

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 25

1200 S. Dunton Ave.
Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005
Special School Board Meeting Minutes
Committee of the Whole Meeting
November 29, 2020

Regular Meeting

Scott Filipek, Vice President of the Arlington Heights School District 25 Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m. on November 29, 2020. The meeting was held remotely via Zoom. Roll call was noted and the Pledge of Allegiance said.

Motion: E. Johannesen moved and A. Patel seconded the motion that the Board of Education move into open session.

Roll Call: C. Conley, yes; G. Faso, yes; S. Filipek, yes; E. Johannesen, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; A. Patel, yes. Motion carried 6/0.

Board members present: Chad Conley, Gina Faso, Scott Filipek, Erin Johannesen, Rich Olejniczak, and Anisha Ismail Patel

Board members excused: Brian Cerniglia

Others Present: Dr. Lori Bein, Superintendent

Community Input

Dr. Bein read categories of public comments that were received via email. All comments will be given to the Board in full and posted on the website tomorrow. They will also be attached to the Board minutes.

- 78 - Do not take an adaptive pause
- 49 - Do take an adaptive pause
- 1 - Superintendent is not executing the board motions satisfactorily
- 1 - Continue to follow already established metrics
- 1 - Advocate for Full in Person and urge District to announce a plan to stay in Full In-Person all year regardless of any state changes
- 1 - Board is not representing community by ignoring metrics
- 1 - Finalize metrics
- 2 - If we don't move to Full In-Person, consider how Hybrid could be improved
- 1 - Petition saying No to an adaptive pause with submitter stating there are 127 signatures
- 1 - Petition that metrics must mirror the Illinois State Board of Education and Illinois Department of Public Health with submitter stating there are over 300 signatures
- 1 - Do not use the number of Student Covid cases as a metric. Kids can be asymptomatic and District 25 is not testing students.

- 1 - District 25 should follow scientific solutions to mitigating the pandemic - stay home with minimal contact outside of your family
- 6 - Board of Education should communicate metrics for an Adaptive Pause and clarify the reasons that the health department recommendations are not being used
- 1 - Board of Education should make decisions based on science - there is no cluster spread in District 25
- 1 - District 25 should make grades exempt during the pandemic
- 1 - Childcare for staff should not figure into District 25's decision
- 8 - Use school-based metrics when determining metrics
- 11 - Open schools fully as soon as possible
- 1 - Concerned for the well-being of the staff
- 1 - Separate in-person learning from remote learning
- 1 - Concerned that the Social Emotional Learning we teach students doesn't match our actions
- 1 - Thank you for giving parents a choice
- 1 - Give the Superintendent the ability to make decisions
- 3 - Please keep in mind the Board of Education Roles and Responsibilities, the Governance Framework, and honor the Board Member Oath

Committee of the Whole Reports

Student Learning – No Report

Student Services – No Report

Business and Finance – No Report

Facilities Management – No Report

Personnel and Planning – No Report

Superintendent Report

Transitional Model of Reopening – Update

Dr. Bein updated the Board on the procedures for a Committee of the Whole meeting; the focus for today's meeting being on setting metrics; and the documents provided for facilitating the discussion. The Board discussed the purpose of metrics and the application of county, city and District 25 data. They asked Dr. Bein to gather additional metrics for them to consider.

Motion: R. Olejniczak moved and E. Johannesen seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: C. Conley, yes; G. Faso, yes; S. Filipek, yes; E. Johannesen, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; A. Patel, yes. Motion carried 6/0.

The Board adjourned the closed session at 4:11 p.m.

