. I am very concerned about that.</p>
<p>I am not sure I am comfortable with my children returning to school. We are hoping for a plan from school soon so we can figure out things on our end with work and our children's schedules.</p>
<p>How can parents who work full time have a child learn remotely? Some child DO NOT learn remotely. Maybe they need structure of in person learning. It's not fair to the students and parents.</p>
<p>I wonder if some sort of phased approach to start the year might help ease the worries of teachers, students and parents? In other words maybe, start hybrid with select grade levels (ie pre-3), then phase in other grades as the kinks get worked out? Then move on to 100% full time if successful with earlier phases? I personally am not worried about sending my kids full time as trends in our county have been on a positive track.</p>
<p>We need to get kids back in school . Parents need to work too.</p>
<p>Let's take the safest approach to be on the safer side of things. Remote learning is OK but 1 hour, once a week ZOOM sessions are not adequate. Need once a day sessions at least.</p>
<p>I want to hear from the district facility manager what is being done in the buildings to keep everyone safe. I myself am a facility manager in an essential service call center so I have been at work everyday since this started. One way hallways, mandatory mask wearing in non PE classes and moving between classes are needed. Plexiglass areas for the teachers near their desks to teach behind. Increased ventilation for the cafeteria workers. Hand sanitizer stations should be installed throughout the buildings at regular intervals, if not in each classroom. My rising junior needs social interaction beyond her laptop Zoom classes. This coming year is so important for these kids to show that the adults in their lives are capable in managing during crisis. I am a firm believer in public school for K-12, but will look at private school if that is what it takes to ensure in person instruction.</p>

I'm not comfortable sending them back to school, but need to balance their mental health needs. If their friends were all at school, it would be hard on them to stay home. My 5th grader has adhd and struggled with remote learning. She has a 504 and would need additional support to succeed with remote learning.
As a public health professional, but also a mother, I understand that there is no one solution that will work for everyone. I strongly encourage the district to do as much remote learning as possible, because the first instance of a kid who gets severely ill, or the first family member or teacher who dies, will do irreversible damage to the mental and emotional health of the entire school. I do not envy anyone in a decision-making role right now, and I wish you luck in making the best choices possible.
consider parent input on preferred days for their children to accommodate work schedules if hybrid learning is adopted, perhaps through another survey
Could any in-person time be delayed for a month or two until weather cools down? It would be challenging for students and staff to wear masks in hot weather. I am okay with delaying any in-person time until January or March as long as the students are held to the same standards for remote learning as they would be for regular in-person (graded, etc.). My son is anxious because he is entering 6th grade (Middle School at Paxton Center School), so he doesn't want to miss any in-person orientation, but he is fine with remote learning. Thank you.
I am in favor of in-person school as much as possible. Academically and socially, the last few months have been very hard for them.
If schools go back to an in person or hybrid format, I think it is highly likely that, at some point, a parent will send their child to school knowing they may have covid symptoms because they need the child care. If considering reopening, please have a plan for this scenario.
I would hope remote learning would include more class conferencing throughout the week and teachers would be providing regular feedback on the assigned work. It is unclear to me how teacher's would be evaluating the needs of each student, identifying their strengths and areas where they can improve or need assistance. How can they get 1:1 times like they MSU in the classroom.
This is not information, but instead my opinion: Just because you *can* reopen in fall doesn't mean you *should*. It's very important to weigh the risks of COVID transmission among students and others in their household against the benefits of a face-to-face learning experience that is liable to be so logistically complicated that it ends up being a weak experience for students. Is it really worth the risks to deliver an educational experience that is, say, only half as productive and interactive as a normal year? What happens when the rate of COVID in Worcester County starts to creep upward again? Would it be better to provide a robust online experience from the outset? As someone who is dealing with these issues at the university level, things are far from clear and certain, and we are going to need some seriously smart and bold leadership, at all levels, in order to get through this.
Personally, remote learning would be best for us, just too risky, plus (as many other families do as well I'm sure) we have an elderly family member living with us(92 years old now, 93 in December), and we would prefer remote learning.
If remote, should be full length classroom teaching for full day. Not assignments with just office hours for help
I feel a hybrid model is impossible for many working parents. If there is only remote learning, we need less worksheets that need to be printed at home, and more direct teaching videos.
All teachers need to follow a unified front in terms of how work is assigned and communicated (Google Classroom) and not in a bunch of different places (email and such).
I can't imagine these kids & teachers returning to school in late Aug / early Sept with masks in the heat. At least start with remote learning in the beginning of the year till mid to late Sept. I understand why you need to require masks except breathing carbon dioxide all day long is like breathing exhaust fumes from your car....
Any remote learning must be better implemented with consistent schedules and interaction with teachers and peers. There was barely any interaction offered and no feedback from teachers in the last quarter. There needs to be live instruction to the class from teachers and not just assignments.
Please stop allowing a union to dictate our children's education! We have a right to educate our kids. Anyone that chooses not to send their children to school, or not to work, are welcome to do at home schooling or take a leave of absence. We should not be penalized from the fear of a minority. Stop the insanity, institute some critical/rational thinking for once, I beg you! Read the science, understand the science, and don't allow the unsilent minority to fear monger the district into making poor, unsound choices.
The children NEED to learn from a teacher. My husband and I are first responders and have been working thru covid. The children's education is suffering drastically between finding time and tools to teach them.
I hope teacher training has been ongoing during the summer around remote learning delivery. In the spring, you were slow out of the gate and it was all pretty much independent study; of my many fears, one is that the teachers won't be prepared to deliver robust online learning from the start (re no training) and thus outcomes will be as inadequate as they were in the spring.
I believe the hybrid model is the best option given the current crisis. The in school model will work for maybe 6 wks, if that. The remote model is quite detrimental to the social development of our children. This situation is a disaster that will not improve with the current leadership of our country. Hoping our country begins to turn this disaster around on November 3rd with the election of Joe Biden. Without new direction for our country, 2020 will be worse than 1918.
Due to my chronic asthma, I am considered a high risk individual when it comes to contraction COVID-19. Children, while susceptible, have a much higher rate of survival than those over 70 or those at high risk, like myself. Not to mention that studies are just being done on the more long term affects of the disease after recovery. All that said, it's too much of a risk for all involved to send children into the schools at this time. The technology for remote learning exists and should be utilized to it's fullest capacity in order to educate out children. COVID19 aside, this is an opportunity to leverage technology in the education space when it comes to grade schools. Colleges have been doing this with great success for years and I see no reason why Grade schools cannot implement something similar.
The sooner we know the plan the better as we are a two parent working household and need to arrange childcare immediately if our children are not going back full time.
If any or all teaching is remote, teachers need training and clear expectations. I wish some time this summer or before the year starts could be spent training teachers on how to work together in teams to create and deliver remote lessons, plan for a Zoom schedule for each grade level, and improve the quality of the learning boards that were sent out weekly at the elementary level. What we saw in the spring was unacceptable. We need teachers teaching, even if it's remote. It can be done!
I appreciate the magnitude of this decision and want to ensure the health and safety of our children and teachers is taken into consideration.