Submitted,

Lori D. Bein, Ed.D.
Superintendent
for
Lana M. O'Brien
Recording Secretary

Approved: December 10, 2020

President
Board of Education

Secretary
Board of Education

Date minutes available for public inspection: _____ December 11, 2020

Date minutes posted on District website: _____ December 11, 2020

Community Input Received Electronically

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Jill and Michael Stark	<p>We all are living in a historical time right now where the world is impacted - where the country is being divided, the pandemic (we're in an invisible war with the enemy called COVID-19). Yet we feel the schools (especially the teachers) are under great pressure in maintaining robust school grades online and wanting improvements from the students, despite of what's happening around us.</p> <p>Question: Maybe AHSD25 could consider all school gradings be exempted during the unprecedented times like this?</p>
Michele Hilgart	<p>Ladies and Gentleman of the Board and Dr. Bein,</p> <p>I am just catching up on the board meeting from last week and wanted to express my disappointment at the board's failure to vote on an adaptive pause, particularly in light of discussions about students inadvertently reporting holiday travel and gathering plans and your admission that you cannot/will not do anything to require those families to quarantine prior to return to school. I realize that you are receiving significant pressure from families demanding a choice to return their children to full in-person learning, but that does not justify making irresponsible decisions (even by default) in light of overwhelming data about the health risks. Please understand that for many of us who have legitimate health concerns and are doing all the right things to limit community transmission, your failure to remain committed to the metrics outlined at the beginning of the year has left us with no choice for any safe in-person experience for our children. I don't envy the position you are in. It cannot be easy to determine which actions will do the least harm in these circumstances, but no perfect answers are forthcoming and failing to make a decision is just not acceptable.</p>
Diem Lai	<p>Dear BOE members, Please continue the hybrid learning from Nov 30 - Jan 15 and full-time in-person learning starting Jan 19. Students deserve to be in schools. CDC recommends in-person learning. Europe has their schools open. There are no outbreaks in Europe from students being in schools. They have put their students education and mental health first. Please do the same for our students!</p>
Amy Powers	<p>I have an 8th grade daughter at South. She is doing much better on hybrid than she was on full remote. She feels safe when everyone is spaced out in her classrooms and we do not want an adaptive pause. Even though there is community spread, the spread is not happening in the schools due to appropriate spacing and masks. Please keep hybrid through at least a few weeks into December. Pausing like 214 is doing through Jan 19 is too long for her to go without seeing teachers and other students. It is going to be a long enough winter of social distancing from friends and family; we don't want more isolation by keeping students out of school.</p>
Katy Murray	<p>Please do not go into an adaptive pause following the thanksgiving break. If people go against governor's orders and travel then they should have to quarantine and keep their students at home.</p>
Andrea Newman	<p>Please consider keeping the kids hybrid!</p>
Peggy Jones	<p>Dear Dr. Bein and District 25 School Board Members,</p> <p>My name is Peggy Jones. I have been a District 25 parent for the last 9 years, subbing in the district for 2 of those years until I became employed as a PE/Health teacher at Our Lady of the Wayside School in Arlington Heights. I currently have a 7th grader at Thomas and my older son is a freshman at Hersey.</p> <p>I am writing you today to say a huge THANK YOU for choosing to not vote on an adaptive pause. My son was beyond excited when I told him, as of now, he will be going to school. Mind you this is a kid that on a regular year could give or take it, would much rather be in a hockey rink. As a teacher, who has been teaching full time, in person, since August I appreciate your decision to look at the data and the science and realize this is NOT being spread in schools. THANK YOU for putting the children of district 25 and their needs first. The notion that we would be going to an adaptive pause due to teachers and their own personal childcare issues is ludicrous to me. What have all the other teachers who are teaching in person while their children are remote/hybrid done? We have figured it out. In an ideal world I would be home with both of my kids right now as I know they would be doing better if I were home but my job is essential and I made a commitment so I go to work. I never thought with a 12- and 14-year-old that I would feel the guilt I have felt this year as I go into school and get to teach</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	<p>other people's children in person while mine are at home. If I was not teaching full time, I would be the first one on your sub list to call every day. THANK YOU for understanding that while some parents prefer remote learning during this time, that should not dictate what every parent should do nor how every child should learn. Many children benefit from in-person instruction, for some the structure and supports of in person learning are not replicable in a remote setting. THANK YOU for leading with this decision while many school boards in the surrounding areas are caving to emotion, fear and unions. In closing, I would encourage you to continue to chart your own path with the best interest of the children of District 25 always at the forefront. To quote Frost, "Two roads diverged in a wood and I took the one less traveled by and that has made all the difference." With Gratitude, Peggy Jones</p>
Melissa LeFevour	Please do not go to an adaptive pause. We need these kids to go to school.
Nancy Velasco	I am a nurse in our local ER. The number of cases (young people and older) have increased, and are going to increase due to the holidays. Hybrid and remote seem to be working, without a huge burden on our healthcare system. Why are you listening to the few who want to go back full time? The CDC and IDPH do not agree with those metrics (class sizes and number of kids). Please continue to keep our kid's health in mind, and be responsible during this health crisis. Thank you.
Lisa	I do not support adaptive pause
Katie Rausch	Please use district metrics only! It's the most relevant to our schools and students. NO adaptive pause. FULL in person and remote only options for January, no more two day hybrid. Thank you
Eileen Ryan	<p>Please continue to support the hybrid model for those who choose it and move towards full in person learning. No adaptive pause!! Teachers wants should not be the only consideration here. They have a job to do and are essential therefore they need to be in person with those that make that choice. Put the kids first!</p>
Jen Anderson	Please don't waste this opportunity to get our district back on track. We need an adaptive pause until mid-January and metrics for remote, hybrid and full in person that follow the advice of local health department experts, whether these metrics will pose challenges or not. The time to demonstrate we care for our greater community and for teachers and staff is past due.
Amy Powers	Please use metrics that are applicable to each school and not Suburban Cook County. Please do not send all kids to learn at school just because a few schools are showing an outbreak.
Jen Starr	I am STRONGLY opposed to the adaptive pause. The longer our kids are out of school, the more damage we are doing to their ability to learn and their overall health and well-being. Stop making these decisions as a "one-size fits all" but rather let those that want to be in school, CHOOSE.
Kellin Girard	The CDC has shown evidence of Covid-19 transmission to be very low in schools. Please re-open schools in-person full time as soon as possible. Please think of the long-term impact this is having on our children. Thank you.
Carleen Swanberg	Please strongly consider the option of an adaptive pause after the Thanksgiving holiday as a way to prevent further COVID-19 outbreak at the school upon students returning. thank you for your time and dedication to the children and staff.
Kelly Ellsworth	<p>While the point of this meeting, discussing metrics to move into school and back out again, is a good topic to discuss and needs to happen, it should have happened ages ago. This meeting should have action items to go onto an adaptive pause. What you are doing now is a fool's errand. Out of concern of safety and staffing logistics we have laid out in front of us with the pandemic, I'm highly suggesting an adaptive pause of in person learning of any kind from November 30 until January 19th at least. During this time you can have more meetings regarding the metrics to return to hybrid and continue moving forward. We have an opportunity to do what is right for not only the district families and staff, but the community as a whole, and it should be taken. If we do not take an adaptive pause, every single student within our district will not receive the education they deserve. We will not have the staff to teach all of them and despite what you think will happen, filling these spots is not going to happen on time.</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	<p>Switching out a child's teacher halfway through the year with a long term sub that is not a teacher by trade sounds like you just want bodies in the classroom, no matter the level of education they are getting.</p> <p>This is a pandemic, more and more information is coming out regarding kids, the virus and the spread. We are in the middle of a spike that will only get worse.</p> <p>We have incredible teachers and staff that seems to be ignored most of the time. Let's show them how much we value and respect them as educators, and stop looking at them as glorified babysitters. We show them with our actions.</p> <p>I would also like to see Dr.Bein given her decision making powers back. She is a highly respected professional in her field. She has a great reputation. We are lucky to have her as our superintendent. The treatment of her has been abhorrent through this.</p> <p>Let's do the right thing as a district. We all know this is a temporary problem, and our solutions are just as temporary.</p> <p>Don't disappoint the community again.</p> <p>Think logically here.</p>
Courtney Miller	<p>We uses be uaing district metrics only to determine what is best for the kids in school. There should not be adaptive pauses between breaks and parents who would like their kids to do full remote learning already have the option to choose to do so. Please give parents who want to, the option for in person learning without adaptive pauses, and the possibility for full time in person learning, especially for younger ages such as kindergarteners where in person learning is so essential. Thank you</p>
Kristina Krueger	<p>I urge the board to take an adaptive pause while COVID positive cases are still so high. As a staff member who could still teach from school, I am concerned about the help I will need to give to substitutes for my team on a daily basis and how that will add to my workload and take away from the time I can spend with my students. Also, create consistent guidelines for the movement from remote to hybrid to full in person and back again. Listen to doctors from the hospitals and make decisions based on concerns for staff and student health. Listen to current reports from IDPH and Dr. Ezieke.</p>
Kellee Janus	<p>Please re-open to allow children to get a better education. Hybrid and e-learning may work for some families, but it does not work for us all. There should be full in-person available for the families that want/need that, as well as remote learning for those who do not need in-person. Our children's education should be top priority and they have the best chance at a successful year if they are able to get back in to the classroom full-time.</p>
Sarah Weale	<p>I strongly urge the board to consider taking an adaptive pause like many surrounding districts are doing. Given the explosion of Covid nationwide, the packed airports we've seen on the news, and the fact that many in our community are choosing to travel over the holidays, we owe it to the heath and safety of all district stakeholders to be cautious during this time. Let's listen to experts to guide us through this crisis. It's hard to be a parent right now, and I know our hearts are breaking for the rough year our teachers and kids are experiencing. However, this is not a time for irate parents to be setting the agenda based on emotional reactions. Let's let science and facts guide our decision making as we attempt to do what's best for kids and the community.</p>
Mary Fendley	<p>*I am not a D25 staff member, just the parent of a middle schooler. I am concerned for the well-being of your teachers and support staff. Are you?</p> <p>THE TEACHERS ARE NOT OK.</p> <p>They feel disregarded.</p> <p>They feel like they could die because of your decisions.</p> <p>They feel that a few VERY LOUD parents, and uninformed board members are dictating all decisions.</p> <p>The skyrocketing Covid numbers and deaths clearly should dictate a pause.</p> <p>It is LUDICROUS and somewhat naive to believe there are available qualified subs, as was mentioned in your previous meeting.</p> <p>How many minutes have you spent in a classroom with kids since March 13th? Is it more than zero?</p> <p>Have you ever reached out to find out how the teachers are? They are not OK.</p> <p>Do you seek their input? They have valuable input.</p> <p>Staff in some districts feel supported/appreciated/heard by their board. Can you say the same for your staff?</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	<p>This is not sustainable. YOUR TEACHERS ARE NOT OK.</p>
Erin Felten	<p>Please keep hybrid through the holidays, and move to FULL TIME, 5 Day a week in person starting January 19th. My son who just got invited back to 4 days starting in December desperately needs to be in school receiving his EXTENSIVE IEP minutes. He is falling further behind and I am so very concerned if we go back to full remote because he is utterly disconnected on remote days. Keep us IN SCHOOL as the CDC suggests is safe and what should be done. Thank You.</p>
Elise Hackl	<p>I, as a member of the D25 community, feel that better systems need to be put in place if our students are to continue learning in person. It is simply selfish for individuals to choose to risk the lives of students, educators, and community members in order for schools to attempt to teach in person. D25 needs to take a hard look inward, determining if they are willing to choose funding over human lives. The reality is that d25 simply does not have the resources to effectively teach in person at this time. Scheduling an adaptive pause during the holidays is the only way to handle this pandemic with dignity and respect for our D25 community.</p>
Jason Wendt	<p>At the last meeting, a strong case was made that the rising COVID numbers both locally and regionally make in-person attendance both dangerous and irresponsible. This was done using numbers and reason. The board's reaction was to ask for more numbers. At some point asking for more of the same is just a thinly veiled attempt to find someone to support one's own position. I understand that people want choice, but we also choose leaders, like our school board, and empower them to lead. Sometimes that means giving people, even a vocal minority, decisions that they don't like. Your choice to continue gathering takes away our choice to return to normal, safely, in due time.</p> <p>I also heard of leaders asking parents and PTA's to find more subs. There's a reason subs are scarce this year. Substitute teaching is a difficult endeavor in normal times. Attempting to sub with hybrid classes, special COVID protocols, and all the rest of 2020's challenges is nearly impossible. Bringing in "new" subs won't help. I have 2 kids in D25 schools. One has been without his normal teach for weeks due to her COVID fight. Learning has taken a significant step back. The other lost his math teach for a month due to her own COVID fight which included a week in the hospital. He learned no math during this time, despite a litany of subs best efforts. More subs won't help - and we'll be lucky to keep the teachers that we have, much less find temporary replacements given the times and situation. I'll end with a plea. School board - lead. It's what you were all elected to do. Some of us won't agree with your decisions. That's life in a democracy. Please do what's best for all of the community, despite the vocal opposition of some, and follow nearly all of the schools in the area into an adaptive pause until after the holidays. Thank you.</p>
Dan Ryan	<p>Only use IN DISTRICT case numbers as metrics when making decisions</p>
Meghan Yarbrough	<p>As a constituent, employee, and parent of two daughters who attend D25 schools, I beseech you to make the responsible, albeit difficult, decision, to enact the adaptive pause recommended by Dr. Bein at the 11/19/2020 meeting.</p>
Erin Zurek	<p>Dear Board and Dr. Bein, Thank you for all you have done and all you continue to do. I am so grateful that you listened to the most recent data that supports in person learning and we are going to be looking at data within D25 because that is what matters and what we can control.</p> <p>Thank you for understanding that while some parents prefer remote learning during this time, that should not dictate what every parent should do and how each child should learn. All children learn differently, and many children benefit from in-person instruction and supports versus remote learning. Please continue listening to the experts and know that in-person schooling can be safe, and as a community we are willing to make that happen for teachers and all school staff.</p> <p>Please know that it is not our fault nor our children's fault if teachers need to find childcare. Every other profession has to find childcare and our children shouldn't miss out on valuable, quality learning because of this.</p> <p>I am not in favor of an adaptive pause. It does not give a choice to all families. We need to get a plan</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	<p>in place for 5 day full in person learning as quickly as possible so we are ready. Our children need this. Sincerely, Erin Zurek</p>
Kevin Allender	<p>Dear Dr. Bein, Brian, Erin, Scott, Chad, Rich, Anisha, Gina, Please accept this email as community input for the school board meeting. I wanted to thank you for allowing our children to continue in the hybrid school model and not pursuing an adaptive pause. Since there is no evidence of any Covid cases being spread in the schools, I believe the board made the correct decision. I was troubled by Dr. Bein’s lack of a plan to recruit additional substitute teachers. She mentioned she had said we needed more substitute teachers, but she did not present a clear plan how to solve the problem before it’s a crisis. Perhaps she has a detailed plan, but the community and parents have not seen it. I believe one of the board members mentioned soliciting the PTA for help, which is a great idea. Why can’t we be creative and work together to prevent the students from missing their education? Why can’t the board and superintendent be leaders in creatively solving this problem? I suggest the following for consideration.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Solicit the PTA to work with each school community to recruit retired teachers, parents and others qualified individuals to apply. 2. Dr. Bein to send out a letter to all parents, local news outlets and social media to actively recruit qualified individuals. If the need is made clear, the community will respond. 3. Ask the the over 700 members of the Reopen District 25 Facebook page to help find creative ways to find substitute teachers. These are all very motivated parents to keep the schools open. Many of these parents have already stepped up and applied to be a substitute teacher. Why not tap into their energy to help solve the problem? 4. Ask the teachers union to assist in recruiting retired teachers or former teachers they know to help fill the shortage. They would all know people in their circle of influence that could assist. 5. Insure there is quick follow up on those who have applied. The feedback from those who have applied is that there has not been any follow up. Who is responsible to follow up these leads and what can be done by Dr. Bein to ensure this is a priority? We can’t solve the problem if the applications are not followed up on. 6. Solicit help from various temp agencies to help us find qualified individuals to fill the need. <p>These steps and others created by the superintendent and school board should be quickly followed on to ensre there is a long list of qualified individuals to help keep the schools running. For the other needs for lunch room and play ground supervisors similar steps can be taken. I have seen these in the weekly emails from our principal at Olive, but a more creative solution might be needed to fill the gaps. The PTA, Room Parents, and more direct appeal to parents may really help find more volunteers. I will say we have attended the PTA meeting for our school and this year I’m a Room Parent for my son’s class. Our family is willing to roll up our sleeves to assist. After listening to many board meetings, I have heard numerous parents offer to help in a variety of ways. Please consider using their help to continue to make District 25 a great school district. Please continue to keep our schools open. Sincerely, Kevin Allender</p>
Alexis Hammond	<p>Dear District 25 Board Members, I do not believe the board should continue to make decisions that go against the county and state public health departments. An adaptive pause is the only option. You are holding your staff and the teachers hostage in an unsafe work environment while putting the demands of some parents, wanting to be able to “choose” for themselves whether their children have an in person option, in higher regard. While you grapple with basic concepts like “6 feet of distance”, look to hide behind the cutting of mitigation efforts with the phrase “to the greatest extent possible”, look to cut corners on the processes of hiring substitutes, discuss the “holiday travel” of SD25 families as if it is the only way additional cases will find their way into our schools...I ask you to dig deep and really think about your motivations of insisting on the hybrid model after the last board meeting. While you ponder the metrics at the next meeting, I’d like you to revisit the guidance of the state and county health departments and follow it.</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	<p>Perhaps I can break it down for you? When the community positivity rate is as high as it is in 60004 and 60005, the chance of transmission at school increases as well, regardless of the best mitigation efforts. While you pat yourselves on the back for having only two cases of transmission in SD25, you quickly look to reduce the mitigation efforts and move to full in person learning. This is not the time to reduce mitigation efforts. It is the time for remote learning. And this time, when remote, treat your staff and teachers as the true professionals they are. Give them a choice for a change and allow them to work in school or remotely. Teachers are not first responders. Give them the dignity and respect they deserve to make the best decision as possible for themselves and their families. Working from home is not a vacation for teachers. It is not a luxury. For many teachers, due to health concerns or family concerns, working from home is an absolute necessity. Your teachers are the best of the best. They do not need to be told how to do their jobs. They do not need to be micromanaged. You should be looking to keep them safe. You should be looking at retaining these teachers. Substitutes are glorified babysitters. I can't imagine one substitute with the expertise needed to teach in today's complex learning environment. As a parent who has been on her son's first grade zoom calls every day, there is not one substitute that could walk in on day one and take the ball and run with it. There is no manual for teaching these days. The teachers you have are truly the ONLY experts. They have worked days, nights, and weekends figuring out how to make this all work. It is a disgrace to think just anyone could fill the shoes of SD25 teachers.</p> <p>Finally, I'd like to leave you with a number. That number is ONE. That should be the number you think about. Preventing just ONE teacher from contracting Covid. Preventing just ONE teacher from needing a ventilator. Preventing just ONE teacher from death by Covid. If you are unable to commit to preventing Covid transmission, then the message you are sending the SD25 families, staff, & teachers is that you are o.k. with sacrificing people in the name of face to face learning, sports, and socialization of the children of SD25. You are giving greater importance to the complaints of Zoom fatigue, higher BMIs of children, and tears than you are to the health and safety of your employees.</p> <p>If you find yourself voting to keep the hybrid model, I ask for your immediate resignation.</p> <p>It's time to do the right thing. Stop ignoring the advice of your superintendent, state and county health departments, and the 43% of teachers surveyed.</p> <p>Sincerely, Alexis Hammond</p>
Anna Bratko	<p>My daughter is and feels so much better when she attends school. It's it so difficult on the remote learning days. She is sad, isolated and does not want to participate. She is a shy and closed child and unfortunately remote learning does not help. I feel that being isolated only makes her more depressed and it makes her not enjoy school as she should. Since she had the opportunity to attend twice a week, all she does is look forward to going on her assigned days. It is so sad when one wish your child has is for the world to go back to normal. I know this is not possible but we can try as hard as we can to have the schools open full time and give our kids this opportunity.</p> <p>As a nurse I show up for my patients. We don't close down the hospital doors. I do understand that if and when more kids start getting infected with this virus it might be necessary to shut down schools and do full remote. But I am asking to try. Let's try and open the doors for our children. Wash our hands, wear our masks and try to have this little piece of "normal" back.</p> <p>I am hoping we will be able to go back to schools. The responsibility lies within everyone. Please consider the health and wellness of our young kids.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
Allyson Domalick	<p>Thanks for your time. My daughter attends kindergarten remotely. I believe all the teachers are doing a wonderful job. I commend them for adapting quickly and working hard to meet the needs of this new landscape of hybrid and remote teaching. I teach first grade fully remotely in another district and I'm concerned so much attention is being focused on going in-person at D25 that the education of the remote learners is being sacrificed. In my district, the teachers either teach in-person OR remote--not both. This way we can give our full attention to our students. How can a teacher give full attention to students while they're in class and on Zoom? It's an impossible task and all groups suffer (students and teacher). How will a kindergarten teacher be asked to do guided reading groups with this model? Guided reading is one of the most essential parts of teaching for K-2 and show the most growth for students. As you consider all options for January, I urge you to consider a full remote option with full</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	<p>remote teachers- even if it means having students change classroom teachers. Kids are resilient and will be ok with a teacher change. We have amazing teachers in D25 and we need to frame it as our kids being lucky to have 2 great educators vs. being upset they'll have a teacher change. My family and many other families are choosing remote for safety purposes and our children deserve a robust education with the full attention of their teacher.</p>
Kristin Keil	<p>First and foremost I want to thank the School Board for their dedication to our community. The countless hours you have spent during this unprecedented time has not gone unnoticed, we appreciate you. Our community is very divided in regards to how schools should be operating right now. Conflicting articles on the Internet from reputable sources and backlash and anger on social media has caused quite the uproar in our own community. I realize I am not a teacher, I am not a doctor or in the medical field, I am not a member of the School Board or an administrator; I am a parent and I can only speak from my heart and my personal experience with my child, a 6th grader at South Middle School. If I did have the power to make a decision I would vote to keep the schools open, operating under the current hybrid model. If the metrics show it is safe to keep the school open we should; we have shown we can successfully keep the teachers, staff and students safe. Continuing to allow them to attend in person learning would show the students we value their education and are trying our best during the pandemic to give them consistency. It will allow the teachers to continue to teach in the same setting which they have established a routine. I know that this year has been challenging for them with all the changes in routine; I truly believe having the students in the classroom is not just beneficial to the student's education and mental well being it is a sign that we can work together as a community with our teachers and school district to maintain a safe school environment despite all the chaos in the world right now. We are showing our students that we can collaborate and figure out how to keep them safe and in school learning; where they should be. Thank you for your time.</p>
Jamee McBride	<p>The AH and cook county metrics have been very concerning and beyond the district 25's protocols to keep kids in school. According to your protocols and based on IDPH guidelines, our district should be in an adaptive pause. This is to help decrease the community spread and help protect our community and our teachers. As a healthcare provider, at our local hospital we are seeing our hospital fill up and staffing becoming lesser and lesser. We need to be consistent as a community and follow IDPH guidelines and not look to revise them. We all want our kids back to school and with their teachers but, now is not the time. Please protect our teachers, our administrators and our community by declaring an immediate adaptive pause similar to district 214 and all the surrounding districts.</p>
Scott Caro	<p>Dr. Bein, Brian, Erin, Scott, Chad, Rich, Anisha, and Gina, Please accept this email as community input for the November 29, School Board Meeting. I hope this email finds you and your family in good health. Thank you for your leadership at the November 19 Board Meeting. I appreciate your voice in supporting our children, taking initiative to move in-person learning (without taking an adaptive pause) and for challenging the Superintendent to have a plan. Over the past several months I have been following Board Meetings which has inspired me to write multiple letters to you and Dr. Bein. It was so nice to hear dialogue, conversation and healthy debate on November 19. Thanks again for listening to the community and standing up for the children of SD 25. I encourage you to continue to stay strong, work together and challenge each other to seek solutions which offer choices for our children's education. I would like to see SD 25 continue to move in the direction of full in person learning (without adaptive pause). As a parent looking for in person learning, remote learning does not meet our family's education expectations. To be clear, parents who choose 100% remote learning are not impacted by the choice of families who choose in person learning. Finally, I would like to offer feedback regarding my observations over the past several months. I have notice that the Superintendent Report to the Board rarely has a plan and approaches presented typically focuses on the negative side of the situation. First, the lack of a plan is consistently missing. As you know, a plan has action steps, timeline, owners and a targeted date of completion. Over the past several months I haven't seen any actionable plans presented to the Board. What has been presented week after week is data overload and a lot of words on a page, but no decisive conclusions and plans that will move us forward. A recent example shared at the November 19 Board Meeting can be seen on slide #4 (Action Items – Full In Person</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	<p>Learning) from Superintendent Report. The six bullet points shared are ambiguous and missing action steps, owners and targeted dates of completion which make it challenging for accountability. I encourage the Board to continue to build on the momentum from the November 19 Board Meeting and hold the Superintendent accountable for presenting plans with measurable action steps. Second, it would create a more positive, uplifting environment if the focus was on a "CAN DO" approach, rather a "CAN'T DO" mindset. The presentations in the Superintendent Report are designed to lead us to a negative outcome and approach. At the November 19 meeting, a few Board Members began asking questions to help get to a "Yes." It would be nice to see all Board Members continue to focus the Superintendent on removing obstacles and reasons that prevent us from accomplishing our objectives. This occurs multiple times throughout each Board Meeting. One example from the November 19 Board Meeting was when the Superintendent was asked about hiring for a potential staff shortage. The immediate answer was, without hesitation, we can't move faster as there are steps that we must follow. A more positive and active approach to the answer would have been, "Let me look into what I can do to help move the applications and process along quicker." The work you're doing is greatly appreciated and the Board involvement was noticeably different at the last Board Meeting. I know your work is challenging. I thank you for not giving up as our children are counting on all of us to provide them with a top-notch education.</p> <p>Regards, Scott Caro</p>
Elizabeth Malone	<p>School District 25 Board of Education, Thank you for voting in favor of no adaptive pause on November 19th. I understand you may be re-visiting this issue at the next board meeting and I'd like to ask you not to implement an adaptive pause in children's education from November 30th-January 15th. I have two children enrolled in district 25 schools and a third enrolled at a district 214 school. It has become clear to me that while teaching can be robust when remote, it is very difficult to keep students on task the whole day. Please continue to allow families to choose in-person learning, while other families can opt for remote learning. My children are so much happier and learn so much more when they attend school in-person. My 6th grader looks forward to in-person days where he can safely see friends and interact with classmates and teachers during lessons. On remote days he often misses parts of lessons and is very distracted in our home, even though we've done our best to create a good learning environment. My second grader enjoys in-person days so much that she had me reschedule a medical appointment so she wouldn't miss any of her in-person days (it was fine with her to miss remote learning). I fear a long pause in their in-person learning is essentially just choosing to put a pause in their education. Please show that you value education for all. Many students are suffering in this remote learning climate. Please do not remove the few in-person days that students are relying on for education.</p> <p>Sincerely, Elizabeth Malone</p>
Richard Lenski	<p>Please do NOT go to adaptive pause. We would like to please request staying at hybrid learning until we go full in person in January at Westgate Elementary School. My IEP 4th grade son, was just approved to go four days a week and he definitely needs the in person learning. He is struggling mightily with remote learning. My other first grade son has also started to flourish with the additional hybrid in-person days. Please do not take these in-person days away from them.</p>
Christy Goduto	<p>I am writing to show my support for continuing in the hybrid plan until we can go the full 5 days in January, while still offering the choice of remote for those who want that option. Thank you to the board for all your hard work during this time and your support of the children of this district. My 3 kids are so happy to be back in school and cannot wait until they can go everyday!!</p>
Steve Zurek	<p>I would just like to thank the board for all of your hard work over the last eight months. The decisions have been difficult ones but I believe you are putting the interest of our children at the forefront. I was a bit perplexed watching the last board meeting about how Dr. Bein kept on bringing up our teachers not being able to access childcare if they still had to teach and their respective districts implemented an adaptive pause. We as parents had to figure out our particular situations when everything shut down back in March. I don't believe this should anyway go into the decision making about our children's education and future. Thank you for your time.</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Colleen DeHart	<p>This is a SEVERE mental health issue for our kids. You have a responsibility to them and you are failing miserably if you put them back in all remote. These kids need to be back. Parents, and kids, should have a choice to learn in-person if they are comfortable. The facts (https://wirepoints.org/support-for-school-reopenings-grow-across-the-political-spectrum-wirepoints-quicktake/?fbclid=IwAR1m6B6b2gd29mxYQRUwCOwpGPz5OxsLcJ98o2gZLkyxe8j3lYg1fFp5fQw) are there and you have heard them many times. Please start listening for the sake of our kids and their future as successful adults.</p>
Kristina Heaton	<p>To the Board of Education and Dr. Bein, Thank you for all you have done and all you continue to do. We are so grateful that you listened to the data that supports in-school learning as a safe option. Please vote NO for an adaptive pause and please vote yes to move forward with a move to full in person learning. Thank you for understanding that while some parents prefer remote learning during this time, that has been (and continues to be) available to them and their choice should not dictate what every parent should do and how each child should learn. All children learn differently, and many children benefit from in-person instruction and supports versus remote learning. Please continue listening to the experts and know that in-person schooling can be safe, and as a community we are willing to make that happen for teachers and all school staff. Sincerely, Kristina Heaton</p>
Dr. Kyle Heaton	<p>To the Board of Education and Dr. Bein, Thank you for all you have done and all you continue to do. We are so grateful that you listened to the data that supports in-school learning as a safe option. Please vote NO for an adaptive pause and please vote yes to move forward with a move to full in person learning. Thank you for understanding that while some parents prefer remote learning during this time, that has been (and continues to be) available to them and their choice should not dictate what every parent should do and how each child should learn. All children learn differently, and many children benefit from in-person instruction and supports versus remote learning. Please continue listening to the experts and know that in-person schooling can be safe, and as a community we are willing to make that happen for teachers and all school staff. Sincerely, Kyle Heaton</p>
Melissa Van Buren	<p>Please continue to work at getting our kids in school as many days possible. Please continue to vote no on an adaptive pause. This is so important for our children! Thank you!</p>
Kristy Harvey	<p>I just wanted to say thank you for keeping the kids in school. My boys have been struggling with remote and hybrid so working towards choice for full in school learning is so important. Have you ever taken a poll to see how many kids are home alone while their parents go to work everyday?</p>
Amy Reed	<p>Arlington Heights School District 25 School Board Thank you in advance for reading my letter. My name is Amy Reed. I am both a community member of Arlington Heights and a staff member at D25. I work at Windsor School as the Library Media Center Assistant. I am also a certified substitute. In November, we had 11 instructional days prior to Thanksgiving break. During this time I was pulled to substitute for a teacher or to serve as a “classroom monitor” on 7 of those instructional days due teachers being out and a shortage of substitutes. This left my LMC role unfilled. As a result, many students missed out on the opportunity to check out books. Additionally, this placed additional burden on the LMC director who is without her normal support. As we move into December and January, the number of teachers who will be out due to leave or quarantine will be even more significant than in November due to the increasing number of COVID cases in the schools and community. The district needs to execute a plan that minimizes the disruption and discontinuity of the educational experience caused by the ongoing impact of COVID during this time. Such a plan must work to prevent a constantly changing situation of who is doing the teaching and where the teaching is being done. While I might be a familiar face from the library and can execute sub plans, I am not their teacher and do not know them well. Only their teacher is aware if they struggle in math or reading, or knows how to get the quiet students to contribute to the discussion.</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	<p>The only option to minimize this chaos is to take an adaptive pause so that teachers, students and families will have consistency and be able to set their expectations. This is what the students need to experience everyday even if it is in a remote setting. Substitutes can't replace the bond, consistency, knowledge and care that students experience with their teacher.</p> <p>I ask the board to vote for an adaptive pause until at least January 19th so that students can have the continuity and care of their regular teacher in a predictable environment.</p> <p>Thank you, Amy Reed</p>
Alina Laurie	<p>Hello, Please keep our schools open. Do not vote "yes" on an adaptive pause. The CDC has repeatedly confirmed that schools are the safest place for our kids. SD25 risk mitigation protocols are working. The virus doesn't transmit within the SD25 buildings.</p> <p>I have four kids enrolled in SD25. During the recent parent/teacher conferences it became alarmingly clear how much is being left out or skipped in my kids' education. I heard comment after comment about what is skipped or what would normally be done if my kids were at school five days a week. Let's not kid ourselves into thinking that our SD25 kids are receiving anything close to a full education. The weeks are slipping by and our Arlington Heights kids are more and more disadvantaged compared to peers at private schools or peers in other states that are more "open."</p> <p>We need to be focused on how to get the kids back into the building fulltime on Jan 19th. And also, between now and Jan 19th, please fill all the seats in the room on the current four days a week kids attend in-person. Right now, all of my kids' classrooms have empty desks. The schools need to get as many kids as possible into those desks right now. My daughter's first grade class at Dryden (Stanhope) has only 17 kids. If the remote-only kids are subtracted off, and desks are added to meet the requirement of placing desks six feet apart from center-to-center, then there might be room for her whole class to attend four days a week. The Board passed a motion telling the superintendent to maximize the number of students who can attend four days a week. The superintendent sent an email implying only kids with IEPs are being invited to attend four days a week. That is not what the Board intended when the option was passed.</p> <p>Thank you, Alina</p>
Jodi Zera	<p>I am writing to urge Dr. Bein and the Board of Education to keep D25 schools open in the hybrid model after Thanksgiving. Dr. Anthony Fauci tells us that schools are safe and are not contributing to the spread of COVID-19. The CDC director Robert Redfield said, "The truth is, for kids K through 12, one of the safest places they can be from our perspective is to remain in school." In Europe, bars, restaurants, theaters, gyms are closed so that schools can stay open. They realize just how important and essential their children's education is in comparison. Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer has closed down restaurants for indoor dining, offices, high schools, and colleges, but she has kept K-8 schools open because it is safe. Governor Pritzker is not mandating schools to close either. There is widespread agreement that if mitigation protocols are implemented properly, and D25 data shows that this is the case in our district, schools are not contributing to the spread of the virus. Our students wear their masks, wash and sanitize their hands regularly, and keep their distance because it means they can go to school. My child's eyes light up on roomie days and go dim on zoomie days. If the district moves forward with an adaptive pause, they will be doing a great disservice to the children in our community.</p> <p>Students in D25 have already missed out on months of in person learning. Doctors and other health professionals weren't sure if it was safe for schools to be open last spring. We know better now, so we should do better. Remote learning is not as effective as in person learning, and we all know it. The mental health of our children will suffer even more if we shift back to 100% remote learning. Struggling students will fall further behind, and students with special needs will not receive all the services to which they are entitled. Closing schools for 5 weeks or through the winter or through the rest of the school year is not what's best for the students in our community. Other schools in our community and across the country are safely educating their children FIVE days a week in person and we can too.</p>
Stephanie Levinsky	<p>There is overwhelming scientific evidence that children and teachers are safe in school ---Covid is not being spread within our buildings. Please follow the medical science and not political science. Please continue to look for solutions and creative problem solving strategies.</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Janet Iacovelli	<p>Thank you to our administration and board members who are tirelessly working to support our students in the best way possible during these almost impossible times. As a teacher in our district, I am struggling with the message our board is putting out to the greater community, and more importantly, to our children. On one hand, teachers have been trained to teach SEL (social/emotional learning) to our students. We teach extensive lessons on being kind, generous, having compassion, seeing someone else's point of view, and standing up to bullies using the language of bystanders and upstanders. After watching several past board meetings I am wondering if our vision for SEL is just rhetoric. Studies show students learn a great deal more from watching us than from hearing us. So what are the students in D25 learning from adults about caring for one another? 1) They are learning that, as a district, we don't care about health-care workers. It doesn't matter that people will get sick or that Northwest Community Hospital is overloaded and the healthcare workers are at their breaking points. The board continually ignores community statistics and chooses to look at the micro numbers within schools and classrooms. I understand the logic of this approach; it just does not follow what we are directed to teach. Care only about a small group and don't worry about anyone else. 2) Our Arlington Heights community is suffering. According to the CookCounty Dept. of Health, there has been an 85.2 percent increase in Covid cases over the past 14 days. How is this not our problem? The board and the district cannot have it both ways. You need to decide if we really believe in teaching our children to care about others, if students should stand up to the bullies, and if social and emotional learning targets are what we are aiming for. Because, honestly, the loudest voice in the room is not always the right one.</p>
Adam & Janelle Thoma	<p>Thank you to the board for all you have done and all you continue to do for our students. Thank you for understanding that all students learn differently and that our community should be given a choice between in-person and remote learning depending on what suits their student the best. Thank you for using our local community data to make decisions. Please continue to listen to the experts which state that in-person schooling can be accomplished safely.</p>
Kyle Wilhelm	<p>As you guys meet to discuss entry and exit criteria for instruction for this school year, a few things come to mind.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Too often we are having the wrong discussion. This is not about what whether or not in person teaching is better, because I believe most people understand that. This is about whether it is safe and appropriate, at this time. 2) You represent the entire community, not the loud minority. It is hard not to watch the meetings and feel as though you are encouraging people to yell and scream until they get what they want. If you remember the survey results (Nov 12 board meeting), the majority of the community wants metrics to be met and 6-foot distancing to be followed. 3) While we are talking about metrics, I would hope you can all come up with metrics and follow them. You are currently not even following your own guidelines. At the Nov 19 meeting, it was discussed how the metrics are not being met for hybrid, but you continue to proceed with adding students where possible. If you are going to not follow any metrics or guidelines, that go on record and say that. 4) A lot of parents complain about their choice. Let's talk about choice. The majority of parents want to go full in person when the metrics are met and a 63.6% majority want to keep 6 ft distance. When you make decisions that might not actually keep 6 ft distancing and go with 3 ft minimum and 6 ft when possible, you are ignoring the choice for the overwhelming majority. 5) Our administration is going on science, research, surveys, and data. These are the things we teach our students. We don't teach them to only look at those things when it fits our narrative. 6) To Superintendent Bein, while I do not agree with all of the decisions made, I do appreciate your thoughtfulness you put into the decisions. I know you are not making these decisions lightly. I also truly believe you are making decisions that you feel are the best at that time. I also wish people would treat you, and everyone else, with a little more respect when they don't agree. <p>As you engage in this discussion about how we move forward, I hope you take seriously your roles and responsibilities of the board and remember what our board governance states under Roles and Responsibilities.</p> <p>I wish this meeting was in person so I could speak to you in person. I would not yell, although it seems as though you reward that. As a board, you are put in the unenviable position of making tough decisions. Does data/math/science/survey results matter, even if it is not the result you personally</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	<p>desire? If your decisions are against the recommendation of the Superintendent, against the desire of the staff, against the majority of the community, and against guidance this community wants to support putting into question safety and consistency for our children’s education, then why are you making these decisions and who are you serving?</p>
Kevin Michael	<p>In a letter to D25 families and staff on November 13, Dr. Bein shared that in order for District 25 to safely move to full, in-person learning on January 19, several criteria would need to be met, including: “< 8% positivity rate in Region 10 as reported by the IDPH; or • < 70 new cases per 100,000 in Arlington Heights Zip Code in a 7 day period; and • Flat or decreasing trend of Covid19 positive cases in District 25 and/or • Decreasing trends in all of the above metrics that point towards them achieving the above metrics”. The reality is that District 25 needs to follow Dr. Bein’s recommendation and immediately go into an adaptive pause (fully remote instruction) starting on November 30 and lasting until at least January 19. Then, the aforementioned metrics should be the requirement to resume hybrid instruction if they are achieved on or before January 19. To safely resume 5-day in-person instruction, the metrics should be a positivity rate below 5% and fewer than 50 new cases per 100,000 in Arlington Heights zip codes for a 14-day period. Also, any scenario that places students closer than 6 feet apart under any circumstances should not be considered until students and staff have been vaccinated against COVID-19 or until the Arlington Heights zip codes have had zero new cases reported for a period of 2 weeks or more.</p> <p>The current decision to remain in hybrid instruction as cases continue to rise across Illinois, and with many students returning from travel over the holidays, is irresponsible, dangerous, and negligent. It is time for the Board of Education to show that they prioritize the health, safety, and well-being of students, staff, and community members. There is no such thing as being too cautious under current circumstances. As a District 25 parent, taxpayer, and community member, I request that the Board of Education takes Dr. Bein’s advice to implement an adaptive pause on in-person instruction immediately.</p>
Janine Flauter	<p>Dear AHSD25 Board of Education, You are leaving teachers feeling disheartened and dismayed. At the last board meeting it was asked if substitute teaching certification and background checks could be waived. By asking for this instead of highly skilled teachers shows that you do not put the concern for students first. By taking an adaptive pause the staffing concerns are mostly resolved. Students in their homes and taught by teachers with established rapport is a better solution than students in person with temporary coverage. As a board member, every decision you make should be putting the students best interest first, regardless of how difficult that decision is to make. Having a closed mind to the possibility of an adaptive pause shows that you don’t have the students best interest in mind. To imply that teachers that want to feel safe at work or teachers that are burdened with closing schools and childcare are somehow less devoted to their careers is insulting. To think that your knowledge and expertise is somehow greater than most school board members in other school boards in our area is shocking. I am writing to encourage you to declare an adaptive pause for D25 schools. Please put the safety of students and staff above all else. If a student or staff member falls gravely ill due to Covid-19, the social and emotional health of all is in jeopardy. Keeping schools open is a perilous decision. Board members must make decisions for the greater good of our community, no matter the difficulty. At Windsor School, we are a community of people that are devoted to being kind, safe, and responsible. We do this because we believe that each member of our community is important. Kindness. Knowing the entire world is in the same situation and having empathy for your fellow people to become part of the solution. Safety. Keeping at risk individuals away from harm, which includes at risk family members and staff. Responsible. Making the decisions that you know are right that are difficult to make. While I know some board members have already made their decision, I urge the rest of you to follow reason. As a board member of our community, you hold the power to make decisions for the best interest of students. Follow the lead of most school boards in the area and declare an adaptive pause. Thank you for your time,</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	Janine Flauter
Renee Schlenhardt	<p>Dear Superintendent and Board Members, Thank you all for all you've done to move forward and get the kids back in school. Your effort and thought is much appreciated. We can't stop the momentum now.</p> <p>As a concerned resident, I ask you to consider putting the kids first and engineering your decisions around one goal: children having their rightful access to schools and education. Yes, we are in a pandemic. Yes, these are "unprecedented times." Organizations, schools, businesses and corporations around us have had to figure it out. I'm asking you to do so as well, and do it from the lens of putting the students as the number one priority. Education is essential, just as hospitals, police, and fire. I don't know where and when the paradigm shifted to put kids last on the priority list, but this has to end now.</p> <p>I ask you also to remind people that traveled for Thanksgiving to quarantine, as the rules state. People need to take personal responsibility and be accountable. I understand the Principal of Thomas sent out a reminder, this is excellent.</p> <p>While cases are up now, I ask that you look at the local data – as discussed in the last board meeting. The "ecosystem" if you will, is doing very well. Schools are demonstrated to be one of the safest places to be, the numbers don't lie. Also, the case/100,000 is wildly out of whack compared to other sources, including the Daily Herald.</p> <p>AHSD25 data: Please continue to reverse engineer with the goal of full access choice for students to be in school. Let's make D25 a leader in our area. Thank you.</p>
Laura Culley	<p>I believe that we should only be using district metrics in determining whether to do an adaptive pause and not regional metrics. For example, our region 10 metrics are at a 14.8% positivity rate but the 60004 and 60005 metrics are 8.83% positivity which is lower than our region metrics. District metrics are even better than the community metrics. Our district metrics indicate cumulatively that only 1% of students and 3% of staff have had a positive covid test under a hybrid model which is a very low percentage with no outbreaks reported to parents this fall that required a school to be closed. Using the district metrics only, I would expect that we can continue with hybrid in December with additional students possible where there is high remote and for IEP students who need in person the most. Our mitigations are working and as is seen around the country and the world, school is a safe, controlled environment and in person learning continues to be far superior to remote learning particularly for K-8 grades. Please put the travel guidance on the covid screening form and have parents submit a google doc each day that their child attends to remind parents of their obligations to keep sick children home. Also, please add a screening form and travel guidance for staff as well in order to keep cases and exclusions low.</p> <p>The CDC is planning on potentially changing the exclusion time from 14 days to 7 days (https://www.cnn.com/2020/11/25/the-cdc-is-expected-to-shorten-covid-quarantine-time-something-most-everyone-seems-to-agree-on.html). This may help with staffing issues as well.</p> <p>I continue to support moving to full in person learning on Jan 19 with these measures in place. I support continuing to provide parents with a full remote option as well. Covid will not go away for the rest of this school year and potentially into the fall of the following school year. We need to take a data driven district approach to determining school instructional format that best serves the students and to provide choice for parents.</p>
Karen Johl	<p>Rather than move to adaptive pause, mandate anyone who saw people outside their homes during the holidays stay home for 14 days. I fear if you move to adaptive pause, Dr. Bein will make it harder to ever get back to school. If you mandate a pause, two weeks after Christmas would be the only time, and that is to help ensure student and staff safety when they return to four day weeks Jan. 19. My husband is a first responder. He has no adaptive pause. People need to be responsible. No one pays for someone to stay with our kids while they are e-learning. It is an adjustment and expense many working parents have been dealing with since March. We need to do what is best for the students of Dist. 25, not base our schedule on what teachers' children are doing. Kids have a better chance of spreading Covid when they are not in school, and they are out</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	<p>socializing. School is not a super spreader. Enforce rules on quarantine. Let our students stay in school.</p>
<p>Jim and Jennifer Licato</p>	<p>We have had children in District 25 for ten years, and currently have children attending Windsor and South. We are disappointed in the way our school board is the only one in the area who has disregarded the advice of experts (our own superintendent, CDC, WHO) in making decisions that impact the health and safety of our children, teachers and staff. Our children are currently hybrid but based on the alarming increase in COVID cases, we support an adaptive pause at least through January 19. In addition, we do not support a full in-person return until safe metrics are met. We understand that we will have the choice to be fully remote (and we will exercise that choice if forced to) but our teachers will not. We would prefer that our children receive a remote education from their highly qualified, talented, dedicated D25 teachers than either a remote or in-person education from a substitute teacher—particularly a substitute who has been hired at the last minute, potentially without a background check. We fear that the decisions being made by this board will deter D25 from attracting quality teachers going forward, potentially impacting our school district, our property values, and most importantly, the well-being and success of our children.</p> <p>Thank you, Jim and Jennifer Licato</p>
<p>Christine Organ</p>	<p>Thank you for your time and attention to the ongoing demands that the pandemic presents. I have listened to nearly every school board meeting over the past several months, and I know that these are not easy decisions in front of you.</p> <p>It should go without saying that we all want our children to be back in school in person with their peers and teachers. Additionally, we all want what is best for our own children. Sometimes we need to be reminded that there is no such thing as "other people's children." We live in a community and can never lose sight of this. We cannot, in our quest to care for our own children, forget that what we do impacts all of us.</p> <p>Since this is a new virus, the information is changing rapidly. I am increasingly concerned that school board members have cited outdated information to support their opinions. Of course, school board members should not be expected to be public health experts and stay up to date on all of the most recent data, but that is precisely why you should rely on the recommendations from public health experts and follow those metrics -- not metrics of your own making.</p> <p>As education leaders, you have a responsibility to model responsible learning and that includes looking to the science. I find the school board's approach of "find the data that you like, not the most reliable data that exists" to be highly problematic on a larger scale. I certainly hope that this is not the attitude that is taken with respect to curriculum. We need to arm our children with the tools to assess information and then teach them how to follow the science.</p> <p>We are a community and we must consider the community in our decisions. The school board was elected to represent and care for the entire community, not just SD25 families. I have been extremely disheartened by certain comments from parents at school board meetings that our teachers are here "to serve" our students and parents. I was disappointed that there wasn't a strong and swift repudiation of this comment. I urge the school board to emphatically refute this mentality and to fiercely defend the heroic efforts of our teachers and school administrators.</p> <p>This is a chance for us to teach our kids how to care for others and the wider community. If we only focus on the impact of in-person school on D25 students and families, we are teaching our children to take a self-interested, narrow-focused approach to decision-making, rather than a wider, community-based approach to decision making. We do not live in a bubble and decisions cannot be made in a vacuum. What we do affects countless other people and we can't pretend otherwise.</p> <p>I commend Dr. Bein for taking the bold step to recommend an Adaptive Pause, and for her continued support of the D25 staff. I had trusted that the school board would make responsible, albeit difficult, decisions if we got to this point and that the school board would follow the recommendations of public health experts. Please do so.</p>
<p>Carly Lisinski</p>	<p>I would like to ask the Board and Dr. Bein to use in school metrics only when determining full in person/full remote. The CDC director said school is the safest place for kids and our in school metrics prove that as well. Let's get the students in district 25 back to school full time, where they are safe.</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Amanda Bhansali	<p>Dear School Board Members,</p> <p>I was very disheartened to watch the last board meeting and the lack of action by school board members. Stop Waiting. The time is now for D25 to take an adaptive pause until the New Year. Every other public school district in our local area has elected to take an adaptive pause. D25 is the outlier, yet we are living in the same world as our neighbors.</p> <p>A recent study done by Princeton(1) shows that children and teens play a much larger role in community spread than previously thought.</p> <p>Northern Cook County still has a high positivity rate as well as +500 cases per 100,000 residents as reported by the county health department. (2)</p> <p>Similarly, the IDPH risk level for schools in Northern Cook County has been at "Warning" level for the last 4 weeks. (2)</p> <p>Board Member Faso made an excellent point at the last meeting: there are no board approved metrics in place to close schools. My suggestion: The CDC guidelines do not address a situation above 200 cases per 100,000 people in a location. If local cases are above the 200 cases per 100,000 people, it is time for an adaptive pause. Reminder: Northern Cook County is currently over 500 cases per 100,000 – far exceeding the CDC guidelines. (3)</p> <p>It is CLEAR that the many expert recommendations are all pointing toward taking an adaptive pause out of an abundance of caution for HEALTH REASONS.</p> <p>Previous School Board comments about encouraging families to stay home and not attend school after traveling and the holidays are laughable. My family is following the recommendations by public health officials, but I fear we are in the minority. Many of my neighbors attended gatherings and engaged in travel over the past week. We're still receiving invitations to birthday parties in the community. I call on the School Board to be the responsible party. Many news outlets recently reported that O'Hare International Airport saw the busiest days of the year this past week. Community members are not listening to the call to stay home. You must take it upon yourselves to call for an adaptive pause.</p> <p>Act Now. Protect our community. Protect our staff. Protect our students. Do what is right for our community, our students, and our educators. Vote for an adaptive pause immediately. It is better to err on the side of caution than to be the reason for our failure.</p> <p>Most Sincerely, Amanda Bhansali</p> <p>PS- The video played during this past school board meeting of CDC director Dr. Redfield should hold no influence on your decision. He is a POLITICAL appointee of a federal government that has lost control of pandemic response. That meeting was held at the White House as part of a political message. Shame on you for pandering to politics. These are our children, not political pawns. The creator of the Covid-19 School Response Dashboard (Professor Oster) recently spoke out that her study was misinterpreted by CDC Director Redfield and she didn't support his statements. Furthermore, Professor Oster (creator of the Dashboard) stated that much of the data referenced is incomplete and doesn't show a complete picture due to the lack of testing in schools at large. (4)</p> <p>References:</p> <p>1 https://www.princeton.edu/news/2020/09/30/largest-covid-19-contact-tracing-study-date-finds-children-key-spread-evidence#:~:text=A%20Princeton%20led%20study%20of,contact%20tracing%20study%20to%20date</p> <p>2 https://ccdphcd.shinyapps.io/covid19/</p> <p>3 https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/community/schools-childcare/indicators-thresholds-table.pdf</p> <p>4 https://www.cnn.com/2020/11/24/health/cdc-schools-coronavirus-website-redfield/index.html</p>
Catherine Gripper	<p>I would like to ask the Board and Dr. Bein to use in school metrics only when determining full in person/full remote. The CDC director said school is the safest place for kids and our in school metrics prove that as well. Let's get the students in district 25 back to school full time, where they are safe.</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Amanda Bhansali	<p>Dear School Board Members,</p> <p>It has come to the attention of several community groups that at least one of the current D25 School Board Members is openly siding with and supporting a group of parents that petitions to reopen schools at any cost. Board Member support of their cause seems to be happening through private meetings and also by publicly displaying yard signs at their home.</p> <p>This is in direct violation of item #1 on the Board Member Oath and Conduct listed in your governing documents. (link: https://www.sd25.org/cms/lib/IL01904427/Centricity/Domain/42/Exhibit-2-80-E.pdf)</p> <p>School Board members, by their oath, should represent all constituents honestly and equally. I call for said board member to resign for violation of this oath of office - OR at the very least abstain from any conversation and voting regarding the opening or closing of schools.</p> <p>Clearly, an "honest and equal" discussion cannot be had when this Board Member has so clearly cultivated relationships with "Open d25" Parents and developed preconceived notions about the issues.</p> <p>Respectfully Submitted, Amanda Bhansali</p>
Jenni Von Tobel	<p>Hi- thank you once again for continuing to have conversations about keeping our kids and staff safe while also working to ensure they have quality education.</p> <p>I'd like to advocate that you do not take an adaptive pause based on the less than 9%rate in our zip codes from Northwestern as well as the metrics within the school district that show minimal, if any, spread of covid in our classrooms.</p> <p>I'm thankful that school like Ivy Hill opened based on class sizes and that students with IEP's and 504's were invited back. However, I'd like to request that students with interventions who are ALSO in classrooms that have plenty of room, be invited back for the remaining weeks in December. One of my 3 daughters, who I email you about weekly, struggles significantly with remote learning, receives both math and interventions AND has room in her classroom (only 6 students daily are in her class).</p> <p>Initially, the list included intervention students to be invited as well....when that was changed at the last board meeting, I questioned it and was told the only reason she's not being invited back is that they are going to see how it goes with the other students coming back at Ivy and those with IEP's. While I understand that adjustment period, it makes no sense that a student who receives interventions, struggles daily and has room in the classroom can't also come back. Please please consider the students who receive multiple Tier 2 and Tier 3 interventions and allow them, at least those who are struggling dramatically with remote learning, to return.</p> <p>At the very least, give the principals the choice to make the call for their schools. They are saying they have to wait for Dr Bein to give direction to invite any more students back.</p>
Briana Hafer	<p>I'd like to thank the board for the unanimous decision for D25 to continue in the hybrid model while moving forward with a plan towards full, in-person learning after the new year. These are challenging times and you are each being entrusted with our children's education in ways in which no one could have predicted. You have such tough choices to make, but for what it's worth, given the existing data and mitigation factors we're all working hard to implement as a community, I share my support for your decision NOT to pursue an adaptive pause during this time.</p> <p>Importantly, I'm grateful that you acknowledge that, while remote learning is the safest choice for some families, in-person learning is the safest for others. This takes into consideration not just the impact of Covid-19, but also the mental health implications to our children who are struggling with remote learning. Thank you for supporting parents' ability to choose which option is best for their family!</p> <p>No doubt, as we progress into the winter months, the decisions you have to make as a team for our children will continue to prove to be challenging. Thank you for continuing to base your decisions on the expertise of science and health officials. In-person learning can be safe, and we will continue to work together as a community to keep it that way for students, teachers, and staff.</p>
Amy Pinski	<p>For the safety of our students, staff, and community at large, I am writing to encourage the Board of Education to heed Dr. Bein's recommendation for an adaptive pause.</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Tricia Fuglestad	I ask the Arlington Heights School Board to set safe metrics and follow the recommendation from the IDPH and put our school district on an adaptive pause to protect the health of members in our community. A vaccine is on the horizon, let's error on the side of caution when it comes to the lives of children, teachers, and families during the height of our crisis
Barb Donahue	<p>I'm a former D25 parent, and a current resident of AH as well as a current district employee (29th year!).</p> <p>I've been working full time throughout this year and will try to continue to do so, despite the little nagging fear in the back of my mind. I have health issues but try not to let the fear of COVID run my life. Social work is my job, it's my life and I'm here to work and serve my community.</p> <p>However... the current situation is bad and increases my fear tremendously. I do mean the huge increase in COVID numbers, but I also mean that due to many staff needing to taking leaves (of one sort or another), the district is forced to beg the community to help (volunteer, sub, etc.).</p> <p>This is awful!! The fact that every single day we could have MANY new and different employees in the building is really not safe!</p> <p>As the social worker, I don't just sit in my office...even when there are no kids in the building. Teachers, substitute teachers and all staff are constantly seeking me out to run one situation or another by me. To have these interactions with trusted staff members who follow safety procedures is one thing, but really unsettling when the doors have been opened to a variety of different people which might change each and every day.</p> <p>Taking a pause would help alleviate the stress on staff members that are now forced to take a leave of some sort and decrease the amount of new people on the building each day.</p> <p>Please consider the adaptive pause, it's the right thing to do on so many levels!!</p>
Kate Murray	Give Dr. Bein the respect and allow her to make the decisions needed for the best for our kids. She was hired because of her education, experience, and ability to run good districts. You, the board, are ruining district 25. Fix this and put the majority of the kids as the primary priority.
Kristin Burmeister	As a staff member for 25 years, I would like the district to follow the undeniable scientific solution to mitigating this pandemic - stay at home with minimal and calculated contact outside your immediate family.
Kate Renno	<p>To The AHSD25 School Board,</p> <p>First, thank you for the time and energy you have dedicated to our community in the past, and the countless hours you are putting in this school year as we navigate a school year during a pandemic. As you discuss today potential entry and exit criteria for our various methods of instruction this school year, I also hope the discussion will include criteria that would lead to a potential adaptive pause. After the last board meeting, you asked Dr. Bein to do further risk assessments and seemed to reference our internal metrics being of significant importance to the Board. I would like to see clear criteria as to what would determine an adaptive pause, as many districts around us are currently entering an adaptive pause because of state and local health departments data and recommendations, while where we are not. As part of your discussion and to help the community better understand your decision-making process, it would also be helpful to know why some metrics or health department recommendations are not being used and the rationale behind those decisions as well.</p> <p>Sincerely, Kate Renno - community member and AHSD25 teacher</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
<p>Lauren Salsinger</p>	<p>I am writing to you as a community member, taxpayer, and Student Learning Coach in District 25. After 10 years of working in the district, I decided to live in Arlington Heights because of its incredible sense of community. The current divide in our community currently is truly heartbreaking. I felt compelled to write to you after the November 19th board meeting when the idea was discussed to exclusively use District 25 data rather than a combination of that and local metrics.</p> <p>My utmost concern is for the safety of our students, staff, and community members. While it was reassuring to hear that (on paper) the teachers' mitigation strategies are proving to effectively contain the spread of COVID in schools, I am skeptical that we are truly aware of the source and contact of each positive case. Positive cases stayed stagnant for the duration of remote learning, but have grown exponentially since our hybrid model began. I encourage you to inquire more about the contact tracing process and students' ability to maintain a 6 foot distance in environments outside of the classroom. For example, at Thomas there are 10 passing periods, 4 minutes each. For a total of 40 minutes large groups of students (over 50) are passing by one another, in a significantly less structured format. According to the CDC, evidence suggests that as many as 45% of pediatric infections are asymptomatic; how are we accounting for these students? On paper only two cases were connected according to the contact tracing process by our school nurses who are stretched extremely thin, but in how many cases were we unable to identify the source? When we ignore community data, limiting ourselves to one data point, we are manipulating data in a way to favor preferred outcomes. Please use a combination of District 25 data and local metrics.</p> <p>I also wanted to share a different perspective with you as it relates to how students learn. I am asking you to consider why you believe that students should be returning to school in person. My assumption is because you believe it will positively impact student learning and well-being. Collective teacher efficacy, teacher planning and prediction, teacher credibility and teacher clarity, are among the highest impacts of student achievement according to research syntheses findings from 1,400 meta-analyses of 80,000 studies involving 300 million students, into what works best in education.</p> <p>The substitute shortage will continue to negatively impact students. When a teacher sacrifices their planning periods in the day, classroom instruction and teacher wellness suffers. As a result of inadequate time to plan, the classroom students suffer. We can all agree that we need more substitute teachers to alleviate this additional burden teachers are selflessly taking on. However, the substitute shortage has been an ongoing issue for years, and with 43% of staff potentially absent (not counting however many will be required to quarantine), finding substitutes, let alone quality substitute teachers is highly unlikely.</p> <p>I also want to speak with you about the importance of quality substitute teachers. I know some of you have taken the time to observe classrooms in the district, and I appreciate this hands-on approach. I wonder if you have had a chance to observe substitute teachers, particularly ones that do not have the support of classroom teachers working remotely. Teacher clarity, credibility, and effective use of resources are among the most common issues both students and teachers face when a substitute is required. Students having to cope with this inconsistency regularly would be detrimental to their learning as well as their well-being (as they likely will not form relationships and connections with these temporary substitutes).</p> <p>After collecting information from over 600 of our students at Thomas (both hybrid and remote), over 85% report that they feel connected to their teachers. Teacher connection matters to our students as it relates to their mental health, and has potential to accelerate student achievement. It is irresponsible to strip students away from a constant support system just so they can attend school physically in the school building. A teacher plays an invaluable role in a child's education, and a revolving door of substitutes does not equate to the high quality educators that you played a role in hiring.</p> <p>I do challenge you to consider what it is, exactly, you are advocating for. I encourage you to listen to teachers and what they are expressing as their needs and very valid health concerns. Does parent opinion outweigh what we know about how students best learn? Is having a physical body in a classroom more important than having a certified teacher teaching and connecting with our students? I'll conclude this note by putting on my Arlington Heights community member hat, as this proposed adaptive pause has very minimal on me personally and professionally since I will be on my maternity leave during this time frame.</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	<p>Approving an adaptive pause does not impact the transition to in person learning, it rebuilds trust that many stakeholders have lost during this time. Approving an adaptive pause is proactive, rather than reactionary. It's responsive to the community's safety and equitable to all students. Please make the responsible choice for our community.</p>
Michelle Casillas	<p>No Adaptive Pause - We need to keep kids in school, my daughter has been in school since 9/1 half days 4 days a week and we have had no issues. She doesn't do well remote. We are looking forward to full days/4 days a week starting on 12/8 for Special Ed. Please don't go to adaptive pause, kids NEED to be in school, especially the kids that have an IEP. We need to do whatever we can to keep moving forward. Many of us stayed home for Thanksgiving since school is our #1 priority. Thank you.</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Stacey Cooke	<p>Members of the School Board,</p> <p>Thank you for all you have done and all you continue to do for our children. We are so grateful that you listened to the data that supports in-school learning as a safe option. Your recent decision to remain in the hybrid phase between Thanksgiving and January is a good one, and one that provides support for ALL families.</p> <p>Thank you for understanding that while some parents prefer remote learning during this time - and will continue to have access to that - that should not dictate what every parent should do and how each child should learn. All children learn differently, and many children benefit from in-person instruction and support versus remote learning. Our son is a first grader. During parent/teacher conferences his teacher specifically mentioned how his entire attitude and aptitude has improved in the weeks since he's been able to attend 2 days of school in person. Remote days continue to be a challenge for us. Please continue listening to the experts and know that in-person schooling can be safe, and as a community we are willing to make that happen for teachers and all school staff.</p> <p>We all saw the video and know the CDC is recommending in-person learning for our kids RIGHT NOW. We also can all look up the data and see the positivity rates are currently DECLINING in our district. Multiple experts have stated repeatedly that schools are not where we are seeing virus spread, so looking at community metrics is not necessarily a good indicator or factor in determining our school plan. Since starting in hybrid we haven't had ANY close contacts identified at our school. That is a success. And there is NO reason to move towards LESS in person learning with that type of track record.</p> <p>I encourage you to continue to put our kids first, ensuring that all families have the ability to choose what is right for them, keeping the hybrid option in place until we can move to full in person. In short, we are NOT in support of an adaptive pause as that would result in academic and mental health regression for our child and do support continued planning and movement toward full in person learning.</p> <p>Thank you, Stacey Cooke</p>
Taylor Lindsey	<p>Please make the decision to move to an adaptive pause for the safety of our students, staff, and community. To increase in-person learning when Covid positive cases are on the rise is gravely irresponsible. Please vote accordingly.</p>
Shivi Stanley	<p>Please make decisions on an adaptive pause based on reliable metrics and recommendations from trusted sources such as the CDC. The benefit of hybrid learning needs to be carefully weighed and considered against the true risk of a cluster spread within our schools as defined by the CDC/IDPH. With all precautions put in place within D25 schools, we have not seen any cluster spread and I urge the board to consider a risk/benefit analysis based on science and numbers.</p>
April Berry	<p>I Support Dr. Bein for an Adaptive Pause</p> <p>Please, for the safety of our students, staff, teachers, and community, follow the ISBE and IDPH metrics and move SD25 to an Adaptive Pause until such time as it is safe to return to the Hybrid Model. We can no longer wait. SD25 parents, taxpayers, voters are paying attention - make the right choice. We are the only district in the surrounding area moving toward in-person learning. As shown by the metrics of your own survey, the majority of your constituents want the ISBE and IDPH metrics to drive these decisions, and those metrics indicate an Adaptive Pause. Please vote accordingly.</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Julie Talbot	<p>I would like to start off by sincerely thanking the School Board for all that you have done and will do to get the children back in school full day and 5 days a week. Thank you!</p> <p>According to the Governor's office for the current Phase 3 change, "The mitigations carefully balance the paramount goal of saving lives while preserving the option for in-person learning for children and protecting as much of the economy as possible from the continued impacts of the virus." Unless the Governor issues a stay at home order, schools remain open. Give parents the choice! Vote NO for Adaptive Pause!</p> <p>I would like to remind the Board and Superintendent that emails in support of full remote and/or adaptive pause are NOT community votes for those selections and that this is not an election. On the Board Buzz, email comments are listed as "votes" and that is clearly not the case. In addition, parents wishing to remain full remote should have that choice and therefore should not need to email the superintendent and board supporting full remote for all students, since they are NOT speaking for the entire community, just their children. They will always have the choice of full remote, regardless of hybrid or full in-person. All children learn differently and those parents supporting full time remote should not dictate if my child attends in -person school.</p> <p>The only metrics that matter for D25 in person learning are our district metrics and I invite the superintendent and board to evaluate our district based on our metrics only. CDC has stated that schools remain open with obvious risk mitigations protocols in place. I am so grateful that the board has listened to data that supports in-school learning as a safe option as it is shown our schools can safely support all the students that wish to be full-time in person, starting immediately. Thank you School Board! I am asking the Board to please not be distracted by the delay tactics of Dr. Bein. Since July 27th, she has wavered in decisions, formed a useless committee (where more than half the committee is district employed... a significant conflict of interest), punted decisions to this committee, postponed key dates, done the absolute minimum requested by the Board, been completely reactive not proactive to needs of the students and their families and firmly stands with the teachers and unions to keep our kids hostage from the education they deserve.</p> <p>Our children... our future leaders, need socialization, connection, guidance and a high level of education. D25 leaders have failed to see the importance of the kids emotional health. It is heartbreaking what we see our children going through, children who just want to be kids and be in school. These children have had the most taken away from them than any other demographic during this pandemic. I ask the School Board to please continue to consider and evaluate both the district metrics and the educational, emotional and social needs of our children.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
Mairin Gradek	<p>Please continue to increase in person learning time. My children are struggling with remote learning. Community weekly positivity rate has actually been decreasing according to the Northwestern Covid dashboard (down to 8.74 as of 11/28). Thank you for continuing to put the children's needs first.</p>
Alicen Manus	<p>Many thanks to the board for continuing to keep our schools operating in hybrid mode without an adaptive pause. Please continue to consider moving to a five day full reopening. Our children need to be in school.</p>
Katarzyna Malaczek	<p>I'm in favor of full in person learning and I want my kids to get the education they so desperately need and deserve, because remote learning is not working for our family.</p>
Stephanie Notaro	<p>France, Germany, Ireland and England are keeping their schools open. Why? Because our children are the future of the world and their education cannot fall victim to Covid. We live in the greatest country in the world with a wonderful, supportive school district. The CDC says keep schools open. We must show our children we believe and value their future! Keep SD25 open! Our kids future is everything!</p>
Megan Worthington	<p>I'm asking the board to keep us in hybrid in preparation for full return in January. The kids have so few days in person. Numbers are trending back down in the past few days. Please for the mental health and education of our children keep the option to send them in person. The medical data is clear that in person is safe. Look at our neighboring school St Peter. They have students Preschool through 8th grade—all classrooms at full capacity since August. Operating normally but with masks, temp checks and cleaning procedures. They've had 3 cases since August and have continued to have fun activities</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	within the covid guidelines . The data is clear. The virus is not spreading in schools and education is essential.
Jennifer Durkn	I would like to thank the Board for voting to cotinue moving forward towards getting our kids back in school full time. My 7th grade daughter is so happy on the days that she gets to go into school. And on the days that she's home, it's like a switch is flipped, and she becomes depressed because she has to sit in front of a screen all day. Thank you for all of your work, and I hope that we will continue to work to get our kids back to school full time in January.
Tara Tinsley	Thank you for listening to the data that supports in-person learning as a safe option. Thank you for understanding that while some parents prefer remote learning during this time, that should not dictate what every parent should do and how every child should learn. All children learn differently, and many children benefit greatly from in-person instruction. Please continue listening to the experts who have made it clear that in-person school is safe and that schools should remain open for in-person instruction. Thank you.
Marzena Mikulski	No Adaptive Pause!!! Give parents choice! The data indicates that the transmission rate within schools is low due to all the steps that everyone is taking. Pausing doesn't solve many challenges and introduces new ones. This is a new norm and we have to figure out how to adapt to this new norm, closing schools is NOT the answer and is IRRESPONSIBLE!! No miracle is going to happen on Jan 19th to be able to return to school after adaptive pause. Please think of kids well being NOT teachers daycare issues! Thank you!
Betty Levinsky	Please keep the schools open and bring kids in full time. Parents dont want adaptive pause which is meant for after school activities. The governor closed bars, gyms and limited other non essential activities so that schools can remain open. Our children need education. Remote learning is not working for majority of kids.Families who want to keep their kids at home have remote option. Thank you.
Stephanie Fossler	After having spoken at a meeting already, I would just like to reiterate my objective. There should NOT be an "adaptive pause". Students shall stay IN PERSON with the intent of working towards full 5 days a week IN SCHOOL. For those who feel otherwise-absolutely no judgment, please continue to keep your children at home/remote, as you have and will continue to have that right this school year. Science DOES indeed back what I am saying, along with all appropriate government health agencies. As well as local nurses and doctors who echo the same sentiment about the classroom being very safe and an essential place for students to keep their social and emotional well being/mental health in the most positive place possible during this difficult time. My husband and I continue to believe that the safest place for OUR children is IN the classroom. We will also continue to volunteer any time and our efforts to help on any level we can. My husband is dedicated to substitute teaching and has been enjoying our wonderful district and teachers. He has nothing but extremely positive things to say about the staff in each school and the teachers he has worked besides. It takes a village and we have that village to make this happen! Thank you, school board, for all of your dedication and hard work for the students of district 25!
Christine La Valle	I am not in favor of an adaptive pause and support full time in person learning as soon as possible.

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Marianne Corcoran	<p>I am disappointed in the way the board motions and unanimous votes have been misinterpreted and poorly executed by the superintendent. I want to see the board's votes carried out to the letter, including the dates and numbers of students to be admitted back to the classroom. Just as the board has rules for accepting defeat in a vote, the superintendent should also accept when her opinion is not met with agreement from the board.</p> <p>The motion and vote were not for 12/7 but for 11/30. It was not for only Resource IEP students but also for classrooms where the 6 foot distance, point to point, could be maintained. At my school, my daughter has 10 hybrid students in her class, 5 each day. She also has a 504. I have been refused by the school to allow her in because the superintendent stated that the students with a resource IEP come back first, and once they are "stabilized," the students with a 504 can return. This is vague and cannot be measured or given a timeline.</p> <p>I implore the board to enforce the rules of the district in which the superintendent enacts the motions passed by the board, not a fraction of them, and interpreting them as they were intended.</p> <p>Dr. Marianne Y. Corcoran, PsyD Licensed Clinical Psychologist</p>
Mike Murray	Please do not take an adaptive pause and start full time ASAP
Jennifer Schmit	<p>Please continue with in-person learning in D25. Schools are not where the spread of COVID is occurring. Our schools have done a wonderful job of keeping our children and staff safe! Thank you for allowing safe in-person learning.</p> <p>For any family not comfortable sending children in-person, they have and will continue to have the choice to keep children home. Please allow choice for the other families who wish to continue with in-person learning.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>
Tom Schmit	<p>Please continue with in-person learning in D25. Schools are not where the spread of COVID is occurring. Our schools have done a wonderful job of keeping our children and staff safe! Thank you for allowing safe in-person learning.</p> <p>For any family not comfortable sending children in-person, they have and will continue to have the choice to keep children home. Please allow choice for the other families who wish to continue with in-person learning.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>
Kim metler	Please keep schools open for those that choose! I was ecstatic to hear my daughter could be welcome 4 days due to her IEP, we treated it like an early Christmas present. Schools are safe for children, it's the mental health of these children that should be the concern. Thank you for listening to the metrics and not pausing!!
Jennifer Kim	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>I ask that the board keep moving in the direction of 5 day in-person and not to consider an adaptive pause at this time. At the last board meeting the Superintendent said that their where only 2 confirmed cases on COVID be contracted in school. The district, staff, teachers, parents and the KIDS are doing a great job with all the mitigation's put in place. Continue you to support and build on this amazing success.</p> <p>I also request that 504 students have the opportunity to start 4 days a week as soon as possible. My son a 1st grader has Epilepsy. During e-learning days the amount of screen time causes my son to have more seizures which leads to lost learning opportunities and frustration with school. But in person days my son thrives. He doesn't have seizures and his learning is optimal.</p> <p>I'm proud of the work the district has done to get us to Hybrid learning which has helped my son. Just like so many things we do in life we learn how to do something new, then we continue to build on that new skill until me master the new skill. Let's teacher our children that they have learned great new skills to keep them safe and this will be continued and built upon to get them back in school full time.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration, Jen Kim</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Anthony Kuch	Thank you again for your time and effort during these extremely difficult times. It is appreciated. At the last board meeting Dr. Bein recommended a temporary adaptive pause (as most public school districts around us have gone to), which was not voted on. I'm curious as to which metrics the board is using to make decisions, and why it is that some of the recommendations by the health experts are not being considered. Also at the last board meeting, the idea of getting additional help from the community was brought up to help deal with the sub shortage we are experiencing across the district. If the community steps up to help, this would obviously help alleviate the problem of teachers having to cover for other teachers, but I'm not sure this is what's best for our students. I worry about the fact that with the increasing number of teachers needing to stay home, our students will be in too many classrooms with substitutes where actual instruction is not happening. If we are trying to do the best we can to deliver our curriculum as effectively as we can, this can be done much more effectively in a remote situation where the classroom teachers, who are the experts, can be the ones delivering the instruction. As a parent, I would be much more comfortable with my children receiving instruction remotely from their classroom teacher, rather than from a substitute who is not a certified teacher, is not an expert in the subject matter at hand, and is not delivering the curriculum.
Carrie Skony	Please continue the work to develop a plan for a full return to in person learning as soon as possible. If many other schools can accomplish this, we certainly can too.
Megan Kerpec	I am in favor of continuing the in-person hybrid model through mid-January with no pause.
Kristin Rauen	On behalf of our children, please keep the in school hybrid option with the intent to move to full in person in January. Students in schools are not the cause for covid transmission and the incident of in school transmission is near zero Percent locally. There is always a choice for parents to keep their children home if they feel it is better for their family. Choice! The best interest of our children is what every one is debating here. Differing opinions, but each parent should decide what is best as each situation is different. The transmission is not occurring in schools. Keep our ability to choose in the best interest of our children/families.
Kerri hood	Please keep hybrid going and follow our in school metrics thru Jan!!! There is no reason to go back to full remote. Those that want full remote can do so, but should have no say on what in person students do.
Christine Naunheimer	I'm requesting that the board vote no for adaptive pause. Please continue with the hybrid learning.
Patrick Schiltz	The children should be back to in person learning full time if their family desires it. These children are falling behind and the long term cost of this to society is immeasurable. I am tired of the paralysis by analysis from the board and superintendent. You don't have a staffing issue until you have a staffing issue. Play your hand, if you're wrong you have many new graduates coming your way to staff the district in 2021/2022.
Patrick Braun	I support adaptive pause
Emily Gromer	Keep schools open! Everyone should have a CHOICE! Stop playing politics with our kids lives!
amy klehr	Keep kids "in school". Continue working on a plan for full "in-person". No pause!
Cari Klinkenborg	Please continue with hybrid.