We will be ready for in-person learning when masks are no longer required to be worn. 6.5 hours in a mask for a child or adult is too much on top of all the other protocols of no contact that will be in place.
If the model WRSD decides to go with is remote or hybrid, I hope there is some kind of platform ALL teachers will use for the online portion of learning. This past quarter was difficult as many teachers did not use google classroom. Some used their own websites, some used google classroom, etc and it was hard to know where all the info was. I also hope the online education is more robust than it was in the spring.
If it is going to be remote I feel it should be somewhat the same schedule as school changing classes every 40mins, all day and not having kids do work at their own pace and time. They stay in bed too late and are not motivated enough while I'm at work to do all the work and needed me to push them when I got home so then they worked all evening as well. They should have attendance and have to check in and participate and they should have no homework to do at night if they are in their rooms or computer area all day! It's too much. My kids spent every waking moment on school during spring and still barely passed. It was so unhealthy mentally to be in your room around the clock but that is where computer is and with no motivation to teach yourself they worked on school "slowly" morning, noon and night. My son moved from bed to Computer. Maybe if it's hybrid only homework Every other week. Both of my kids are super shy and do NOT do well with zoom and direct eye contact but at the same time need to be present in a classroom. I hope their will be an option to present in zoom but have camera turned off so they can see teacher but they can't see them. The have to have mandatory zoom or they will NOT participate. This is what happen in spring. Show up for google hangout or do this worksheet for credit. So he would choose worksheet but then not do well because he's trying to teach himself the material and do it. He NEEDS the classroom and so does my daughter. I vote for back to school 100 but if not hybrid with homework only on the week off! Learn in classroom and go home next week and do this work from what you learned. Kids should be staying home if any family members sick. Portable sinks installed to wash or use sanitizer before and after you enter classroom or cafeteria. Kids should have temperature checks coming into school every morning
It's not safe to go back. No company has any indoor meetings planned for next year. Everything is done remotely so why would our kids and teachers have to risk their lives by going back in a poor ventilated building!
Please provide quality metrics and transparency on school building environment. What are the standards for safety? Do all classrooms meet this standard?
I'm all for full opening as long as there are appropriate, reasonable protocols. I don't feel like this needs to be a jail like environment for our children. I believe that strict health guidelines should be in place such as even a slight fever, parents should keep the children home. I want all the kids learning experience to be what is best for the kids. I feel that is in person learning with other kids. We need our children to be with other people and learn to properly socialize with others. Thank you for your time.
Look at what colleges are doing. Film classes(if in person)and run them online, even if not in real time for those sick or doing online. You need to prepare for the ebb and flow of people in isolation and quarantine. Also it will encourage students to stay home if they don't feel well. If fully online, go to synchronous format. Students need to interact with teacher and classmates in real time. Asking the teacher questions through email was frustrating. It took forever and some teachers are not good at explaining through email. And their assignment directions made no sense. But you have to have something available to those who can't be home during the day. Also, how can you make the high school classes smaller face to face? With such specific classes taught by sometimes only one person, that is a scheduling nightmare. Can older students do a mix of online and face to face classes (English meets in person but economics meets online with drop in face to face support) like colleges are doing? Can you use outdoor space even just to give cleaning time for classrooms and cafeteria? I will drive my high schooler but the traffic is already crazy. Definitely need a system to manage increased traffic if in person.
We would prefer to stay home , but the home / virtual instruction in the spring was horrible. My 6th grader learned nothing , my fourth grader had Ms. Miller and once she got up to speed with the technology , had strong expectations for the kids which was appreciated. From our experience and others very few teachers put the level of effort and rigor that Miller did, while most parents saw it as a waste of time. If the state could point us to several reviewed and well executed and experienced virtual schools that would be the most helpful thing at this point.
We recognize and appreciate the dedicated efforts of all those who are putting extensive time and energy to figure out how to best provide public education to the kids in this district during these troubling and unprecedented times. Based on the information we have received from numerous sources, we do not feel safe sending our children back to school in the fall, regardless of mask and personal distancing requirements, 50% alternating attendance proposals, and ramped-up sanitization protocol. This does not in any way reflect the great respect and appreciation we have for all the educators, administrators, food service providers, and janitorial staff - all of we know are deeply committed to doing everything possible to keep our children safe. Our family will most likely opt to home school this coming academic year. We have been hearing that we are not alone with this decision and that a number of other families in Sterling are leaning in the same direction. If there is indeed a significant number of families in the district who make the choice to home-school, is there any chance that the WRSD could provide some resources (teachers, educational materials, and curriculum development assistance) to these families? It seems to me that as a society, we have a unique opportunity to "de-centralize" public education (at least temporarily) through a cooperative approach to homeschooling. This would include groups of families working together with both direct and indirect support from WRSD to continue their childrens' education. In this model, there could be a core of teachers who made rotating house-calls to home-based "teaching hubs" where they could support and enrich the educational efforts of small groups of 5-10 participating families at a time. It could be similar to the neighborhood school model of times past. These teachers could function like extension workers. This would allow for the maintaining of a greater degree of social distancing than would be possible in the school setting even at 50% capacity. It would also likely help maintain a greater degree of community cohesion than having a patchwork of home-schooling families operating on their own. I would be happy to flesh out this concept further with WRSD administrators and other local families if it is of interest to others.
Health is the number one priority in our family. We support remote learning and feel it should be more instructional this time around. It should be focused on Math, writing, and Reading with some science and social studies integrated. Art, music, and PE at the elementary level should be much less than a quarter of the instructional time as was in the spring. Training should be provided to parents and students in regards to the platform being used. Google meets continues to have many glitches. Proper training and educational resources should be given to the teacher in order to ensure remote learning could be maximized and more effective. Health and safety training prior to kids going back would be vital.
Bus Safety will need to be addressed
I am truly concerned about full in person schooling- I do not think that is safe, and would worry about how the staff would keep the school properly sanitized. I recognize the need to be in school, but would much prefer a hybrid model for the safety of my children, teachers, staff, and bus drivers.

<p>Please please please do not succumb to pressures of deadlines to make the best decision for our students, teachers, and staff. This is an unprecedented time in our life, and no one knows the right answers. This too shall pass in time, let's please make the absolute safest and best decisions for the health and safety for everyone in the district. The kids will not be "behind"... this historical time period will be with us far into the future, but losing loved ones to get the kids back in school is just not acceptable. I get it, we need to move forward, but let's do it slowly and cautiously. This is the most opportune time to embrace technology and use it to our advantage. Also, has anyone thought about the HVAC systems in the schools and the associated air flow? I didn't see that in the report... I am having a hard time believing that students should be back in schools when my office is operating on a 25% capacity level.</p>
<p>As a parent, and teacher, of an incoming kindergartner I am concerned if students do not have at least some in school time. How can children who have never been to school start their school experience remotely? My daughter is excited about starting kindergarten. Academically, students young students will not learn as effectively as they would if they were in the building full time. The younger grades are critical in the process of building life long learners and not returning to school will be creating huge achievement gaps. If WRSD does not have some in school face-to-face time with their teachers and peers, I may have to look into other options. I hope the reopening committee really thinks hard about what a disservice it would be to students if they do strictly remote. As an educator, I can tell you that remote teaching last spring did not work well and students did not learn like they would if they were in school. It really saddens me that my daughter, who is excited about going into kindergarten, is starting her schooling this way.</p>
<p>Replace classroom learning with outdoor lessons and activities as much as possible. Refine remote coursework to reduce printing, copying, scanning and allow children to submit their own assessments electronically or make submitting easier for parents.</p>
<p>Need to be clear guidelines on all the "what if's" What if a student tests positive?, What if a teacher tests positive? How many positives before a shutdown?</p>
<p>When planning for remote learning, please consider the need for flexibility for families with two working parents. Having prerecorded sessions from a teacher to stream when convenient, and then asking students to sign up for a weekly time to meet with their teacher for discussion and feedback would be a much better option than requiring specific times that a student needs to be online to participate in Google classroom or Zoom. Also, for younger students, an individual online meeting with teachers would be so much more productive than group sessions. Having too many participants in an online meeting is distracting even for adults, and I feel that it would be very difficult for young children to focus in this setting. Maybe an occasional class or small group meet so they can have some interaction with their peers, but to accomplish all of their learning goals they should be allowed to stream their lessons independently. Kids don't all learn at the same pace even in a classroom setting and when they are forced to be online for long periods of time with others who are not at the same level, it would not benefit anyone. Some will be bored and others will be lost and fall behind. Teachers may have more difficulty assessing student needs when their interaction is in a large group of distracted kids. I understand the goal would be to bring them together as they would be in a classroom, but the reality is, if they are not in a classroom, we need to modify how curriculum is delivered so everyone can get the most out of it. I am hoping that the plan for remote learning will be feasible, as I do not want to independently homeschool. I want my child to be able to be a part of this district, even if not in a brick and mortar building. Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback, I appreciate all the work you are doing to ensure the best choices for all involved.</p>
<p>In person makes me very nervous however my 504 student cannot learn effectively with remote only and he's going into his senior year.</p>
<p>Please try make plans similar to other districts so parents who are teachers can have an easier time finding care on remote days when they have to work. I understand other jobs have had to and continue to have to find care because their jobs have not been as flexible as teacher's. But causing us all to scramble just makes a bigger mess all around.</p>
<p>Remote learning in the spring was a mess. My son's second grade teacher completely checked out and I felt like my son spent more time (and tears) learning to type on a computer than he did learning the curriculum. I did not tell <the principal> how unhappy we were because I'm so non-confrontational but it was a mess and I was so disappointed with the lack of presence from his teacher. If hybrid school is chosen, I "need" to know, before I can decide whether to send him back, if paper (worksheets & workbooks) will be sent home or if everything from home will be online. I will homeschool if the work is to be done all on the computer. I also need to know whether they will be assigned last year's teacher or if they will be following the traditional plan of moving up to the next grade teachers before deciding, as well. If it's all remote learning, I plan to homeschool. I don't want to spend hours trying to edit google docs and PowerPoint slides at the expense of his actual 3rd grade education.</p>
<p>Kids in the classroom</p>
<p>Please do the safest option for the students and teachers. While in person may be the best way to educate students it may not be the safest. The children will find new ways to connect with their peers and adults and that shouldn't be the driving reason so get them back in the classroom. Also I hope that the learning plans will be more robust than they were in the spring.</p>
<p>Safety measures for students with underlying health issues that would rather be in school</p>
<p>Both parents in the household work full time and are considered essential employees. While I have no idea how I would manage child care and schooling if the decision was made for remote learning only,, I am extremely concerned about going back to school. I think it would be great if there was some way to truly limit the amount of people that everyone is in contact with.</p>
<p>I really hope full in-person learning takes place. Remote learning does not work for my family.</p>
<p>By not sending the children back to school, the district is essentially killing my wife's career and will not be able to work due to the demands of the children's schedules.</p>
<p>My child going into 6th grade is in summer school now and I like the way it is set up (30 minutes of Ela and 30 min of math, then time to do work for an hour, then go back 30 min Of each class again for questions). He also has speech services in the summer that are 1:1 on google classroom. I'm hoping there is some sort of set up like this for next year. I'm hoping there is more accountability for the teachers to teach and the students to participate whether remote or hybrid.</p>
<p>For my high school student, taking away your AP and honors art program will mean we need to find another option. This will impact her college options and scholarships. As for driving as soon as she has her license I would allow her to drive to school.</p>
<p>If the students are to have on line class only then I will be exploring other options. I was less than satisfied with the level and quality of on line schooling for our 2 Nd grader now going into 3 rd grade. I think it's important to note what working parents will be doing if it's online learning only</p>