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Mr and Mrs Fraser	Dear Board, I would like the Board to provide clear guidance with regards how we will transition between the various learning options. (Full in person, hybrid, remote, and adaptive pause). The uncertainty is extremely difficult for families as they are unable to make decisions for their own families based on the boards inability to provide clear and consistent guidelines for transitioning between the various learning options. We did have the guidelines of 8% and 175 range of infection. It appears that the board has disregarded its own metrics. If you as a Board has decided this matrix is not accurate, then please give families the reasoning behind the decisions that are being made and give us the information you are using as a decision matrix. Currently you are leaving families confused as to what is safe and what is not. Especially when many other districts, including those surrounding us, such as 214 have all opted for adaptive pause in the abundance of caution. I ask the Board to provide clear reasoning for their decision not to have an adaptive pause, even if this was only for the week after Thanksgiving and the week after Christmas break, when we know families will have been traveling. Has the Board taken the time to speak with other districts and determine their reasoning for decisions and the transition matrix they are using? As a Board you are in a difficult position and need to put your personal views aside, no personal bias should be shown and all options should be considered based on actual analysis, facts and data.
Melissa Newkirk	Please do not go into an adaptive pause. The children need to be in school. Teachers needing daycare is NOT a reason to do this.
Melissa Buchberger	Please support an adaptive pause through Jan. 18, 2021. The pandemic is at it's peak and we are the only elementary school district in the area to not implement an adaptive pause. We need to all be in remote learning right now so that we can lower our positivity rate in the community and return to full in person learning after Jan. 18th. Please vote for an adaptive pause to protect our students, our staff and our community.
Dominic Franchi	Please lets these kids stay in person hybrid or go full in person. The e-learning has been very ineffective and the devastating effects on the kids mental health is horrible. We are two working adults and this has been virtually impossible and tough on our mental health as well. I fear this will have lasting effects. Please do not go back to an adaptive pause. We can do this with masks, washing and social distancing. This virus is real but the media has overblown it's lethality for political purposes. Please do not continue to live in fear of this virus. Please get all of these kids back in person school. Thank you.
Jessica and David Nienhueser	We urge the board to follow the metrics they have voted to be in place. We all want kids back in school. We all know that is where they learn best. We all want our kids to be safe. We believe hybrid is working and is the best of both worlds and should continue for as long as possible and that full in person should continue to be the goal when the community and county metrics allow. We are so thankful for the hard work everyone is doing. We know being in school is 100 times easier for staff for families for everyone. This topic has polarizing opinions, but I think we can all agree everyone wants what's best for kids. Please take a breath and remember to model kindness and respect for our children.
Todd Witherow	Happy Holidays. I advocate for in person learning and ask the board to support such. However, I would like to urge the district to announce a plan to maintain full remote all year regardless of any state changes on 1/1/2021. Please put all of those families and high risk staff into a remote academy. This is the first step to full in person. Accommodate those voices. This will give those families and teachers accommodations to support their choice for the year. It will then enable the district to more actively survey, communicate and plan with teachers, staff and families wanting full in person five days. The calendar is about to flip to December and we still have not taken easy steps to progress the educational needs of the community forward.
Elizabeth Green	There have been rumors flying about the possibility of D25 going on an adaptive pause in December. Please do not take this step backward. Everyone has the option to do full remote. Let's not punish those who choose hybrid. Our children love and thrive with in-person learning, even though it is only two days a week. Full remote has, and will continue to be, a struggle for our entire family. I also hope that the wheels are in motion for 5 day in-person learning beginning in January. Thank you for all you

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	<p>have done and all you continue to do. We are so grateful that you listened to the data that supports in-school learning as a safe option.</p>
<p>Jennifer Ponivas</p>	<p>Say No to adaptive pause I believe that in person school is what is best for ALL children. I believe that the mitigation measures that the district has put into place are working. I do not believe that an adaptive pause is needed at this time. I also believe that each family should have the ability to choose what is best for their child's learning environment. I was told that at any point a family could choose to go full remote so it should be left up to each family to decide what is best for their child and if they deem that they want to create their own adaptive pause they already have the choice to do so. Do not take away the choice from those parents who still want to see their children in-person where remote learning may not work for their child.</p>
<p>Holly Furman</p>	<p>I am writing to express my concern for the teachers of district 25. I have three children at Windsor elementary school. My husband and I have watched each of the last two board meetings in their entirety. I was appalled during the last board meeting to hear conversations that suggested substitute teachers, which are in short supply, are a better fit for our learners than having our sd25 teachers working from home while their own children were learning from home. Both my husband and I are teachers. We know teaching from home has its disadvantages but aren't personal connections teachers have made with kids more important than the few interruptions teaching at home may cause?. I think this is a time to give grace to our teachers. Allow them the security to know their kids are safe at home with them and not being shipped all over to different places for childcare because shipping our teacher's kids to childcare also raises everyone's risk of getting the virus, including sd25 students! We support our teachers teaching from home even if they may have to help open some peanut butter or put out an argument their kids are having. We are all parents. Let's be tolerant and be safe together! Let's go for and adaptive pause through January 19, let teachers teach from home and save some lives!</p>
<p>Stephanie Rapone</p>	<p>While considering metrics for a move to full remote/adaptive pause, please drive for metrics that prioritize keeping our kids in-school in person as much as possible. If school is not a spreader, then keep our kids in school. Please use metrics in our district; not community or region, as these take into account places like the huge retirement communities, and personal behaviors of people who have nothing to do with our school system. The Nov 12 Board meeting finally delivered a step in the right direction for our childrens' education. Please don't take two steps back.</p>
<p>Brittany Polihronis</p>	<p>Thank you to the board for all their hard work and commitment to children in D25. Please continue to fight for our right to choose In Person for our children. If families do not feel safe they can continue to have the option to go remote. Please do not take our choice away. I believe the mitigation strategies within D25 have kept our students, teachers and staff safe and will continue to do so. Please do not consider an adapted pause as this goes against all of the NEW information from the CDC and what Dr Bein stated in October. Additionally we need a solid plan for returning to full in person, if metrics are met. The work needs to begin now so that we are prepared and do not continue to miss valuable time.</p>
<p>Kristin Meek</p>	<p>I have debated entering comments because it feels like parents are no longer heard in this District no matter what their views. But I am desperate right now. My son was just offered 4 days a week of in person school and he needs it so badly. His IEP accommodations can't be met remotely. He is failing a class as a result. Remote does not work for him due to his medical issues. PLEASE do not shut down our schools. Parents and families who want to go full remote have their own option of an adaptive pause. Let them choose to do so. But don't take our choice away. Don't deny Special Needs students their legally mandated care. I beg of you to keep schools open and let parents keep their kids home if they choose to do so. PLEASE! Thank you, Kristin Meek</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Sarah Van Huis	Protect your teachers and students - go full remote until January 19. Stop listening to a minority - by your own survey - of vocal parents who are making demands for the entire community.
Chris Rhodes	<p>I'd like the board to tell me who they represent? Who they speak for? Whose interests they are looking out for?</p> <p>As I sit and watch the last board meeting I see that not a single metric is being met. I see a flowchart that screams take an adaptive pause. I hear that the parents of 210 students choose full remote compared to 18. Check that again. 210...18. I read the comments from that meeting where you have your own teachers and other staff members pleading with you to take an adaptive pause.</p> <p>And what do you do? You ignore them. You ignore the metrics. You ignore the staff members. You ignore your fellow community members, your neighbors and not only do you choose not to take an adaptive pause, you push forward with reopening the schools full time while every district around us shuts down! You argue whether or not 6 feet distance is important. Why? Because you watched a video from the CDC, who has never been wrong about, say, whether to wear masks or how the virus is spread, right? One 30 second clip from one video is all the proof you need to ignore everything else around you no matter how clear it is that you're pushing this district down a dangerous path.</p> <p>This is a slap in the face to those of us who've taken a cautious approach the last 8 months. Those of us who still think that keeping Grandma alive is more important than whether or not we can go sit down at Applebee's. It tells all the staff members that you care less about them than a small group of loud parents who are mildly inconvenienced while they work from home.</p> <p>I see you patting yourselves on the back about the fact that there have been only 2 cases where there's been transmission in the schools. Why are we proud of that? All that tells me is that it is possible for it to spread in the school in spite of all the precautions. What happens when the number three gets taken home and spread and someone ends up in the ICU? Will it take someone dying for you to rethink things, or will you pat yourselves on the back that only one person so far has died? Ask someone who's lost a loved one what they think of your slideshows or footnotes.</p> <p>The bottom line is no matter how much you think you know about what's safe or not, we don't really know anything. We are all making educated (I use that term loosely) guesses on how to proceed because that's all we can do. But the truth of the matter is we just don't know. None of us know how the virus will or won't affect our children. None of us know if our sons and daughters are sitting next to someone who just spent Thanksgiving with 5 or 50 relatives. I do know that someone who thinks this is all a hoax is not going to think twice about sending their kid to school with a little cough. After all is said and done, we are only as safe as the person next to us. I could take all the precautions in the world but that doesn't mean that Johnny's not going to have his mask off his nose and cough on the person next to him. So why are we pushing it?</p> <p>While I look around and see everyone around us closing, I no longer even have the option at Ivy Hill of hybrid learning. Every survey that has been sent out has been ignored. I have been told here's option A, B, C only to find out that you went with option D. You dump this reopening news on us on the Friday before Thanksgiving break. It's been one insult after another. I question whether you even read these comments because of how tone deaf you are. If you do, and you are reading this, just know, you're doing an awful job and I pray that nothing as awful comes of this because it will be on you.</p>
Sean Molina	<p>Dr. Bein and Members of the School Board,</p> <p>We are happy to see your continued efforts to evaluate the current situation while staying the course with our hybrid model and charting a path for our district to be provided an option to return to full in person learning in January 2021. We urge you to vote no to any adaptive pause in our current learning model and further ask that you allow for parents to be afforded the option to choose their preferred leaning model that suits their needs, including an option for full in person, which does take necessary and reasonable precautionary measures to protect our teachers, students and staff. Thank you again for your service.</p> <p>Sean and Heather Molina</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Jaime Yeh	<p>Thank you for ensuring that district 25 will remain open and on the hybrid schedule after this Thanksgiving break. We are so thankful that our schools will not be going on an adaptive pause. While I understand that some families may opt for remote learning, that choice should not dictate the choice for other families to select in-person learning.</p> <p>Our children need to be in school, at the very least in a continued hybrid program. The school metrics support continued in-person learning.</p> <p>I have 4 kids in district 25 (grades 8, 5, 3 and 2), and their in-school experience is by far better than remote learning. They're more engaged, connected and immersed in their learning. My kids all look forward to their in-person days and relish their time with their teachers and friends.</p> <p>During parent / teacher conferences, we had the opportunity to thank each of our children's teachers for all that they're doing this year. We know this has all been beyond challenging. What makes our district so strong are the incredibly talented and dedicated teachers and our community that supports and kindly respects each other.</p> <p>We are looking forward to more students going to school 4 days per week, either based on space availability or for IEP and 504 needs. We're also very hopeful that soon all students who choose to go to school in-person will have that choice for more than 2 days per week.</p> <p>Thank you again for all you're doing to ensure our students stay in school.</p> <p>Jaime Yeh</p>
Leigh Strauss	<p>It is the responsibility of board members to use data from verifiable sources to make determination of school safety. It is not appropriate to create data points from your own memory, or create a data point to suit your argument, as was observed at the 11/19/20 meeting. It is the job of the individual board members to be well informed with data from reliable sources.</p> <p>At the 11/19 meeting, Dr. Bein presented information on the current guidelines for school safety, sourcing data from CDC and IDPH sources. A board member refuted Dr. Bein's information with numbers that he created. This is unacceptable. Your voters charge you with making determinations based on science and data. If a board member does not agree with the data from reliable sources, then that member of the board has no place representing our community.</p> <p>For these meetings, board members must do their research. Present reliable, verifiable data for your argument, just like Dr. Bein. Do your job.</p>
Leigh Strauss	<p>Help our community control the transmission of this deadly disease. Protect teachers, staff, and parents. Close the schools until community transmission of COVID-19 is back under control. This is a temporary national crisis. It will get better in the coming months, and schools will open again. In the meanwhile, take care of the members of our community and stop putting adults at continued risk.</p>
Robyn Swanson	<p>I ask that the board follow the guidance / recommendations of IDPH, Cook County Health Department and other agencies who have the expertise and authority to develop public health guidelines for schools when considering an adaptive pause or a full return to school. The school board does not consist of infectious disease experts and does not have the base knowledge to safely evaluate the vast amount of rapidly changing Covid19 data on their own. The board's task should be how to implement the recommendations of the other agencies and institutions that do have this expertise.</p> <p>I ask that the board follow the wishes of the community as expressed in the recent D25 survey that was requested by the school board. The board is an elected body and should be implementing the will of the community at large, not a vocal minority that fits the boards agenda.</p> <p>Finally, the school board is just that, a board with multiple members. As a citizen of Arlington Heights with 2 children attending D25 schools, I expect to hear thoughtful conversation and ideas from all board members. Recent meetings have been overwhelmingly lead by one member with anecdotal comments, if any, by other board members. As a parent, I expect thoughtful debate among all of the board members, addressing different points of view.</p> <p>The charge must be returning students to school safely. A pause, if advised, is part of that plan, not counter to that plan.</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Erin Felten	<p>Please, do NOT switch to full remote or “adaptive pause”, rather offer it to those who feel that this is what they need for their child. My son has an extensive IEP and just got invited back, 4 days FULL in person at Dryden. He is falling behind at a rapid pace and we are so concerned for him and his future. Please understand that we can all have a choice, and allow to do what works for our individual families. I feel safe as my younger son has been back in daycare since June 1st with ZERO cases of covid. I know it can be done safely. Our children and their education is essential. Please allow my voice to be heard for MY child.</p> <p>Thank You, Erin Felten</p>
Kevin Reed	<p>School Board Members,</p> <p>Thank you for allowing me to share my comments with you. My name is Kevin Reed and I am a community member who lives in Arlington Heights.</p> <p>The District 25 school board has made the decision to push for increased student attendance at the same time that local case counts from COVID-19 have grown and continue to grow dramatically (note: due to Thanksgiving, over the next ~10 days metrics will appear lower than they really are - see https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2020/11/thanksgiving-makes-covid-19-data-weird/617226/). This decision stands in stark contrast to the decisions of nearby districts who have moved to an adaptive pause. Here are the neighboring districts that have moved to adaptive paused and their public statements about why they did so:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - District 15 (since November 18th) - https://www.smore.com/waxfv-ccsd15-update - District 23 (since November 9th) - https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Community-Update---October-30--2020.html?soid=1126399128803&aid=Hw_j-wRZcVo - District 26 (since November 9th) - https://www.rtsd26.org/ - District 211 (since November 16th) - https://il49000007.schoolwires.net/cms/lib/IL49000007/Centricity/Domain/4890/Superintendent%20Parent-Student%20Update%20Email%2011-13-2020.pdf - District 214 (starting November 30th) - https://www.d214.org/returntoschool/ <p>The board’s decision also stands in stark contrast to the what the current metrics say we should be doing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The CDC (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/indicators.html#thresholds) defines a value of greater than 200 new covid cases per 100,000 population in a 14 day period as being part of the “Highest Risk of School Transmission”. - The current community transmission metrics are 856 new covid cases per 100,000 in the past 14 days (see footnote #1 for source). Arlington Heights is currently 4.25 times above that “Highest Risk” threshold for the number of new cases. - The District 25 transmission metrics for students and staff are 661 new covid cases per 100,000 in a 14 day period (see footnote #2 for source). District 25 students and staff are 3.3 times above that “Highest Risk” threshold for the number of new cases. <p>The board’s decision also stands in stark contrast to the guidance from the Cook County Board of Health, the Illinois Department of Public Health and the recommendation of the District 25 Superintendent.</p> <p>The board should have extraordinary and well documented reasons for going against:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the decision made by neighboring school boards making the exact same decision, - what the data currently shows, - the guidance of public health experts and - the recommendation of education leaders. <p>The board has not provided any such rationale.</p> <p>Instead of adopting a well reasoned decision making framework as was proposed by the Transition Advisory Committee, the board has made decisions without a framework to guide their decision making which has resulted in them reinterpreting guidance and changing standards at each meeting. Instead of engaging with public health experts and inviting them to consult with and advise the board, the board has spent its time word-smithing interpretations of published guidance in ways that negate the purpose of that guidance.</p> <p>Instead of recognizing that there is a global pandemic and things just aren’t going to be the same right</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	<p>now, the board has forced the administration to continually replan, re-review, redo and re-propose rather than having the administration spend its time improving the actual situation we are in today. I strongly encourage the board to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Review the links and information above- Vote for an adaptive pause through at least January 19th- Hire a public health expert to consult with and inform the board- Adopt a metrics driven decision making framework such as the one proposed by the Transition Advisory Committee <p>Sincerely, Kevin Reed</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Northwestern University (https://covid-dashboard.fsm.northwestern.edu/) reports, as of November 28th, 2020, for zip codes 60004 and 60005 have had 856 new covid cases per 100,000 population in the past 14 days.2. The District 25 Covid Dashboard (https://www.sd25.org/Page/1545) reports 41 new cases for students and staff during the period Oct 30th - Nov 12th (the most recent full weeks of school before the Thanksgiving holiday). There are 5,354 students (https://www.sd25.org/cms/lib/IL01904427/Centricity/Domain/219/Board%20Meeting%209-17-20.pdf) and 850 staff (https://www.sd25.org/) in District 25 making the 14 day case rate during this period 661 cases per 100,000 population.