We feel that in person learning is extremely important in the educational process. Face to face discussions and interactions are vital to help learners see topics from a variety of viewpoints. Discussion prompts more questions & much needed interactions. My child is entering her senior year at WRHS & the face to face socialization and learning is imperative to her preparation for entering college in the fall 2021. They have already missed out on a lot of the learning process & preparations for college. While understanding the challenges of Covid-19, we feel in person schooling to some degree is necessary. We have multiple family members who work in healthcare on the front lines, elderly and at-risk family members so we are not discounting the seriousness of the pandemic.
My son feels that he gets far more being in the classroom where he can see and hear the teacher; than the way remote learning occurred over the past Spring. We will support any decisions you make; keeping our Children's, teacher's and staff's safety your first priority.
100% in favor of in classroom learning.
Fall athletic program
This is all so hard. Thank you for your hard work making these decisions!
To take the safest measures possible for any and all outcomes
Children learn better with in person instruction. This is even true of highly intelligent students. They must be in school!!
I don't feel that it is safe to reopen schools at this time. Especially with the anticipation of a second surge. However the remote learning option needs to be improved upon vastly, or we will be forced to look for other options for our children.
They should NOT reopen.
We feel as if the high school has too many students to implement effective safety measures with an 100 % in Session schedule . A combination of juniors and seniors two days a week in person with the rest online is optimal
If all or even half of the students are in school the chance of spreading the virus jumps dramatically to not only other students but to their families at home
I understand that you trying to find options to teach students however you don't take into consideration at all for the parents that have to actually go to work all day then when they get home start teaching their child. I have observed the teachers in my neighborhood enjoy their 5-6 months off each day sitting outside and walking the neighborhoods while the working parents go to work. For the 15 minutes it took to place lesson plans Online, which I felt were poorly put together, I'm not in favor of remote learning at all. You are asking parents to do your job as teachers plus work their own profession while you sit at home an relax and enjoy getting paid to sit outside in your yards. This is the same as if you came to my place of employment and I gave you a video to watch and expect you to do my job while I sit outside in my pool. How would you feel towards remote learning?
This is my second submission. I previously submitted this survey on the day it was sent out, but over the last week, with more thought and seeing the number of children getting covid around the country, I've changed my mind on a couple of responses in this survey. First, I have now decided that if school is held fully in person, my children will stay home for remote learning. Second, if the SC chooses hybrid, my children will only attend if 6ft of social distancing is maintained (3ft is not safe enough), and masks are worn by all. Third, I have no problem with my kids doing remote learning as long as it is greatly improved from the spring. I truly believe all of my kids' teachers did well with having to switch to remote learning so quickly with no experience and I applaud their efforts. However, there is plenty of time over the summer break to develop a consistent, district-wide, academically rigorous plan for the 2020-2021 school year, whether it's live streamed daily, or pre-recorded lessons/lectures, or outsourced to an established remote learning program.
This questionnaire is difficult for me to answer right now. I teach in a different district and am not sure of our school's plan for teaching and learning yet. I do feel strongly that all schools should begin the new school year with a remote only learning plan, but may need my daughter to attend school because I am a single working parent.
I do not believe it is safe for children & teachers to return to school. I applaud our teachers for the online work they did the the spring, given the need to pivot so quickly. My only request in future, online learning is that all elementary teachers use the same platform & systems for presenting work—I found learning 3 different systems last spring to be rather difficult. Thank you for the opportunity to share.
If students are at home for any or all of the week, my expectation is that they would each have a minimum of 2hrs online classroom daily. The response to the pandemic at the end of school this year was extremely disappointing. Both my children had half hr of zoom with their class once a week. And my older daughters (2nd grade) teacher only read a chapter of a book with no participation. This can not be tolerated next school year. I speak for many parents when I say my trust in Holden schools is shaken. It appears to me that there has been no effort to recognize the failures and no plan how to move forward. I am concerned for next year.
How will you coordinate siblings on the hybrid plan?
Wear mask and wash hands
Open the schools! Since when is educating kids not essential?! The American academy of pediatrics endorsed schools reopening. Too infectious disease doctors at MGH endorse reopening school! We can't hide in our homes forever. Millions of people in MA are back to work! Our 5 towns have less than 200 cases, enough already!
We would love to have our daughter back in school, however, request that the District err on the side of caution and safety for students and staff in reopening. We are completely fine with remote learning or delaying the start of school if the state's case numbers increase or if the state needs to shutdown again.
Our children need school mask, no mask, distancing not distancing, this is one of the best things we can do, give them back some normalcy
Students shouldn't be returning to school until next Jan. or when there is a vaccine. The push to return is ridiculous and we will opt out. Once a teacher tests positive it's all downhill from there. Everyone will have to quarantine.
Is Paxton improving internet options? We literally can't purchase more options and the internet is unreliable.
In school option is the only option if we truly care about students social and emotional well being
This article addresses how tens of thousands of kids were OK during the peak. https://www.npr.org/2020/06/24/882316641/what-parents-can-learn-from-child-care-centers-that-stayed-open-during-lockdowns
We won't be able to sustain remote learning to long, it is very taxing to our day to day activities and work.

When concerning remote learning I feel that MV teachers Need to have a model to follow so all teaching methods ie zoom etc is the same. Teachers need to be more accessible. Extra help zoom meetings (ESP. Math) needs to be offered. Teachers need to have more communication with parents on checking in with how things are going on at home.
Board of Pediatrics said children should be in schools. This virus didn't just show up one day in March. It was already in our communities and the schools were fine. We can't live in fear and let politics play a role in our children's lives. It is 2020 and I'm fighting for my child to attend school. It's absurd. There are working parents and single parents who can't be home all day and can't help if the district chooses remote learning. My child has an iep and needs services face to face. I say open the schools and for the people who don't want their kid to attend school, let them choose remote learning. Our children need the social interaction. Mental health is no joke. Suicide rates and depression have gone up. The risk of the virus doesn't outweigh all the other stuff. Please don't let politics and fear decide the fate for our children. The district should also think about the children in bad "homes" where they are abused and it's not reported. Also the children who have no food at home. We can't leave these children behind.
Schools cannot safely open until there is a vaccine for and effective treatment of COVID-19. Aside from a myriad of questions regarding how this could ever work, I do have one question. In the event of a fire drill, fire alarm, ALICE drill, or any situation where students and staff need to exit the building... how does this type of exercise NOT become a super spreader event?
I am truly concerned about the health and safety of our students and the staff at the school. I find it incredibly unsettling when I see the perspective in which many parents are viewing this from. I have seen many talk about how psychologically damaging it is to have children wear masks and not be able to socialize at school. They are not at all considering how far more psychologically damaging the loss of a family member or others in the community is on children's emotional well-being and sense of security. It is up to parents to set the example that mask wearing is not scary and normalize it as a way in which we are taking control and coming together as a community to battle the pandemic. To insist on the damage that mask wearing or remote learning is on kids is truly a stance from a community of parents that have been fortunate enough to not suffer the pain of a loss due to covid-19. The many people that have had a mild case of COVID-19 also use this as an excuse to minimize how truly horrific this disease can be. Even though severe cases effect only a small percentage of those that become infected, it is a number that would be considerably reduced had we had more selfless and educated people that were community oriented. The loss of one person or a severe case of covid has an exponential effect, by not simply affecting the person with a severe case, but also their loved ones with the stress of potentially losing them, having to care for them and worry about spreading it. What better message could we send to our kids than, wearing a mask during this is a beautiful gesture of respect and consideration for those you don't even know. When you see someone wearing a mask it shouldn't be scary because you can't see their face, parents should be sending the message that children can feel uplifted knowing that person cares about them, even as a complete stranger, enough to wear the cumbersome item to protect them. What better way to show children that we are taking control, not just on an individual level, but by banding together in solidarity to protect one another. Because even if only one death is prevented as we take mask precautions, that's one death in which we don't have a community suffering a loss or having children grapple with a death that was unnecessary.
Please don't offer classroom schooling, our children's lives at stake.
Remote learning does not work for all students. This should be taken into consideration, and parents should be given the option of in-school learning for the kids who struggle with remote schooling, if the capacity is available.
My son struggled with 4th quarter last year; I know that was unprecedented and everyone was thrown into it. Unfortunately, I felt and feel powerless to influence him to do better because of the unique mother-child dynamic at this age. He is bright but claimed it was hard to keep track of the different teachers' websites, assignment formats, etc.; that level of complexity does seem pretty advanced. I rely on and trust you all to formulate a plan for this fall/year that engages and supports the students! Thank you for all you do.
I am quite concerned about my 6th grader's learning needs being adequately addressed remotely. I also think it is a tremendous challenge to expect teachers to shift their entire instructional practices while jeopardizing their own health and safety.
I'd prefer in person or hybrid...and as many school activities that can be offered
I strongly support bringing the students back to campus!
Please change inclement weather days to remote learning days.
My oldest is craving socialization but my youngest is anxious about having to wear a mask all day. It is hard to find a balance, I wish you luck.
It is a hard decision. What will remote learning look like? Synchronous/Non synchronous zooms? Is Hybrid 2 full days a week? What happens on other days? What will be considered a "school day", how many hours, what does the state require? Will there be full grades, or pass/fail? I think a hybrid of some type is most likely, let's shape that model as a community. We are more flexible with only a high school student. Remote learning is easier for my kid than it is for a 5-10 year old. Maybe high school is fully remote, freeing up busses for elementary half day schedule?
Thanks for all the work you are doing to keep the kids safe and learning.
Hybrid option all of my children would need to be on the same schedule due to my work schedule.
I believe that students should return in person. I think the benefits outweigh the risks. The kids need the socialization. The remote learning is not effective.
My wife and I are both teachers in other districts. If there are 3 different plans that our household needs to deal with it will be extremely stressful on our family. We understand this is difficult process but it would be nice if districts coordinated plans.
I believe work needs to be scaled down when learning is remote.
Safety is the priority for all staff & students! The process provides a foundation for the possibility of switching between models if necessary! All wearing mask, social distances & washing hands as well!
Will there be special consideration for students who have special needs/mental health issues ie. Anxiety related to wearing masks ?
If online all work should be graded and teachers should be held accountable to make sure work is provided. Zoom calls should be mandatory. My rising sophomore did not have one zoom or face to face with her teachers during this quarantine.
You can't be seriously expecting kids to go back to school in person. Are you not watching what's going on around you? This is no joke.