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Maryann Zaleski	<p>Please continue to listen to the scientists saying that in-person learning can be done safely and responsibly, and please encourage the board to continue in-person learning, especially when our numbers in District 25 continue to remain at safe levels for both teachers and students.</p> <p>I know that you are listening to many people in the community, especially teachers. As a former teacher and hopeful future parent of a kindergartener, I hope you will also consider what I have to say..</p> <p>The hybrid model is currently working- the next logical move is to bring in the students who benefit from in-person schooling the most. As you know, the remote method of instruction is not beneficial for all students, especially for those with developmental or intellectual disabilities in addition to children with social emotional needs. While some parents report that their children are doing well, there are equally as many children who are not doing well. These children are shutting down, having emotional and mental breakdowns, and are slowly learning to detest school at early ages. I hope people are not expecting these young students to speak up and tell adults what is or isn't working for them, because developmentally, those children are not capable of verbalizing their needs. As a result, parents have had to advocate for their children, which is why many are asking for a choice in the manner in which their child receives instruction. Please give these parents a choice and bring back all students with needs that are not being met through remote learning.</p> <p>There is no research that proves remote learning is best practice (correct me if I am wrong). If anything, there is plenty of research that concludes how too much screen time leads to negative outcomes for children and less retaining of information. Also, as a former teacher, I have been trained to deliver instruction for varied learning styles and comprehension levels as well as make modifications for students that need it; however, based on what I have witnessed and heard from other teachers and parents, being able to teach and deliver differentiated instruction to young children has become incredibly difficult to accomplish through remote teaching. There is no way a teacher can physically reach through a screen and give the individualized help needed in the same manner it would be given in-person. And for that reason, I encourage you to take a special interest in bringing back children in grades K-3 before any other grade levels. Early literacy skills are some of the most important skills to acquire during these formative years, and based on recent assessments (MAP testing), our children are not where they should be. If this trend continues, our district will inevitably be facing a reading and writing deficit.</p> <p>Yes, there is still a pandemic. Science says some people are more at-risk than others. As a result, those individuals should make the best choice that works for them during this time (if it means you shouldn't return to work right now due to the risk, then take a leave of absence if you can. If it means your children need to stay-home, then continue remote learning for them. Based on what the CDC has advised, in-person learning CAN happen safely and responsibly. Teachers need to realize that we ARE essential workers, and we need to take all the necessary precautions to make learning in-school safe for children, especially for the younger children and those with those special needs. This online method of instruction is not sustainable for teachers or children alike without continued negative outcomes.</p> <p>Are we waiting on the vaccine? It's rolling out soon, but based on what I have heard, there is no discussion on what that will mean for our district. Is there a way to guarantee that all teachers who are at-risk get it since we are trying to follow what science says? Are we going to mandate all children get it in order to return to school? What are we waiting for, exactly, if not the vaccine? COVID-19 is with us now- it is not going to magically disappear. It is going to be with us for years to come, and we need to adapt now. Never in the history of education have we allowed a disease to pause in-person education to this extent. Please adopt a "can-do" mentality when you think about bringing kids back to school safely and responsibly. The sooner we realize that we need to adapt as a community, the better we will be about making the changes that need to be made.</p> <p>Scientists that have been studying COVID-19 since March have concluded that people getting this virus are typically getting it because they weren't doing the right thing. When PPE is not being used properly (people are completely unmasked at home or elsewhere), when precautions are not taken (people are not washing hands properly or trying to maintain social distancing with masks on), and people are not limiting their outside activities (such as getting a haircut, working out at a gym, playing sports unmasked, attending events larger than 10 people, attending birthday parties or holiday get</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	<p>togethers unmasked, eating at restaurants and bars unmasked)- that is where the risks lie. With the right leadership from individuals in this district, we should be able to collectively come together to make school happen safely for all involved.</p> <p>Also, please consider WHO you are listening to. Everyone has their own agenda and best interest in mind, so my advice is to listen to the scientists and experts. To be completely honest- my own agenda is that I was hoping to send my daughter to Patton next school year, but I've had to rethink that choice based on what I am witnessing with the current method of instruction of kindergarteners and 1st graders in the district.</p> <p>If you are listening only to parents who support remote learning, you are ignoring those whose needs are not being met through remote learning. If you are only listening to parents, you are not listening to the concerns of teachers. If you are only listening to teachers, you are not hearing from parents trying to advocate for their children. I understand this is hard to navigate.</p> <p>What I will say is this- if you are listening to teachers and parents who only support remote learning, make sure they are also the ones who are practicing what they preach. I personally know many teachers (both former colleagues and friends of mine) who are loving this work from home lifestyle. They get more time with their kids and family. They don't have to be in school before 7:30am. They don't have to have their children in childcare. They are able to catch up on the latest seasons of The Crown or Real Housewives (I wish I was kidding). I'm sure you know about the ATA union leader, correct? We all have been listening to her talk about how important it is to maintain 6ft and social distance from children, but in her private life this past summer she boarded a plane and flew to Las Vegas for her 50th birthday and hung out in pools and casinos where everyone was unmasked. She then had the audacity to schedule no-chip manicures indoors every 2 weeks at a local nail salon with poor air circulation and with no idea who had been in that space or what level the level of exposure was there. I take issue with that. That is called hypocrisy at its finest- do as I say, not as I do. And it needs to stop. That is NO WAY to lead a group of people. As far as I'm concerned, exposure to COVID-19 is a pretty black and white issue to understand. Either you are doing the right thing and staying in your home at all times with your family and seeing no one in order to avoid any risk of exposure, or you are going to take on some form of risk of exposure and do the best you can to stay safe. If you are willing to take risks in your private life, then it should also apply to your essential job. Period.</p> <p>In life, there is risk in everything we do on a daily basis, but the argument that in-person learning is too risky doesn't make sense anymore. Science is telling us that COVID-19 is NOT being transmitted at schools where precautions are being taken and mitigations are in place. Instead, people need to be more careful about what they are doing in their private lives and make better choices. While hybrid has been a great model to transition to from remote learning, it was never meant to be the long-term model. The long term goal is to get children back into school full-time. Some kids might be doing well with e-learning and hybrid- and they should be able to continue that- but if a parent deems that in-person learning is what works best for their child based on that child's needs, those parents deserve a CHOICE. Those parents that want to continue staying remote or hybrid should be able to have their choice as well. It doesn't have to be more complicated than that.</p> <p>And for the record, please know I want what is best for the teachers, too. As a teacher, I can tell you, that being in the classroom is the easiest and best option right now. The level of stress remote teaching and hybrid teaching has caused on everyone else has been so much worse.</p> <p>I hope you are healthy, staying safe, and continue to be the leaders we all need at this time.</p> <p>Sincerely, Maryann Zaleski</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Jeff Clark	<p>Dear School Board Members:</p> <p>As a D25 parent, I am requesting that you follow the lead of D214 and act in the best interest of public health. The IDPH and ISBE guidance, that Dr. Bein presented at the last board meeting, clearly shows that D25 should take an adaptive pause and move to remote learning. It's frustrating to the community that the school board is not listening to the Superintendent and these local agencies. Our school board members are not researchers, scientists, nor public health officials, and should not be creating their own metrics to fit a particular agenda. Please consider not only the responsibility we have to protect students and staff, but also to slow the spread of COVID 19 in this community. As much as we want our children to be in school, learning with their experienced, wonderful teachers, it would be irresponsible and reckless of this school board to force the district to remain open in the hybrid model, much less to bring in additional students each day. Thank you for your time and care for our students, staff, and our entire community.</p>
Sara Mungovan	<p>I urge the board and Dr. Bein to please use REAL data going forth when deciding to keep us in or take us out of school. The projected data that Dr. Bein presented at the 11/19 board meeting is not real. Our children deserve to be in school if the metrics are met and their parents DECIDE to send them. Again, there has always been a remote choice. It is time for a full-in person choice and that choice should ONLY be affected by REAL, HARD, ACTUAL data, not projections gathered from a "what if" survey.</p>
Joe Martin	<p>The actual science supports keeping kids in school (with proper precautions). Absolute NO to an adaptive pause.</p>
Brian Lisinski	<p>I just wanted to take a moment to offer my support for giving parents a choice for full in person learning. In addition, when looking at metrics for determining when it is ok to go full in person or not, I feel the only relevant metric is whether or not there is transmission of the virus while at school. If the rate of transmission at school is lower than that of the community as a whole, schools should remain open to full in person learning.</p>
Kim Brinkman	<p>I would like to start off by echoing the board's reminder that as a community, we are all on the same side. We all want our children to attend school in person and in a safe environment. I've dedicated my career to these goals, and now find myself doing the hardest teaching I've ever done. Do I recognize the shortcomings and hardships of our current educational situation? Yes, I do. Do I wish all students were in school full time? Yes, I do. Do I want some protection for my students, myself and my family? Yes, I do.</p> <p>I'd also like to thank Dr. Bein for her dedication to the students, staff, and community of Arlington Heights. Contrary to what some have said, it is without doubt that her mission is to make the best educational and safety decisions for all stakeholders in an impossible situation. Dr. Bein, your thoughtful dedication to the community you serve is commendable. Thank you for not being afraid to advocate for a safe school environment using consistently clear data to support your propositions. To the BOE I have the following points.</p> <p>First, as an elected board of seven people, it concerns me that two of the members take up a disproportionate amount of time speaking and driving subsequent decision-making. One of these two speakers has advocated to interpret metrics in a manner that seems to fit a personal agenda (as suggested by yard signage, which has now been removed) rather than a community-centric one. I respectfully ask that the remaining five board members find their voices, enter meaningfully into the conversation, and represent the constituents that are asking for evidence-based unmanipulated metrics to guide unbiased decision-making.</p> <p>Second, at this time, CCDPH is recommending an adaptive pause, per Dr. Bein's presentation on November 19th. I am asking the BOE to put in place said adaptive pause until January 19th to slow the spread of the virus surrounding the holiday season. If careful monitoring of our internal metrics and guidance from ISBE and CCDPH indicate that we can safely continue hybrid learning or bring more students back to school later this school year (with adequate physical distancing), then we should absolutely do so.</p> <p>We all have our own areas of expertise that make up a vibrant District 25. But please, let's leave the public health decisions to the epidemiologists and other public health professionals.</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Lindsay Nugent	<p>Good morning Board, I hope you all had a nice and relaxing Thanksgiving. I would like to reiterate the need to continue to offer the in person learning option and no adaptive pause. I understand the Board is looking at the IDPH and Cook County metrics, but our Arlington Heights metrics are showing much lower positivity. This community continues to care about its students and teachers and is working together to keep in person learning an option, by adhering to the recent Chicago and Cook County "stay at home advisory" which allows schools to remain open. We need to stay strong because we can do this! We already are! I feel like a broken record, but the importance of choice for in person learning has not changed, just as the choice for remote learning has not and will not. Everyone should continue to have their choice to do what's best for their children.</p> <p>I am so proud of the Board for taking the time at the November 19th meeting to really question the need for an adaptive pause. You all showed true leadership. You are doing what's best for our kids. Please stay this course! I truly believe this proud district can lead by example. Thank you again for your time and dedication.</p> <p>Kind regards, Lindsay Nugent</p>
Steven Andrews	<p>There is substantial community transmission and we continue to be in IDPH risk level orange. Please implement an Adaptive Pause to help support mitigation efforts. Thank you.</p>
Stacey Esposito	<p>I have 3 children in district 25. My kids are thriving since moving to a hybrid model. Especially my 7th grader with special needs. Being able to go into the building has changed his attitude. His grades have drastically improved and he is excelling in his classes. He is getting the social interaction that he needs. My other children look forward to going to school. It helps them get through the remote learning days. It gives them something to look forward too. Please give parents the choice on what is best for their children.</p>
Shane Yarbrough	<p>Would the board please provide the total number of confirmed cases they want to see in the schools before recommending the students return to remote learning? As the husband of a staff member, I'm very curious to know what they consider to be an acceptable amount of infections.</p>
Erin Kalaway	<p>I continue to urge the District 25 Board of Education and Superintendent to finalize COVID metrics and put a plan in place for the choice to return to in-person learning for those who want it. The lack of planning and organization over the last 8 months has divided our community, and the constant uncertainty caused by the leadership void has caused unnecessary stress for teachers, children and parents alike. It is clear that COVID will not be going away anytime soon. Will our kids' education be put on hold indefinitely? It's time to remove emotions and fear from this discussion, lead with courage, and put a definitive, data-driven plan in place.</p>
Julia Piontek	<p>Please, for the safety of our students, staff, teachers, and community follow the ISBE and IDPH metrics and move SD25 to an Adaptive Pause until such time as it is safe to return to the Hybrid Model.</p>
Rob Nesvacil	<p>I strongly urge the Board of Education to follow health department protocols and place District 25 into an Adaptive Pause so we can do our part to slow the spread of Covid-19. As of Nov. 27th schools are by far the #1 setting for potential SARS-Cov-2 exposure according to the Region 10 data (suburban Cook County) from the state department of public health contact tracing program. Furthermore, the Region 10 positivity threshold has been well above the 12% bar for almost the entire month of November to date. ICU beds and Medical/Surgical beds have also been beyond the 20% threshold for even longer.</p> <p>I understand some families and my fellow neighbors may disagree with or even outright dismiss the severity of this pandemic. But it is a very real crisis and the virus does not care about politics. This issue is about infections and the lives of ourselves and our community. It is not about political opinions.</p> <p>Again, I strongly urge the Board to listen to science and place our district in an Adaptive Pause until such time as our area returns to the agreed-upon thresholds originally adopted by the Board of Education.</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Amy Heisler	<p>Good Morning,</p> <p>My name is Amy Heisler and I am a 28 year veteran teacher at Patton School. I am very discouraged and disheartened by the Board of Education comments and lack of decisions at the last board meeting.</p> <p>As I listened to the discussion of the meeting, I could not believe that members had to consider if it would be better to have students in a classroom with a substitute or with their actual teacher remotely. I was also shocked when it was suggested that substitute screenings be ignored or fast tracked.</p> <p>When a teacher needs a substitute, it requires hours of prep to leave sufficient work and directions for a successful day. When a teacher is unable to leave plans that preparation falls on his or her team to scramble and support the substitute. You can't just "fill" the role of teacher with substitutes. It leaves me to believe that you are looking for a babysitter, not a trained quality educator for your children and the children that you represent. District 25 has been very blessed with quality substitutes, but just like teachers we are asking substitutes to do the impossible. We are asking substitutes to manage kids present and remote, manage the technology, manage the attendance, manage the curriculum, hold everyone's attention and provide a meaningful day! It is difficult to do that when you are coming into a situation as a substitute not knowing the children, not knowing the technology, and not knowing the curriculum. It is not a recipe for success for anyone and it is certainly not an answer for our present situation.</p> <p>Please, for the safety of our students, staff, teachers, and community, follow the ISBE and IDPH metrics and move SD25 to an Adaptive Pause until such time as it is safe to return to the Hybrid Model. We can no longer wait. SD25 parents, taxpayers, voters are paying attention - make the right choice. We are the only district in the surrounding area moving toward in-person learning. As shown by the metrics of your own survey, the majority of your constituents want the ISBE and IDPH metrics to drive these decisions, and those metrics indicate an Adaptive Pause. Please vote accordingly.</p> <p>Sincerely, Amy Heisler</p>
Jennifer Jakopin	<p>Voting "no" on adaptive pause in schools. Encourage or require families that were traveling to stay home for 2 weeks, but do not mandate that all families/schools must go remote. Please use school transmission data to guide your decisions on how to proceed. It appears that school transmission is much lower than the spread in the community. It is so beneficial to the psychological and educational health of our children for them to be in school at least 2 days a week. We should do everything in our power to continue having children attend school in person safely.</p>
Lisa Peterson	<p>Please continue to offer the hybrid option until Winter Break. Although I would prefer full time in person, going even 2 days a week makes such a difference for my daughter in so many ways. With the hybrid option, everyone has a choice. They can send their children to school or keep them home and learn remotely. If you take the hybrid option away you are taking the choice away from everyone. Thank you!</p>
Nilima Nanisetty	<p>Thank you for all your hard work during these uncertain times. Please do not move to an Adaptive Pause. If families feel uncomfortable sending their kids , they can continue to have the option of remote learning. My kids need to have in-person learning in order to learn and succeed. It is unfair to remove that choice for me, while the choice for remote will always remain for the families who chose it. Thanks for your consideration.</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Nathan Ulery	<p>Excerpts of the School Board Governance Framework approved by this Board sets the following expectations for its members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board members act in the best interest of all the students in the district. • Respect the needs of our diverse community and make decisions based on the common good for our students. • I will represent all school district constituents honestly and equally and refuse to surrender my responsibilities to special interest or partisan political groups. <p>I respectfully submit that members of this Board have not met these expectations over the past few months by allowing itself to be overly influenced by the loud minority of voices demanding that our kids return to full in-person school as quickly as possible in spite of the current health conditions. Hybrid school – including fully distanced classrooms – is working for our children educationally and keeping our entire school community of teachers, staff, and students healthy. We all want life to return to normal and for our children to be with their teachers every day, but the conditions of this pandemic do not allow it. What has been implemented this fall by the staff at AHSD 25 is the right balance of safety and education. The fact that there have been so few cases passed at school demonstrates that the protocols are working.</p> <p>I've heard from proponents of an unsafe early return to full school that "you have the choice to keep your child home." They do not recognize that by forcing a premature return to school, you are in fact taking away a choice that is the right balance for the entire community and the choice that feels comfortable for many families. Hybrid school allows all children to be at school for two full days a week. It allows at-risk children (ELL, special education, 504 plans, etc.) to be at school even more because the lower daily attendance allows those children to come in more frequently. A premature return to school also will force many kids to change their classroom teacher as the District will need to reset in order to support the at-home vs. at-school children versus the model today that allows a fluid transition between at-school and at-home learning as individual or community conditions require. The current configuration doesn't penalize families for their choices – and encourages them to make healthy choices by keeping their kids at home if they are exposed to COVID while remaining with their classroom teacher.</p> <p>The decision to return to full in-person school should be balanced with the data being suggested by the CDC, the IDPH, the CCDPH, and ISBE. The work of the Transition Advisory Committee appropriately balanced those data points by suggesting that the conditions in which a full-return to school should be < 8% positivity rate in Region 10 as reported by the IDPH AND < 70 new cases per 100,000 in Arlington Heights Zip Code in a 7 day period. The Board's recent decision to change this metric to an OR is a mistake. The combination of these two data points helps us understand both the rate of infection growth (positivity rate) and the current community spread conditions (rate per 100,000). By making this an OR decision point, we could be returning to full school even as infections are increasing or community spread is already prevalent.</p> <p>It was inferred by members of this Board that COVID only impacts poor sections of Cook County. The facts simply do not support this statement. According to the CCDPH, the rate for suburban Cook County is 547 cases per 100,000 as of November 27th while the Arlington Heights case rate is 510 cases per 100,000. Due to the relative size of our community, it should be no surprise that Arlington Heights is representative of the entire suburban Cook County area. The comments by Rich Olejniczak during the 11/19/2020 Board of Education meeting indicating that the Cook County COVID data was primarily influenced by the "poor areas" was clearly an ignorant and racist comment. Individual correspondence between Mr. Olejniczak and myself further indicates his implicit bias in how he is reading the data. The Board must pass a resolution condemning this statement and Mr. Olejniczak should immediately resign his position from the Board. This statement does not reflect the inclusivity this school district exhibits nor is it an example of the highest levels of ethical leadership.</p> <p>Per the Illinois Department of Health, our current conditions indicate that we are experiencing "Substantial Community Spread" and "Schools should strongly consider a pivot to various arrays of remote learning." The recent decision by this Board to not adopt an Adaptive Pause was a mistake. It is irresponsible from a public health standpoint – and ignorant of the staffing challenges this District will be facing. With many other school districts adopting an "adaptive pause" our teaching staff will soon be unable to teach in-person classes. Dr. Bein shared with the board that 43% of staff indicated</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	<p>that they would be unable to teach in-person. The Board’s suggestion that those positions could be filled with unqualified substitute teachers is both ignorant of the long-standing substitute teacher shortage and an insult to the wonderful staff of this District. Our children learn more from having qualified teachers teaching remotely from their homes than they do from substitute teachers in-person. You owe an apology to our wonderful teaching staff for your assertion that they can be easily replaced with no educational impact on our children with people whose only qualifications are an associate degree and a clean background check with no requirement for a single education class. This Board of Education is not acting consistent with its expectations from its governance document and in-order to do so, the Board must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Return its policy to a full in-person return to school to include Region 10 positivity rate AND Arlington Heights weekly case rate; 2. Remove any arbitrary, date-based decisions related to a return to full in-person school and use metrics to make its decisions; 3. Continue to use full distancing guidelines as they have been implemented this fall until conditions warrant a full in-person return to school; 4. Adopt an adaptive pause to protect the health of the entire District Community (students, teachers, and staff) and because the expected staffing constraints will be disruptive to the education of our children; 5. Apologize to the teachers of this district for implying that they can be easily replaced with substitute teachers; 6. Condemn the recent statements of Rich Olejniczak and demand his resignation; 7. Return to its commitment that Board members act in the best interest of all the students in the district, respect the needs of our diverse community and make decisions based on the common good for our students; and 8. Represent all school district constituents honestly and equally and refuse to surrender its responsibilities to special interest or partisan political groups.
Julie Mueller	<p>In the event that we do not meet metrics to return to full in-person in January, are there plans to discuss what improvements could be made to hybrid? Teachers have been giving every effort to this, and many things are going very well. But as we would be heading into the 4th month of it, there are likely lessons learned and every system could use improvements. For example, could Monday be included for in-person? Either for those specifically with extra needs, small group sessions, or just to alternate with the Tue/Thur or Wed/Fri groups? Thank you for your consideration.</p>
Beth & Tim O’Meara	<p>In-person learning has been most successful for our two daughters and we therefore lend our support to continue hybrid learning, without an adaptive pause, and to move forward to full in-person learning when the metrics allow for the safety of student, teachers, and staff. The mitigation processes in place are working - there have been zero school outbreaks in Region 10 as reported by COVID-19 Outbreak locations (illinois.gov). Please continue to give all D25 families the option to CHOOSE what works best for their family. Thank you for your tireless efforts to keep our children's education a priority and our community safe.</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
<p>Laura Culley</p>	<p>I am submitting a petition from 127 parents of SD25 that do NOT want an adaptive pause at this time. The text of the petition was the following: "We believe that in person school is what is best for our children and that the mitigation measures that the district has put into place are working. We do not believe that an adaptive pause is needed at this time as the district metrics do not support an adaptive pause. " I will be sending the full excel spreadsheet with comments to Lana O'Brien via email of these parents. A list of the 127 parents names is listed below that do NOT want an adaptive pause: Their individual comments are included at the end of the public comment document.</p> <p>Christy Goduto Marianne Corcoran Renee Schlenhardt Kathy Dieringer Laura Culley Amanda Eichstaedt Tomasiewicz Lauren Rogers Jennifer Olson Shivi Stanley Shannon Reinking Betty Levinsky Megan Kerpec Leah Ross Lindsay Nugent Jodi Zera Hope Tokarczyk Carly Lisinski Brett Anderson Krystyna Tybor Marzena Mikulski Kristin Rauen Maureen Schmidt Christine Naunheimer Lisa Keavy Lisa Pils Alicen Manus Emily Gromer Katarzyna Malaczek Katie Taranda Star Smith Sarah Lerch-Halliday Patrick T Keavy Katy Murray Michelle Casillas Kristina Heaton Katarzyna Zurek Tom & Erin Kalaway Justyna Stelmaszak Nicole Towle Melissa Newkirk Carrie Skony. Janelle Thoma Michelle Kuhn Stacey Cooke</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	Jaime Yeh Dominic Franchi Danny Chiao Joanna Sopel Carol Nugent Erin Zurek Lisa Duello Steve Zurek Peter Woolsey Gitana Lapys Chris Duello Todd Witherow Greg Geissenberger Peggy Jones Amy Ashcraft Sheryl Terril Maryann Zaleski Elizabeth Green Kristin Irmen Jennifer Ponivas Melissa Lenski Brian Ashcraft Eileen Ryan Lisa Jordan Dan Ryan Kristin Keil Nikki Wiedner Stephanie Levinsky Robyn Warter Darinka Ferguson Alina Laurie Catherine Gripper Brittany Polihronis Jennifer Huntzicker Kelley Costello Mark Tack Adam C Thoma Katie Rausch Erin Felten Robert Culley Michele Voris Jenny Vuckov Egidijus Lapys Kristy Harvey Stephanie Rapone Desiree Barnett Patrick Schiltz Jen Starr Christine Boros Brian Lisinski Sean Molina Daniela Martin Stacey Esposito Mairin Gradek