<p>This must be the toughest position to be in and we value the hard decisions you all make. Where my child has an iep and I have a teaching background I would be okay with remote learning. We have access to computer and internet and would make sure he had whatever he needed. Our son has high functioning autism so our only concern would be the socializing piece he'd be missing if remote learning happened. May I suggest looking at how colleges do courses online? I know in some houses kids will be in different grades so it may be tricky for parents but if it's run like college online courses it could make it easier.</p> <p>Thank you and stay well</p>
School needs to open
Best of luck ! Thanks to all teachers for what they do during this unprecedented time..
Will need details on how school following protocols and for remote learning need frequent zoom teacher interaction
If school goes with a hybrid plan I think it's important that siblings be on the same schedule.
Would need specific, detailed info from district on in-school safety protocols to make decision about daily in-school attendance. Think hybrid may be best, if assurances for student, teacher and staff safety are principal focus. Would want to know district plan for when teachers and staff are ill and unable to teach?
We would need to know the specifics safety plan for students and teachers. We would like to know the district assessment of spring on-line learning. Please share details about what work have teachers been doing this summer to build their on-line skillets? Our internet service (Rutland) can intermittently be poor (>50mb). How would district technically support (wifi hotspots?) our student? There are several WRHS students in our neighborhood who would benefit from this support. We would like to hear more about the plan for social-emotional support in this plan.
My son expressed an interest in being able to at least meet his teachers in person at the beginning of the academic year..
Concerned about absentee policies knowing kids often have long-lasting colds
If there are some students who want to learn in school and students who want to learn remotely, there should be a way for the remote student to participate in the class via live stream. Colleges due it all the time, why can't Wachusett Regional IT team figure out how to do that?
I would need by kids to be going to school the sane days as one another for childcare reasons
If some one in school test positive for COVID-19, what will be the plan for a teacher, lunch personal, administrative staff, another child that has someone at home that test positive. Are all staff members will the be going to be required to take a Covid test On weekly basis? Whose going to clean all the areas several times a day? Desk, handles, chairs? Pens?
Get kids back in school!
I think the hybrid model is the safest to follow, but *much* more structure needs to be applied to the remote learning setup. Ensuring that a student connects at the proper time (and having set times to connect (perhaps on a zoom room model), providing prompt feedback to work that is submitted, and providing "office" hours in case the student requires a bit more attention/help are all things that would need some attention. I don't think that the schools are physically capable to providing an in-person experience compliant with published safety guidelines without drastic changes (perhaps attending in shifts (perhaps 3 on/3 off, including Saturday) or having a morning/evening session split could be designed to work around the inherent limitations of the school district's physical infrastructure.
My son is on an IEP, and I am extremely and equally concerned about both his safety and about his ability to progress to grade level in his learning.
No matter what happens, I think it will be critical to have consistency across the grades within the district. My child will be in 5th grade, so I especially think it is critical that there be consistency amongst all the 5th grade classes in Holden. Last year, there was none.
I think that teachers must all be trained on remote learning technology. None of us were prepared for last school year, so it makes sense that each teacher had their own comfort level with technology. This year we know that remote learning will play a role and this needs to be done right. For remote learning, I feel that teachers need to have at least once daily lessons with their students. They will need to use this time to teach. Last year, the only meetings we had were to check in and say hi. No teaching was done by the teacher, which put the burden on us as parents to do it all. I am not an educator and I do not want to home school my child. I need a teacher to take the lead on this. In addition to daily lessons, I think aides will be critical. Students need to have the ability to ask questions in small groups and get extra help if needed. Maybe that means that a Davis Hill teacher teaches some students at Mayo and vice versa. If I had to make a final decision on school in the Fall right now, I would vote for 100% remote learning. Outside of thinking about the safety of all involved, I'm really concerned about disruption. Changing course part way through a school year is a major disruption to everyone - students, parents, teachers, others that may be at home. When we get into a routine to then have it upended, everyone struggles with how to make the new routine work for them. While I think social interaction is so key, I think I would be willing to sacrifice some of that for consistency of routine and teaching and of course, a better chance at staying safe.
We feel that if it's remote learning we would want it to be of high quality materials etc to make sure the kids aren't going to have gaps in their learning and preparation for high school and college. Also more time on learning so they spend more than an hour per day to make it worthwhile. It should all be mandatory and graded and kids should have to participate in the zoom calls and meetings. Our son had a thirty minute math lesson via zoom at TPS and it was AMAZING! This was the best use of his time and he won't have any gaps in math since she gave them new materials each day to learn and work with. Why don't all the teachers do the same model? I didn't like that a lot of times they were given busy work and that's not what we are looking for if it is remote learning. We worry about what the in person learning will look like given masks, staying in one classroom all day, and how it would run in the high school with it being such a big school. We also don't want our kids to be socially isolated from all of their friends if they decide to go to school and we don't feel safe with that yet. Ideally it might be nice to take the fall off and start up in January once we know the number of cases has declined and it's safer to be in the building. We want whatever program you choose for it to be beneficial and important and not just done to "do it". We worry about their educational needs and what they may have missed or will miss if it is remote. Our kids spent a very short amount of time per day on remote learning and feel it needs to be enhanced big time for this to work remotely. Our kids safety is our number one concern along with the teachers. Ideally we would go back to full learning.. as long as it's safe and the numbers are declining and it's going to be a fun social place to be.
We are a two parent, full-time outside-of-the-home, essential workers household with a toddler and utilize daycare. It would be appreciated if plans were made with advanced notice, clear expectations, and FAQ made public from the point of the district specifically so that we can plan how to meet the needs of each person in our household. We have at-risk family members that we would like to keep safe during this time.
I hope the remote learning include me real lessons not just random worksheets that teach nothing. Lessons whether like video or pre recorded and then opportunities to talk over the lessons. Please don't just give choice boards and worksheets. Big thumbs down then we will seek alternatives.