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	<p>Heather Molina Cindy Smiskol John Michael Zaleski Vasilka Aleksieva Stephanie Fossler Suzanne Volpe Jeffrey Gradek Kelly Dudle Jane Zaleski Beth O'Meara Briana Hafer Danielle Valentin Diem Lai Jenni Von Tobel Andre Newman Erin Wiggs Richard Duong Michael Boros Greg Mikulski Tim Wiggs Ewa Dabrowski Samantha Tragos Ryan Fetzer Kelly Causero Marina Lara Anna</p>
Rachel Berkhof	<p>If we are not able to return to full in person in January, are there plans to improve the current model? While it has been going well, as with any system, there is room for improvement. I am a teacher in a neighboring district and we have altered and improved our system multiple times to improve the learning and accessibility for the students and parents. Also, please consider getting students with IEPs in more often, replacing Mondays asynchronous day with a synchronous day or small group instruction? While I understand the need for planning, I don't see how an entire day is needed every week. Teachers have been giving every effort to this, and many things are going very well. But as we would be heading into the 4th month of it, there are likely lessons learned and every system could use improvements. Thank you for your consideration.</p>
Lisa Duello	<p>Allow parents to chose what is best for their child's education. Give parents the option to not only continue with hybrid, but also move forward with 5 days of in person learning. Parents MUST be given the CHOICE to do what is best for their individual families. I oppose the adaptive pause.</p>
Deborah Freudenberger	<p>I am a parent of children in school district 25 and would like to advocate for and reiterate the need for an "adaptive pause-remote learning" like so many surrounding districts are doing (INCLUDING D214) from Thanksgiving break till 2 weeks after Christmas break to allow for those who travel to be cleared of any symptoms before returning to school. I believe this would be advantageous for the safety of our community, students, along with the safety of our teachers who have gone above and beyond this year. This adaptive pause would help prevent further community spread, which is especially important due to the recent spike in number of cases of Covid19. Thank you for your consideration.</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Carrie Dwyer	<p>I am writing to share my thoughts with the school board. I am very bothered the district is not taking into account the virus metrics or the administrative advice when making decisions. Just for your classification purposes, let me be clear:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The district should NOT move to full instruction in January.2. The district should be on adaptive pause at this time. <p>The community numbers at this time are extremely troubling. Locally, this appears to be the worst point in the pandemic. In the Daily Herald on 11/21/2020, they posted this fact: (The picture would not show on the Google Form.) "Since the pandemic began in Illinois 43 weeks ago, there have been 2,650 confirmed cases in COVID-19 in Arlington Heights. In the last week, s (sic.) there have been 475. That's 18 % of the cases. In one week."</p> <p>This is not the time to go back to class. The time will come. This is not it. It is not safe for the students, staff, or community. Our zip codes also showed that 17% of the cases are in the 20 year and younger population. These are facts that cannot be ignored and are only exasperated by the holiday. I realize families can pick in person learning or remote. Due to these high numbers, I switched my child to remote through December. But as a community member, I am not comfortable with these students in school.</p> <p>In addition, there are the staff shortages. I am not comfortable with the lack of substitute options. Even during a normal year, staff can become ill. I want qualified individuals working with my child. Please listen to the numbers and the science. Protect our students. Protect the school employees. And protect our community.</p> <p>Carrie Dwyer</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Michael J. Scaletta	<p>Dear Members of the School Board:</p> <p>I am writing today to express my support of the proposal for the District to take an Adaptive Pause to In-Person Instruction in response to the rising number of positive COVID-19 cases prior to the Thanksgiving Holiday and the strong likelihood that there will be a greater influx of positive COVID-19 cases as a result of social/family gatherings that occurred during the Thanksgiving holiday and will likely continue as we move forward into the holiday season. I am calling on our elected school board officials to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Adhere to guidance and direction provided to school districts and the community by the Illinois School Board of Education, the Illinois Department of Public Health, Cook County Public Health, and Governor J.B. Pritzker.2. Exercise decision making that relies on the growing body of evidence regarding the irrefutable increase of positive COVID-19 cases and aligns with the decision-rules that this board agreed to early on in the school year without continuing to adjust the rules to fit a prescribed agenda.3. Honor the input that the board has received through public comment and through the surveys that have been disseminated to the AHSD 25 community to complete.4. Rely on AHSD 25 school and district leaders as a primary source of data and information regarding the District's capacity to provide safe, meaningful, and appropriate public education while trusting that the plans for providing this instruction have been well informed by their expertise as educational leaders and school administrators. <p>As elected officials and school board members you are charged with supporting the leadership of our schools and district. This school board has appointed a Superintendent who has demonstrated time and time again that she and her team approach critical issues from all sides and make recommendations to the School Board that align with the District's vision Embracing Today- Inspiring Tomorrow. Agreeably, this is an unprecedented time and Dr. Bein and her team have continued to Embrace Today in an effort to ensure there is an Inspiring Tomorrow.</p> <p>As a school board I urge you to make a decision and to stop deciding to not decide. Either way, this will be a difficult decision and there will likely be stakeholders who are upset by a decision. However, just because a decision isn't easy to make doesn't mean you shouldn't make one. Once the board makes a decision and sticks to a plan then the rest of the AHSD 25 community can make informed decisions that are specific to their family's needs.</p> <p>"In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing"- Theodore Roosevelt</p> <p>Sincerely, Michael J. Scaletta</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Melissa Scaletta	<p>Dear Members of the School Board:</p> <p>I am writing today to express my support of the proposal for the District to take an Adaptive Pause to In-Person Instruction in response to the rising number of positive COVID-19 cases prior to the Thanksgiving Holiday and the strong likelihood that there will be a greater influx of positive COVID-19 cases as a result of social/family gatherings that occurred during the Thanksgiving holiday and will likely continue as we move forward into the holiday season. I am calling on our elected school board officials to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adhere to guidance and direction provided to school districts and the community by the Illinois School Board of Education, the Illinois Department of Public Health, Cook County Public Health, and Governor J.B. Pritzker. 2. Exercise decision making that relies on the growing body of evidence regarding the irrefutable increase of positive COVID-19 cases and aligns with the decision-rules that this board agreed to early on in the school year without continuing to adjust the rules to fit a prescribed agenda. 3. Honor the input that the board has received through public comment and through the surveys that have been disseminated to the AHSD 25 community to complete. 4. Rely on AHSD 25 school and district leaders as a primary source of data and information regarding the District's capacity to provide safe, meaningful, and appropriate public education while trusting that the plans for providing this instruction have been well informed by their expertise as educational leaders and school administrators. <p>As elected officials and school board members you are charged with supporting the leadership of our schools and district. This school board has appointed a Superintendent who has demonstrated time and time again that she and her team approach critical issues from all sides and make recommendations to the School Board that align with the District's vision Embracing Today- Inspiring Tomorrow. Agreeably, this is an unprecedented time and Dr. Bein and her team have continued to Embrace Today in an effort to ensure there is an Inspiring Tomorrow.</p> <p>As a school board I urge you to make a decision and to stop deciding to not decide. Either way, this will be a difficult decision and there will likely be stakeholders who are upset by a decision. However, just because a decision isn't easy to make doesn't mean you shouldn't make one. Once the board makes a decision and sticks to a plan then the rest of the AHSD 25 community can make informed decisions that are specific to their family's needs.</p> <p>"In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing"- Theodore Roosevelt</p> <p>Sincerely, Melissa Scaletta</p>
Maureen Schmidt	<p>Please keep our kids in school. Please give students a choice if they want to be in school. Please vote no for an adaptive pause.</p>
Claire Dwyer	<p>District 25 should not move to full in person instruction in January, and the district should immediately adopt an adaptive pause. The fact that this is even a matter of discussion when the Cook County Covid-19 positivity rate is 13.2% is absolutely ridiculous. Set a good example for your students and listen to the scientists. If even one child or staff member contracts the virus and gets sick enough to end up in the hospital, or even worse, dead, it will be due in part to this district ignoring reality and forcing students and staff into harms way and putting unnecessary strain on our overwhelmed healthcare system. The district moving to in person learning will not be worth it if even one child or teacher ends up very sick from this disease.</p> <p>I graduated from high school last year, with the end of my senior year ruined due to this pandemic. But if missing valuable class time, prom, or graduation saved even one life or prevented one person from going to the hospital, it was undoubtedly worth it. During these trying times, we are all sacrificing something. Let's make sure we are only sacrificing in school class time, and not the lives of students and staff.</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Mark Tack	<p>Please keep schools open. Schools are more essential than grocery stores, barber shops, and gas stations. CDC, Canada, Europe and many others view schools as essential functions for society. We should too. You have done good work to get us to this point. Don't go backwards. Push us forward. All efforts at this point should be on making the current hybrid model better and planning full force for the January full time open. Don't get distracted. Don't delay.</p>
Stevens	<p>To Dr Bein and board members, I have four children currently enrolled in D25 schools. Why is an adaptive pause for District 25 not being considered as all other School Districts in suburban Cook County have taken a pause from in-person learning? School is supposed to be a safe place for our students, teachers, families, and community members. It seems to me the District 25 board is putting the health and safety of all families and community members at risk. It is very frustrating to see this occurring in our community. Coming back from the Thanksgiving holiday with many families visiting family and friends will just cause the virus to accelerate the spread to all. Please consider taking an adaptive pause and not putting students, teachers, families, friends, and community members at risk of virus complications or possibly death. Losing a family member, friend, child, or community member is not worth our kids being in person. Regards, Ryan Stevens</p>
Sarah Spors	<p>We feel the school has put proper precautions in place and has proven that the hybrid model is safe. We feel it's important for the children to have in person school as much as possible at this time and support continuing the hybrid model.</p>
Kevin & Cindy Vander Klay	<p>We are in support of an adaptive pause as metrics for our area indicate wide community spread. Further, we question the school board's insistence on modifying nationally accepted metrics for safe return to full time in person learning. Lastly, we oppose the marginalization of the the teachers and staff that has taken place by members of the board and certain community members. Teachers have poured themselves into adapting to a difficult year and deserve much more than to be treated as a statistic or placeholder that can be casually replaced by subs & parent volunteers. Also, their health and safety and that of their household should be fairly considered as well.</p>
Boguslaw Szeszko	<p>I believe we should allow return to full in person learning coming back after winter break. Those that would like to continue remote can do so but those that feel their kids learn best in person should be allowed to make that choice and send kids back full time.</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Erin Miller	<p>We would like to sincerely thank the Board for voting against the adaptive pause and giving families the option to continue to send their children to school in-person. We would especially like to thank Rich and Chad for continuing to be the voice of reason and advocating for parents to be able to make the choice for how their children should be educated.</p> <p>We are the parents of four SD25 students - a 1st, 2nd and 5th grader at Windsor and a 7th grader at South and the two days a week that they go to school in-person are truly their most favorite days of the week. They wake up extra early with smiles on their faces and cannot wait to get out the door! The other days are spent wishing they were back in their classrooms, constantly counting down to when they can be done with eLearning. It is truly a roller coaster of emotions all week. While my amazing children have adapted to this unprecedented year and are doing their absolute best, and while their wonderful, brilliant teachers are doing an incredible job in these unusual circumstances, remote schooling is still not the way children should be learning, especially 1st and 2nd graders. It is truly heartbreaking some days to listen to children in our kids classes cry over Zoom and ask when they can go back to school.</p> <p>We believe wholeheartedly that every parent should have the choice on how their children should be educated during this time. We support those who have chosen to keep their children home and believe parents, like us, who believe in-person school is the best choice for their children's mental well-being should also have that right.</p> <p>We are so thankful to the Board for continuing to give us that choice and hope that continues. Please continue to advocate for us and continue to follow the science that clearly shows that schools are not super spreaders of Covid and that the safest place for them is in school. Our four children thank you from the bottom of their hearts for getting them in school two days a week and they cannot wait for the day, hopefully soon, that you get them back in school full-time.</p> <p>With Deepest Gratitude, Erin, Chuck, Maddie, Grace, Ella & Charlie Miller</p>
Laura and Josh Duplantier	<p>I am writing to raise my concerns regarding the school district's decision to not take an adaptive pause immediately after Thanksgiving break. My son is a second grader in the district's integrated services program at Westgate. My daughter attends the early childhood program at Greenbrier. Both of my children have attended the hybrid in-person options afforded to them since the start of the school year.</p> <p>I am concerned primarily for two reasons. First, general consensus indicates that there will be a surge of Covid-19 cases after the Thanksgiving holiday. I viewed the last school board meeting and did not hear this issue adequately addressed. What precautions is the district taking to make sure that we do not have spreading events within our schools within the context of this and future surge events?</p> <p>Second, Dr. Bein brought up the issue of adequate staffing, particularly through January when many other districts are taking an adaptive pause. I wanted to express my perspective on this matter as the mother of a child within the district's special education instructional program. My son's team at Westgate is integral to not only his ability to learn, but also to his ability to attend school. For my family, there is no comparison for public school to private school, because it is unlikely that my son would make it a week in a private school. His fair and equal access to education is reliant on the teachers, therapist, and staff at Westgate. The pandemic has certainly not been ideal for him as a learner with less than 50 percent of his instruction in-person. However, I am concerned about long term consequences if the district does not make staff retention a priority throughout this pandemic.</p> <p>The pandemic will end, however we must be mindful of long term consequences. My family resides in this school district because of the district's excellent staff. What efforts are being made by the district to maintain staff retention and overall quality of IEP/ special education services during the pandemic? Further, above all else for you as board members and the superintendent, we believe it is crucial that you begin to make more transparent communications and provide the factual foundation any decisions made.</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Chuck Miller	<p>I understand the board may be considering an adaptive pause. I do not believe an adaptive pause is necessary. The metrics in our district do not warrant a pause. Teachers and staff are essential workers and should do everything possible to teach in person. If the board considers an adaptive pause, metrics should be in place to trigger the pause and come out of the pause. These metrics should be easier to meet than full in person learning and in line with what is going on in our district not the entire region. Parents advocating for full remote have always had that option and should not have a say in hybrid of full in person metrics. Why include the opinion of a group that has chosen to stay home? I support their right to have a choice to stay home, they should support others having the choice to keep their children in school. Deciding what is right for my child is not their job. Please do everything possible to provide parents and children with choices. We can safely teach children in person and should continue to do so. Thank you!</p>
Toni Stuller	<p>November 28, 2020 School District 25 School Board 1200 South Dunton Avenue Arlington Heights, IL 60005</p> <p>CC: Dr. Lori Bein, Superintendent Illinois School Board of Education Dr. Carmen I. Ayala, State Superintendent of Education Kevin Jauch, Regional Superintendent of Education for North Cook County Governor J.B. Pritzker Senator Ann Gillespie Senator Mark Walker Congresswoman Janice Schakowsky Thomas W. Hayes, Mayor of Arlington Heights The Arlington Heights Patch The Daily Herald The Mount Prospect Journal Chicago Tribune WGN Chicago MSNBC CNN USA Today</p> <p>To the Members of the School Board: The COVID-19 pandemic is real, it is out of control, and it is devastating our community, our state, and our nation. The latest vetted, scientific evidence upholds that allowing in-person school with the current COVID-19 infection and community spread metrics is not only unsafe for those in attendance, but is also accelerating the spread of this deadly disease . Despite this evidence, despite guidance from the Illinois School Board of Education (ISBE), the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), Cook County Public Health , and the Executive Order from Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker, you, the School Board members and Superintendent of School District 25 (SD25) are not only refusing to take the recommended Adaptive Pause/return to full remote, but are forging ahead to a return to full in-person attendance by January 19. This is in blatant defiance of not only the guidelines given by the aforementioned governmental departments to which you answer, but also in defiance of the guidelines set and published BY YOU. In light of these truths, we, the undersigned parents and taxpayers of School District 25 (SD25), hereby petition and demand the following: 1) We demand that metrics and guidelines for full remote/Adaptive Pause, hybrid, and return to full in-person school for the district MUST mirror ISBE and IDPH metrics, and not be formed and continuously manipulated by SD25 school board members, none of whom are infectious disease experts. If the ISBE and IDPH metrics and guidelines for attendance are updated based on new science, then SD25's metrics and adherence to those guidelines must mirror those updates. SD25 schools must adhere to these metric-based guidelines at all times, as all other surrounding school districts are doing. Current districts surrounding SD25 who are following ISBE/IDPH Guidelines and returning to a full remote Adaptive Pause as of 11/30/2020:</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District 23 • District 21 • District 214 • District 211 • District 57 • District 59 • District 15 • District 54 • District 46 • District 2 • District 205 • District 62 • District 64 • District 63 • District 34 • District 30 • District 31 • District 27 • District 28 • District 112 • District 109 • District 103 • District 96 • District 95 • District 220 • District 300 • District 155 • District 73 • District 225 <p>2) We demand recognition by the Board that, according to SD25's own survey results, the majority of parents, teachers, and staff members want the School Board to use these metrics to make the decisions for remote, hybrid, or in-person school attendance for SD25.</p> <p>3) We demand that the Board recognize the expertise in educational matters that Superintendent Lori Bein's PhD in Education affords her, and to immediately reinstate her right to vote on the adaptation of any educational model, to take her expert recommendations into serious consideration on any matter for which it is given, and to allow her to carry out the duties of her appointed office.</p> <p>4) We demand recognition of the scientifically proven fact that coronavirus can be transmitted by small aerosol particles , and that increasing the number of students in a building for long periods of time means that unmasking to eat, drink, or for any other reason while inside a school building puts that person in immediate danger of COVID infection.</p> <p>5) We demand that School Board members adhere to the IASB guidelines and Oath of Office to which they agreed upon confirmation in their elected posts.</p> <p>6) We demand that, as per the aforementioned Oath of Office and IASB guidelines, any School Board member who has publicly expressed a bias in a matter before the Board recuse themselves from voting on that matter. It has come to the attention of many SD25 parents that a current Board Member has posted a "Reopen Schools" sign in their yard for public view (photo of signage can be provided upon request); for this member to express their biased opinion to the public, and then present themselves as an unbiased representative of SD25 parents and the community to vote on decisions regarding remote vs. in-person schooling, is a violation of the conflict of interest directive in the School Board Code of Ethics.</p> <p>7) We demand that SD25 provide full and timely transparency to the members of the SD25 community into reported COVID-19 numbers from SD25 schools, with a break-down by number of students, teachers, and staff members infected or exposed. Current notifications have proven to include inaccurate statements—members of the SD25 community have come forward to contradict letters to</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	<p>parents stating there were no close contacts, advising that they had, in fact, been notified by IDPH that they were a close contact with a COVID infected individual at an SD25 school on the date mentioned in the notification letter. Also, the numbers on the COVID dashboard is often behind more than a week. Incorrect and inaccurate information impedes the ability of SD25 families and community members to make informed decisions. This must be remedied immediately.</p> <p>It is an undebatable truth that we all want our children back in schools as soon as it is safe to do so, as is the fact that education is better when administered by qualified teachers who have dedicated their lives to educating our kids. Socialization is also undeniably important to the mental health of our children. However, education can be made up with adaptive curriculums over the course of one or more years, as can socialization. The trauma from losing a parent, grandparent, or beloved teacher to death from COVID-19—or the child suffering long-term damage or dying from COVID themselves—is irreversible. The coronavirus does not discriminate based on financial situation, neighborhood, or political affiliation, nor does School District 25 live in a bubble unaffected by other communities within our county and state; the current circumstances require all community members to make lesser sacrifices in order to mitigate the horrific death and permanent physical and mental damage of this pandemic. In addition to the fact that a return to full remote learning based on current metrics is simply the moral, “right” thing to do, a refusal by this board to take action to protect our children, families, and community from the dangers of the COVID-19 pandemic is a litigious offense—one that is likely not covered by the District’s liability insurance. For the sake of everyone in this community, we, the parents and taxpayers whom you were elected to represent, demand that you immediately implement and adhere to the above requirements.</p> <p>Signed: Please see below:</p> <p>https://www.princeton.edu/news/2020/09/30/largest-covid-19-contact-tracing-study-date-finds-children-key-spread-evidence?fbclid=IwAR0FYxB-TC_ZK5zAIU8nApiU_t4zWHCO4F5Vep5YjGb5hOBmOpUH-_L6r6Q https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/children-and-covid-19-state-level-data-report/ https://www.isbe.net/Documents/IDPH-Adaptive-Pause-Metrics.pdf https://cookcountypublichealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Clarification-of-Adaptive-Pause-Guidance-K-12_Final.pdf?fbclid=IwAR1m-kUnpWfqUJZpio6uwzylEd2KL8rMFBcvUDdyka2CNb7FfANCGf0n_Ro https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/protecting-against-covids-aerosol-threat/ https://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/ig/COVID-19-Guidance-Indoor-Risk.pdf https://www.iasb.com/iasb/media/documents/coi_faq.pdf?fbclid=IwAR1n8awHV2vLI8jA6yeCnCWNTAun3Vwd8R9t2sAvj4qZuM-KwYQFOsTZutU https://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2020/09/03/schools-may-get-sued-over-covid-19-7.html</p> <p>Beckie Hejna Whitney Simon Tricia Montesano Kristina Finch Amanda Bhansali Jen Anderson Alexis Hammond Ana De La Rosa Kecman Stephanie Keadle Lauren Salsinger Kim Dunning Melisa Andrews Julia Piontek Ann Poyer Jennifer Black-Foltin</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	<p>Todd Cordell Liz Chlopowicz Sridevi Ganesan Janine Flauter Kristen Christiansen Susan Allison Kathryn Stutzman Pat Litberg Jennifer Nebel Pamela O'Connor Tricia Fuglestad Megan Geltner Amy Haber Geoff Geltner Judie King Jamee falknor Bliss Hansen Joseph Kim Jill Larsen Steve Chiappe AJ Draut Gina Heuer Colleen Kave Jamie Impastato Meg Thomson Janet Reed Nicole Keith Meghan Yarbrough Kate May Michelle Walsh Camille Ziemann Kristie Burmeister Jennifer Schmidt Amy Johnson Kate Murray Amy Ksiazk Amy Heisler Kelly Price-Moore Joshua Price-Moore Becki Bloxsom Melanie Romero James D Jones Lisa Ragone Peters Jaclyn Aprati Stacey Tobin David Petersen Beth Deiter Jennifer Porto Heather Lockhart Kristen Clark Jeff Clark Maria Palmer Mary Hannon Michael Hannon</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	Kate Zbierski Robb Zbierski Shaun Marusek Megan Nuccio Frank Nuccio Jennifer Bates Marcy Meyer Evan Meyer Elizabeth Lundgren Christine Arce Jennifer Mindykowski Christy Walsh Jamee McBride Laura Ness Meghan Grell Kathy Sutton Terri McDonnell Marcie Selvaggio Patrick Stevens Theresa Fowler Sharon Barber Ellie Branson Gina Tyson Robyn Swanson Rebecca Reiter Nina Koufalias Ana Fergus Kelly Drucker Lisa Lightcap Tracy Roth Louis Arce Kirsten Boyce Jeanette Hanik Kevin Michael Prajakta Maindarkar Jennifer Amling Katie Peterson Rachael Hooker Kelley Balmer April Berry Kelsey Anstandig Lynn Bengtsen Phil Bengtsen Rebecca Burns Peter Burns Monica Hinchey Sarah Canace Rob Nesvacil Kaitlin Koralik Lindsay Arndt Jenica Polifka Garrett Polifka Karri Ophus Jennifer Licato