We are a two parent full-time working household. We are both essential workers who must work outside the home. Our student is on an IEP and would greatly benefit from some in-school learning and services.
Public health is our most important consideration in any back-to-school program. Teachers have been so many thoughtful, creative pieces about how to handle learning for elementary school this upcoming year. Let's listen to them. We, as a community, can figure out everything we need to for the present. We can't "figure out" how to get back lives and health once they are gone.
Would like to see the IEP students go back
Make food available only to those with free or reduced lunch. Make students who live less than 2 miles from schools walk or get a ride.
A better plan than depending on kids to clean their desk areas used, can't get them to clean their own room, how can we expect them to do properly sanitize a desk that is not theirs.
I would like take the opportunity to start by saying how much I appreciate WRSDs commitment to our children during this time. I feel this has been handled as well as it could be and am very satisfied with the amount of communication and thought this district has put into each step of the way. After fully reading the plan that was emailed, and understanding that remote learning will be an option no matter what, I feel very strongly that we need to open schools to in person learning. I, like many others, face many challenges with schools being closed. I am a single mother, ER nurse and work full time. Remote learning was an extremely difficult stressful, and awful process with my children being elementary school students because they required so much attention from me to complete their work. Our day basically consisted of waking up at 6a, cram all the work we could including breakfast in by 9a so I could go to work for at least 12 hours and not return home until after midnight. It was horrible, and the thought of doing it again come fall is quite honestly TERRIFYING for the mental health of not only myself but for the children. During remote learning I struggled greatly with lots of guilt pertaining to being a working mother, and not being able to provide my children with the proper education that they deserve. It felt rushed, unfocused, and sometimes half hearted. I am not an educator, I was not trained to be a teacher, I am trained to be a nurse. What we parents had to do was the equivalent of anyone walking into the Emergency Room that I work in and have me tell them, ok, you took first aid, here is the computer, figure out the charting and have at it. I whole heartedly understand that this is not anyone's fault, has been unbelievably difficult, and is far from ideal. My point is that I felt lost, confused, unsure, guilty, and under qualified to do remote learning. Just as anyone should feel walking into a hospital as being asked to be a nurse. I also understand that the district is not only facing pressure by parents to come up with a perfect solution for everyone, which we all know is unrealistic, but the teachers are also scared and concerned for their health and well being. Having been directly in the front lines dealing with sick CoVid patients daily for the past 5 months, I understand their concerns, especially those who may have underlying medical concerns. One way in which I felt the hospital was very pro-active was by allowing those with a personal medical condition (not a medical concern for family) apply for an accommodation. Attempts were made to place these staff in temporary positions where their risk of exposure was limited. This allowed the qualified staff to continue to work while providing the hospital support in other areas. We all had to flex, move out of our comfort zones a bit, and adapt to a situation that continues to be challenging and changing. This model in the school setting could allow higher risk staff to do remote learning programs, while others are available for the families that choose the in person plan. The in person schooling needs to be available for those of us who feel comfortable with sending our children back. Those who are not there yet, as previously stated have the option learn remotely, so the numbers will be lower just for that reason alone. The hybrid plan seems to be the most disruptive and inconsistent of the three. Children need consistency and routine. Hybrid learning is neither. I appreciate all of the hard work that the committee put into developing the plan for WRSD. I thank you for doing the impossible, and facing this challenge with professionalism, thought, and determination to do what is best for the children of WRSD. I am so proud to be a WRSD parent, and you have All of my and support as you continue to navigate this unbelievable challenge.
I have a child on an IEP that has extreme difficulty participating in remote learning. My child is already behind and even further behind given the pandemic. In order for my child to access the curriculum there needs to be some form of in person learning. Furthermore, if a hybrid approach is used, which we prefer all in person; we would prefer a week on then a week off as opposed to a few days on then off. The reasoning for this is that switching children off and on frequently does not give them the opportunity to settle into a routine. At least with a week on then off there would be some consistency during these already challenging times. However, as mentioned we prefer all in person learning as opposed to a hybrid approach or 100% remote. Furthermore, we are both working parents so having a 100% remote curriculum will not allow either of our children to access the curriculum. They are both young and not independent with remote learning requiring assistance 100% of the time when learning remote. This is something that also needs to be considered.
At the start of COVID we completely shutdown on site learning as we discovered more information about the virus. We have since learned that our children are predominately asymptomatic carriers of the virus and thus would expose the adults in the schools to the virus very much like they do today with every cold, flu, strep, etc on a near daily basis. My hope is that the reopening of the schools really looks at the data from the CDC to get an accurate assessment before going wide open with having all students and teachers back in the schools. Before any reopening can be done we must assure that it be done safely with appropriate testing and COVID measures in place. Without those measures in place this will be very dangerous.
We should find a way any way to have at least some school in school - GET CREATIVE!!!
My child does have access to remote learning but she is very resistant to it and it makes her emotional and miss her friends and school. She ends up crying and becoming frustrated and she isn't accessing the curriculum. If remote learning will be used it is imperative that the teachers do zoom meetings or google meets to actually teach them because a young child shouldn't have to take school independently online. As an adult I never enjoyed online classes and needed to always be in front of a teacher. How is a 10 year old expected to access learning this way and emotionally deal with all of these changes. It is unrealistic and it goes against FAPE because children with stay at home parents who don't work and can help them with the work are at a serious advantage versus myself a single mom who works for worcester public schools and has to teach while my kid is supposed to be teaching herself. It is completely unrealistic and families with greater means seem to be the only ones succeeding with remote learning.
If we are going to all remote learning as it seems because the teachers and their union have held the district hostage with their demands, then why are we using the teachers at all? Millions can be saved if we eliminate the teachers, aides (who did nothing during the spring shutdown but were paid), cafeteria workers, bussing, etc. The thought would be to hire an outside service to provide homeschooling to all the district students. If the teachers say they don't know how to do remote learning and refuse to teach in person, then I think we have no choice but to explore other options. Someone should tell them it's not about them, IT'S ABOUT THE KIDS! Also, since guidance at the high school "didn't have enough time to make schedules", what are the students who have summer work supposed to do? Honors and AP classes require summer work, but there are no schedules and no teachers have put together any work. WRSD is a disaster and it's time to figure it out! You are ruining kid's lives because of your own egos!
Consideration for children who are in out-of-district placements
I want my child to go back to school. Kids NEED to be in school.

<p>If the model chosen by the district is in-person or hybrid, it makes logical and emotional sense to let the students stay in smaller groups in one classroom for the entire day, in their designated desk spot, and let the teacher travel in-between halls or floors. I understand this will be hard to achieve with an established (that has been implemented by many schools in the country) rotating schedule model; this model shuffles students for every subject, and they walk in herds in and out of rooms. This in turn could cause delay with the distancing situation as the line moves, and interchanging desks is also risky. As a parent who has gone through high school, in my days, we stayed put in one area except for P.E., arts, or special language classes. Another method would be to take the group outdoors, teach under the trees, if the subject matter is feasible. Again this was a proven method in my days. My English classes were mostly outdoors, and especially the teacher who taught Shakespeare loved to bring us outdoors where we all sat on the ground -- all lovely experiences.</p>
<p>If the standard is 6 ft in all other social settings please do not jeopardize our children and our teachers using the 3ft distancing model. Please 6ft, and make sure the PPE is purchased by the district for the staff and the classrooms. I will protect my children because I have the means to buy them the supplies but do not burden the teachers to purchase the proper PPE and cleaning supplies for the classroom. Also please make sure our kids have recess, art,music and PE! School is about social interactions not just prepping for state tests.</p>
<p>You shouldn't make this open on your principals Facebook pages. I was able to complete this and am not a resident of the district</p>
<p>Children need to be back in school. The academic and social/emotional gap that we are creating by keeping children out of school is something that we will not notice a year or two from now. The effects of these gaps will also be felt further down the road. I respect the virus and precautions should be taken but waiting for a vaccine is unreasonable and not fair to students and families.</p>
<p>"The CDC says children can still pass the virus onto others who have an increased risk of severe illness and could still face negative health outcomes that may require hospitalization. Children may also be at risk for contracting a rare but serious inflammatory disorder called Multisystem inflammatory syndrome or MIS-C. According to the CDC, MIS-C is a condition where different body parts can become inflamed, including the heart, lungs, kidneys, brain, skin, eyes or gastrointestinal organs." Why would we chance this in tight quarters, with poor ventilation, for hours a day? One year is a drop in the bucket compared to all the schooling kids will receive. It is not worth the chances of many dying in our communities. The virtual model may not have been perfect in the fall but it can be more robust now for the year with higher expectations from students and teachers from the get go. Doing a two day on/two day off system helps nothing, there will still be large outbreaks. You need to be thinking in terms of two weeks or a month with one group because it takes two weeks to possibly see symptoms but you can still spread the disease. A teacher or student could be spreading the virus without knowing it and affect SO MANY people it is not even funny. Would any of you from Central Office and the School Committee like to come sit in the classrooms with all the kids and teachers all day long to see how it is? If your answer is no then you should not be putting teachers and students into that situation. It is not right.</p>
<p>Hybrid learning will be challenging for us since we both work. That being said we'll our best to help our daughter.</p>
<p>To consider a lot of households have two working parents. Also children with disabilities that need 1-on-1 in person learning capabilities.</p>
<p>It is still unsafe and unnecessary to go full in person schooling. Teachers are scared. Parents are scared. Unnecessary risk. Hybrid or remote learning only please</p>
<p>Should the district choose a hybrid or 100% remote plan, all classes should be taught live by a teacher and students should be required to attend class virtually. This should not be optional. I recognize that this could be quite challenging for teachers. Perhaps you could have some teachers teach 100% in the classroom and some teachers teaching the virtual classes. Another suggestion.....assuming that fall sports will be cancelled the district should consider using school grounds to have open air classrooms. Large tents could be put up on the grounds. This would allow more students to attend, allow for appropriate social distancing, in an open air setting. I am very concerned about how the pandemic and the increased isolation has affected students' emotional health. This is an area that I think needs to be considered and additional supports need to be put in place to address this on a more global level. Honestly I don't even think the kids realize the impact that this has had on them and is something that should be discussed in a classroom setting. Thank you for all that you are doing to keep the students, teachers and families safe when developing these plans. I recognize that this is not an easy task.</p>
<p>Please consider all options for keeping kids at safe distances in person. More time outdoors, weather permitting, would be a great way to let kids attend in-person with more space and less need for all-day masks. Also, when remote learning comes into play, it needs to be done much better this time. Teachers spending more time teaching, rather than sending a calendar of links to misc internet videos that hit the topics. Schools should also send home printed materials in packets for each week, rather than making parents print everything at home.</p>
<p>As a parent of young school-age children who do not know how to read, they would not be able to access the educational resources with remote learning. We are a 2 parent working household, one of who cannot work remote due to the nature of employment. It is not economically feasible to have to hire someone to come to our home to handle the remote learning. Remote learning will further divide the "haves" with the "have-nots" and cause detrimental damage to the children who do not have home assistance with remote learning. With the state COVID numbers being currently low, the children should start back in school in person and the district re-evaluate if the numbers increase again.</p>
<p>I think it's very critical to not only respect the teachers health and also keep in mind that children ARE carriers !</p>
<p>In-person classroom should be for 3rd, 4th and 5th graders and use K, 1st and 2nd grade classrooms to spread them out the 3rd, 4th and 5th graders. Lower grades should be remote learning only. No bus. Parents should drop off and pick up students only. There should be no volunteers or visitors allowed in school to keep minimal contact. Face shields should be strongly encouraged for students which I think they would better than the face mask. Staff should wear face shield too which facial expressions are important. Probably better for students to bring their own lunch so cafeteria staff don't need to be present in school. The lesser people in the school building, the better!</p>
<p>Before any more surveys etc. I would like for the admin to determine what these options would look like. How would a class run, what happens when someone tests positive, can RNs in school test (is there a rapid test yet?), how easily can we get additional RN staff, we could not find subs before? Can 100% at home option look at cohort set up so we can meet with other students/parents outside of school buildings? Will there be a set teacher in each level or additional teachers hired to handle remote learning? How can the current staff handle this all, it is impossible (we have great staff! I just want them to be able to help their own children as well, they have families too!)</p>
<p>My daughter has a heavy IEP and I am mostly concerned about her not receiving the proper support. Remotely, She doesn't seek help but will attend mandatory google meets thankfully. She needs a consistent remote schedule that mirrors In person school if we do not go back. Her support staff should be present everyday for her whether it's in person or remote. If the HS school goes with remote, is there any chance kids on IEPs can still attend in person school to some degree?? It is imperative for my daughter. Thank you for all the work you have done.</p>

How can you guarantee the air in the buildings are safe? What kind of filter will be installed to prevent covid from spreading? How can you guarantee our kids won't get sick and bring it home to us? How are the teacher going to be safe?
If you have all the students who have enough independence 6th and up would do remote learning only and the schools could be used to spread out the rest of the grades K-6.
The school district has always been clear that student safety is the number one priority. The decision on how to educate students this year should be made with this in mind and not made based on the need for students to be supervised so that parents can work.
Back when I was younger we had "double sessions" (one group in the morning and the other in the afternoon) ... when Holden jr high burned down ... Would that be a viable option to reduce the number of students in the high school at a time?
I would be concerned how lunch times and how many kids would be in each room or area along with the size of the classrooms if schools do conduct in person learning. How would the school handle any positive covid-19 cases? Would all kids have to leave the school immediately or not return until the school is properly cleaned?
My Son Did Not Do Well With The Remote Learning. It was a struggle Everyday. Very Stressful For Him And I.
My view on back to school has changed significantly since the last survey, due to the progression of events around the country. If we as a family are still not going to any public places except for necessary groceries and having no in-person meetings or interactions at work because of Covid, nor seeing friends indoors at home, then I cannot see sending our kids to a public indoor space everyday, even with masks. I do not think all kids can successfully wear masks and clean hands, and I worry that the environment created by staff trying to make them do so will be stressful and unpleasant. Necessary elimination of the more social aspects of school could add to that as well. I also do not think that only a few months (hopefully) of remote learning will have any significant negative impact on their educational career. I felt that effectiveness of remote learning in the spring was very dependent on the specific teacher. I think that if all teachers are following a more consistent plan including regular online meetings with students, and all using google classroom, remote learning could be very successful.
There are many unknowns at this time. I want my daughter to go to school but the hybrid model is difficult for parents who work full time. What happens with before school and after school care?
Concerned, particularly for the youngest children (K-3), that school with safety requirements will not address the emotional and developmental needs of those children. Additionally, if the in-person schooling option lacks arts (particularly music), recess, gym, etc., which I understand may need to be restricted due to safety concerns, I don't think I would send either K or 3rd grade student to school to participate in in-person academics. Also concerned about the ability of young kids to follow safety rules and for teachers to limit exposure in a way that would allow them to be in the classroom for the entire year.
It really is pointless to have the kids come back to school if they don't have proper sanitation of the schools and proper hygiene for students. My son was sick almost all the time when he was in school because he wasn't allowed to wash his hands before he ate lunch. I also feel that he was sick due to the fact that the desks handles door knobs were never sanitized and disinfected.
It is very important that my children will get good education provided by qualified teachers with explanations and meetings, and not by me as a parent or just by reading the material on line.
If remote learning kept with the same rigour our children would be happier. All four of our kids are goal driven and were bored when learning stalled. We tried to help fill the gap but it was apparent that this was an issue. The high school needs to do a better job at connecting the kids or managing emotional seclusion because of non-face to face time if learning is remote. Emotional and social issues will truly worsen for this age as well as middle schoolers if this is not managed somehow on a broad level. Mandates are great, but if they aren't followed by all then this is when social issues occur. There is a true concern from both parents and kids that the rules of wearing masks over mouth and nose won't be followed. If, as parents, we can teach our kids to wear clothes then they should be able to wear a mask and follow rules. Sports and clubs is a HUGE issue and if these things don't take place the kids will mentally struggle. These are outlets beyond school for more than the simple act of playing a sport. They provide a group atmosphere, a social outlet, learning to be driven, how to fit in, leadership skills, etc that make the kids all well rounded. If masks are worn and/or shields these kids need to have those outlets but again kids need to be safe and not be made to feel like they are in the minority when wearing masks and trying to distance. If the competitive aspect is not allowed by MA then the option of continued training should occur to keep these kids on track for their personal goals. If the buses add dividers and families sit together busing may be less of an issue but unless there is clear safety protocols the kids won't be comfortable. We need to, as parents and adults, show our support for these kids social/emotion, educational, and athletic needs during this truly difficult time. Kids work hard to impress adults, now it's time to impress them with what we can do for THEM to keep them safe and still meet their needs! Thank you for continuing to try to come up with a plan that will work for these kids.
Concern on transition into K with iep not being finalized prior to Covid from ECC
I feel it is important for both of my children to return to school but for very different reasons. My oldest child has been struggling socially since school ended abruptly in March. He refuses to go outside, has had no social interaction with his peers, and gets frustrated easily. I'm concerned he is becoming depressed. In addition, his attention span for remote learning was approximately 15-20 before refusing to do more work. I can't possibly see how he can learn with such poor stamina. In school he was able to engage in the full day of learning without difficulty. My other son has severe autism and he is unable to participate in remote learning successfully. As per the DESE guidelines he needs a 1:1 in person learning environment in order to prevent regression. Thank you for allowing us parents to provide our input on this important matter.
Space desks apart, keep All doors open except restrooms, no sharing of school supplies, wiping down of desks with 70/30 isopropyl alcohol start of day and several times during (can be executed by students of their own desks with training), eat in classroom or in caf (but area needs to be wiped and students spread apart at marked intervals, concern of how students travel on a bus (even two kids in a seat...how to not touch each other or not touch seats walking down the aisles)
The district failed its students this spring by providing instruction well after other districts had implemented, and providing minimal communications and learning opportunities. We expect 100% consistency across the district in regard to instruction, expectations of leadership and teachers, learning opportunities, online instruction, grading, etc. This is not a competitive district as it should be.
Attending school in person does not seem fully safe at this time. The virus spreads among children 10 and up the same as adults according to major recent studies. How can it be expected that the virus will not spread when having many kids and teachers together in the same building? Online remote learning has to be an option this year until it is safe and most like until there is a vaccine hopefully by end of year.
Student athletics & clubs are a vital tool in all students development

My child on an IEP was unable to learn and eventually participate with online learning. Motivating students to want to learn is a huge factor that needs to be improved in our district. Teachers need pd on this. Without the hook, many won't even attempt the task. Any student with anY type of IEP or 504 should Have an option for at least a hybrid model of learning, even if regular Ed is all remote. These kids have an IEP for a reason, and the schools can not fall short for the most vulnerable learners.

Also schools need to be consistent with the opportunities they are providing for their students across the district. A plan with the types of learning activities and the way they will be delivered will be important to know before the year begins. This will give parents the ability to decide if the approach will work for their child and voice concerns/questions before the year starts. There was no teacher led instruction, or opportunity to learn from a teacher via zoom or meet, or other method of human interaction. I know this would have helped my daughter. If remote learning remains as multiple choice busy work without any quality teacher feedback to students, most students may learn very little. When an assignment is given, teachers should give feedback, both positive and constructive for each assignment. Choosing Fewer assignments carefully will be beneficial for overwhelmed students and teachers, so that teachers have the time to support students with more than a completed or not completed assessment mark.

Detailed explanation of safety/sanitation protocols

In-person education is best. I hope our district will open (even if there are restrictions). I also feel if teachers are afraid to return to the classroom, let them take a leave of absence and hire someone to fulfill their position on a long-term basis. We need to do what is best for our children. If WRSD decides to go with remote learning, I would hope they would actually teach online like some surrounding schools I know. Just giving the students work/projects/worksheets to do and submitting these activities is not good enough. These teachers need to be online teaching, taking attendance, helping the students just as they were teaching in the classroom. A true online/home school/cyber school experience is what I would expect. Hold both the teachers and students accountable, have a schedule to follow and clear expectations. I have a degree in education, so I am very involved with my children's studies. One of the main reasons we chose to live in Holden was because of the school district. I am confident WRSD will make the best decision with the data they have received. I do appreciate your hard work so far!

Direction and consideration needs to be made for students who were recommended to have an evaluation for IEP and has yet to be done. Some version of this evaluation needs to be done and executed on in a remote way.

I would need both my children to attend school on the same days/weeks, in order to help with scheduling. I am also going to find it incredibly challenging to teach in the district and have my children learning remotely while I am required to be teaching in the classroom.