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	Renee Burns Megan Kelly Katy Domsten Eric Riggi James Licato Margaret Kearns Kevin Kearns Jani Graziano Julie Coon Ryan Christie Kevin M. Gross Michelle S. Friedman-Gross Bryan Branson Jeremy Glass Jeanne McCullough Tim Lintner Virginia McDonnell Melissa Gilland Carol Nesvacil Katelyn Gustafson Jenny Haefliger Sheila Crowley Mary Blatter Theresa Warren Sara Michael Nicole Bielawa Tony Montesano Kendra Lintner Sharon Todd & Katelyn Lorenz Larry Bauerle Lesley Daniel Karen Joseph Eileen Herbster Kimberly Musolf Adam Musolf Aaron Coon Julie Gartrell Karen Jones Tom Galazka Christine Organ Tom Tyson Kelli McDonald Amy Darby Kim Eckert Anita Langdon Joe Eckert Jodi Copersmet Casey Whitaker Amy Simonetti Kathie Avvisati Joanna Esposito Marilyn Briggs Patricia DeCorah

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	<p>Erin Lowery Mallory Sullivan Diane Polifka Elizabeth Wilson Carrie Kuczak Barb Donahue Jeremy Pearl Allison Anderle Paul Wakefield Oxana Corbett Jenifer Hope Tim Morkert Amy Derken Pam Wuich Shane Yarbrough Kelly Darby Kerri Connelly Maurice Finnegan Megan Kalweit Marianne Baltowski Janelle Dufer Melissa Fasuna Jennifer Mckown Peggy Delwo Gary Delwo Toni Stuller Craig Stuller Maureen Pajerski Charles Richardt Jerry Oakes Nicole Oakes Lisa Oakes Max MacCready Lauren MacCready Shannon Hull Tom Wuich Erin Matray Maria Caruso Katie Cosgrove Fred DeMarco Stacy Marini Kelly Ellsworth Allison Vercimak Angelica Andrews Kelly OSullivan Steven Andrews ALODIA C. KENDAL Terri D'Acquisto Lisa Parciak Holly Schafer Kelly DeRosa Jennifer Leigh Diva Pagnotto Ellie Hicks</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	Susan Weres Mr and Mrs R Fraser Alice Dahl Sue Villanova Sean Conroy Sarah Galla Katherine Scortino Lauren Gonke Michelle Brinson Cynthia Mc Intyre Nick Larse Michael McIntyre Ken & Sue Kowols Talia Dohman Dr. Matthew Kinney Carol Vittore J Gerdes Kristen Cordell Sharon Korb Melissa Conroy Jeremy Fischer Sarah Dempsey Kelly McMillen Douglas Hammond Sarah Ivy Stacy Marini Carol Hrejsa Cary Dohman Kara Bolf Christina Dastice Mariam Ghaith Christine Bishop Patrick Braun Molly Siegel Karen Galazka Michele Hilgart Bridget Schank Alexis Christensen Todd Cordell Amanda Sharpe Mercedes Ritchey Michelle Kasprzak Lisa Groh Bruce Adlon Marjorie Kinney Holly Furman Allison Vercimak Nancy Sudlow Summer Sander Matt Sander Samantha Brex Nicole hildebrandt Josh Sharpe Herb Musolf

First and Last Name	Public Comment
	<p>Ann Musolf Jason Ivy Linda Norris Deanna Amelio Sue Thomson Scott Corbett Bob Andrews Amy Doman James Doman Kevin & Cindy Vander Klay Taylor Lindsey Amy Graziano Jim Graziano Anthony Pagnotto</p>
<p>Tyler Strauss</p>	<p>Dear Dr. Bein and SD25 School Board, My name is Tyler, and I'm a 5th grader at Dryden. When schools went to Hybrid, it put children in danger, but teachers in more danger. They're in a classroom on all days that children go to school, and when everyone is remote. This is dangerous, and it puts many lives at risk. I miss my friends and teachers, and want to see them, but I'd rather have them safe. We're still in Hybrid, and many schools are closing, yet we're still trying to open school full time. Please pause the schools, and keep everyone safe. Thank you! Tyler</p>
<p>William Felten</p>	<p>I OPPOSE full remote, and I OPPOSE an adaptive pause. My child is needing to be back in-person, FULL time. He has countless IEP minutes per week that need to be met, in-person. He was just recently invited back to 4 days a week, in-person, and an adaptive pause will eliminate this option for him. Please think of all children, and allow for CHOICE.</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Liz Jones	Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do for our children. All children learn differently and my children, in particular, benefit from in-person classroom instruction. Please continue listening to the recommendations of experts. In-person learning can be and is safe with the mitigations in place. Please keep our students in the classroom.
christy witherow	Please do not move to Adaptive Pause. Please remind those families that want adaptive pause that they CAN keep their kids home. Please DO NOT take my daughters 2 days of in-person learning away as long as there is staff at dryden to continue.
Daniel Strauss	Do not use kids' COVID cases as your metric! Kids are asymptomatic and you are not doing testing!
Kristin Trudeau	Please let my son continue to attend school in hybrid model. Please continue to give parents the CHOICE between remote or hybrid at the very least. My son is learning so much more and enjoying school so much on days he attends in person. We support the district and all who work so hard to keep our kids in school. We will happily help in any way we can do continue supporting you all. Thank you so much for all the hard work you're doing. You have our gratitude!!!
Emily Morrison	<p>I'm writing to strongly request that District 25 issue an adaptive pause to in-person learning immediately.</p> <p>Surrounding school districts including the Chicago Archdiocese have made the decision to institute an adaptive pause to in-person learning in order to prevent the spread of Covid 19 in our community. District 25 has always stood out for its commitment to excellence, teacher retention and investment in beautiful educational spaces. We don't want to tarnish this good reputation by making short-sighted decisions and taking chances with the health of its students and community.</p> <p>For the last several weeks, respected epidemiologists have warned that in-person group activities will increase our already high infection rates, causing a marked increase in the death rate. Much time and effort was expended to create a scheduling system for District 25 that was flexible enough to allow for adaptive changes and pauses as the public health numbers changed. When conditions improved, Now that clear data reveals that we are entering a more dangerous time, I don't understand why we're not taking a pause for the greater good.</p> <p>Holiday travel expected to greatly increase infection rates. Many people ignored no-travel and no Thanksgiving gathering recommendations during the holidays and people to gather, causing them to take great risks.</p> <p>It is time to follow the lead of many other local districts including D214 and take a pause for the sake of our faculty, staff, students and their families.</p> <p>As an academic institution, I hope that the board will respect the hard facts of research and science and institute an adaptive pause to in-person learning. The lives of the most vulnerable in this community and our health professionals on the front lines are counting on you to do what is right. Thank You.</p>
Beckie Hejna	For the safety of our students, staff and community we must go to adaptive pause from now until at least winter break. Numbers and data have changed since October, even the beginning of November. Study data, look at metrics and LISTEN to the PROFESSIONALS. FOLLOW THE SCIENCE. I ask you to please put any political rhetoric to the side and follow unbiased sources when making decisions that affect the life and wellness of our children and our staff. We can no longer wait. We are the only district in the entire area moving toward more in person learning. We MUST follow guidelines for safety/mitigation set forth by the IDPH when we start having the students come back full time to the classroom. The board is NOT full of medical experts who get to decide what guidelines will prevent the virus from spreading in our schools and our community.
Terri D'Acquisto	Please consider this Adaptive Pause for the safety of all! I come from a family of first responders. Dying alone in a hospital is not something you want to witness. Let's get past this hump. The vaccine is coming! I am a TA in the district and I care about the students and staff I work with, as well as family and friends.
Monica Hinchey	Please, please for the health and safety of your staff, faculty and our community at large, it's time for a pause. It's time to keep everyone safe and let them stay home. I beg of you. Be a part of the solution to stop the community spread.

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Mariam Ghaith	I urge you to place our district into full remote learning as many other districts have done. Covid cases are increasing at a rate that makes us feel unsafe and unwilling to come into work. I am a TA who works with students where it is impossible to stay at a 6 foot distance. I have already had to quarantine because of direct contact with a student who tested positive. This in turn meant that my children who have been learning remotely at home were put at risk and had to quarantine. Many of us staff members have unfortunately been considering leaving our jobs as we feel the metrics are manipulated and the cases are underreported. I love my job but it just is not safe right now.
Laura Zimmerman	I fully support sending kids back to school full-time. Both of my kids (5th-Dryden, 7th-South) are struggling to stay focused and engaged on Zoom 3 days/week. While hybrid has helped, the overall impact of being remote is hurting their well-being and future academic potential.
Julia Herrmann	Please keep the school open. Please plan to fully re-open still on January 19th. Please consider having 504 students enter 5 days a week ASAP. My Middle Schoolers grades have fallen severely in the past 4 months. He went from a 4.0 last spring to 2.8 this first period. This is dramatically affecting kids in a very negative way. He is now seriously depressed and always upset
Katherine Halley	Please consider the updated Illinois 12% positivity threshold when determining the metrics for the district.
The following comments were received after the submission deadline and were not included in the November 29, 2020 Board meeting.	
Angelica Andrews	At a time when Covid cases, deaths, and hospitalizations are skyrocketing, when all surrounding districts are making the responsible decision to take an adaptive pause, when there seems to be hope of an effective vaccine on the horizon, it is not time to dig our heels in. We know things will get worse in the wake of the holiday season, so a pause in in-person learning, while inconvenient to some, is the safest, most reasonable decision. Most of us in the community are taking this virus (which has ended a quarter million American lives) very seriously, and those in a position of leadership should do the same.

First and Last Name	Public Comment
Kerri Hood	<p>I am writing to request that you KEEP your plan of staying IN SCHOOL instead of pulling back to remote thru mid-Jan. The cases have been steadily declining over the past few weeks, which shows the spike was NOT attributed to our schools being open. (More likely tied to election day polling places or just general time for flu season, which they aren't testing for any more.) As Gina mentioned in the previous meeting, we need to look at the eco-system that is our school building. What is happening there? If you look at the IDPH Region 10 outbreak locations, schools are NOT even shown to be a location where this is happening. See attached picture or link here: http://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/outbreak-locations?regionID=1&rPeriod=1</p> <p>Our state and districts are FAILING to address the real locations and groups of concern, which are NOT schools! Nursing homes and other mental health facilities are where their focus should be! NOT OUR D25 SCHOOLS!!!</p> <p>Our district has taken measures for safety that are working. There is no reason to "pause" my children's education any further. My kids do not learn well with remote learning. It is great that some other kids do fine with it. I need what is best for my own children, and pay for that right of an in-person education! People that are advocating for a pause now already have the option to pull their kids and make them remote!!! WHY do they care that I want to send my own kids to school?!?!? They want a sweeping motion so they too can say, look, not my fault that you aren't in school! We have no choice! Well, they do have a choice, and have ALWAYS had a choice for remote learning! My kids JUST got their choice of going back to school a month and a half ago! ...and that was only for 2 days per week! We MUST maintain a choice for all, and that means NO PAUSE.</p> <p>The petition circulating requesting a pause is yet again full of inaccurate information...pandering more to fear than fact. Only schools and classes where there are very small amount of students present (i.e. Ivy Hill) are going to have more kids show up, but then our class sizes will be more comparable to what the other schools have had all along. Both of my kids have showed up with 3 other kids in their classes on their 2 days, and there are 3 or 4 that show up on the other 2 days. That in no way makes sense as we can easily and SAFELY fit the 8 kids who want to come to school in the room with no changes to existing spacing, etc. (Also, a good question came up... Why does the union have ANY say in the distance I want my kids to remain from others? They should only speak and make mandates for their own employees, and let us parents decide what rules and mandates our kids should follow. i.e. Teachers can all be forced to be 6' away from others at all times, but I am ok if my kids are not 6' apart from others. The union demand should only apply to the union members.)</p> <p>Maybe those who wrote the petition for pause are referring to teachers and staff and how they interact throughout the days? What does the teacher's lounge look like? Are they gathering inside the hallways or in groups at any time throughout the day? What are the teachers and staff doing OUTSIDE of school? Several of you commented at the last meeting with concern on PARENTS traveling or PARENTS following guidelines outside of school. You need to amend your statements to PARENTS AND TEACHERS AND STAFF. Parents aren't the only adults here that need to be following proper safety guidelines in their personal lives especially when children have not been shown to be the spreaders. You need to be pushing back hard on teachers and staff as well to ensure they are not traveling, visiting friends, making unnecessary trips to salons/restaurants/non-essential stores/etc. as that would impact them teaching in the classroom and potentially impacting our children. Parents are not the only ones who need to be making sacrifices here! (Parents have actually been the only ones making the sacrifices since mid-March!!!)</p> <p>Please keep our schools open and do the RIGHT THING FOR OUR KIDS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!</p> <p>Regards, Kerri Hood</p>

Petition Comments for parents that do not want an adaptive pause

Your Name	Comments
Christy Goduto	Please continue to allow the choice for full remote or in person learning. Thank you!
Marianne Corcoran	No adaptive pause.
Renee Schlenhardt	I do not support "Adaptive Pause" or full remote for any reason at this time. Families can choose remote at anytime, creating their own "pause." It's not right remote families should have any say in anyone else's family. The district metrics are very good, the risk has proven to be low to have schools open. The governors orders haven't included closing schools, and he's been clear that should be a local decision. It should continue to be a local decision and choice for all. Thank you.
Kathy Dieringer	No need for adaptive pause
Laura Culley	The mitigations the district is doing are working and keeping cases low in the district. In person learning is best and the children will not be able to make up the learning lost if we go fully remote with no option for in person learning. Our local area code positivity rate is nearly 8% now and the total covid cases in the district are low. We should not go into adaptive pause due to the harm it could do to children and the metrics in our schools. It just does not make sense.
Amanda Eichstaedt	No Adaptive Pause
Tomasiewicz	
Lauren Rogers	We DESERVE the CHOICE to choose what is best for our kids! Let my kids stay in-person school, where they thrive
Jennifer Olson	
Shivi Stanley	
Shannon Reinking	
Betty Levinsky	Please keep schools open. Our children need education.
Megan Kerpec	
Leah Ross	Thank you
Lindsay Nugent	Keep our district numbers in mind, please!
Jodi Zera	Please keep schools open because COVID-19 is not spreading within the buildings. Parents who are concerned can choose to keep their children at home.
Hope Tokarczyk	Our children deserve to be in school. We all know this is the safest place for them. Please listen to the CDC and follow the science which all leads to the fact that in person is best for kids. Those that don't feel comfortable still have the choice to be remote but please do not take away hybrid for our kids. My boys have only been in school 9 days. They deserve to continue to be excited to go to school at least twice a week.
Carly Lisinski	
Brett Anderson	
Krystyna Tybor	
Marzena Mikulski	No adaptive pause! Give parents choice! The data indicates that the transmission rate within schools is low due to all the steps that

	<p>everyone is taking.</p> <p>Pausing doesn't solve many challenges and introduces new ones. This is a new norm and everyone has to adapt to this norm. Please allow parents to make the best decisions for their children as they are the only ones that know what their kids need! Let's ensure that our kids best interest is the focus of the discussion. Closing schools would be Irresponsible!</p> <p>Please keep the schools open and allow parents make decisions.</p> <p>Thank you for all your hard work, much appreciated!</p>
Kristin Rauen	Please keep our ability to choose in the best interest of our children. Please keep the current hybrid option with the movement to full in person in January.
Maureen Schmidt	Say no to an adaptive pause
Christine Naunheimer	I'm requesting that the board vote no for adaptive pause. I also intend to remind the Board that the number of public comments via emails are not "votes". We voted to elect the school board members as part of an open election and it is their job to make choices based on multiple factors in the best interest of our children, staff, teachers and community. Unless they request input via a survey of all parents in the district, they cannot count public comments of a meeting as "votes."
Lisa Keavy	Both remote and in person should be a choice. Kids need to be in school.
Lisa Pils	People have the choice to stay home and choose remote without an adaptive pause.
Alicen Manus	Keep our schools open!
Emily Gromer	Schools are not active hot spots for Covid. Keep the kids in school and learning! EVERYONE MUST HAVE A CHOICE!!!! Those who choose to remain remote can. My kids deserve to be in school! Thank you!
Katarzyna Malaczek	I strongly believe that in person learning is the only option for my kids. Adaptive pause is not needed at this time .
Katie Taranda	Remote is always an option for any child. Why does an adaptive pause need to be forced upon everyone.
Star Smith	Remote learning puts my daughter at a disadvantage. She struggles with reading and spelling, but not enough to need intervention assistance. Her teacher did not know to what length until she started in-person. There is only so much a parent can do, children need an educated teacher face-to-face!
Sarah Lerch-Halliday	Give parents the choice for in person or remote.
Patrick T Keavy	
Katy Murray	Please vote no for an adaptive pause
Michelle Casillas	No to adaptive pause - kids need to be in school.
Kristina Heaton	As stated, an adaptive pause is not necessary based on the current metrics. Parents who currently have a 'personal discomfort' have the option to keep their children in fully remote learning without an adaptive pause.
Katarzyna Zurek	
Tom & Erin Kalaway	
Justyna Stelmaszak	No adaptive pause in SD25
Nicole Towle	Families already have a choice to send their kids to school or stay home and remote learn. Those who seek the adaptive pause agenda should concern themselves with their family's personal

	decision and keep their kids at home; give other families the right to choose what works for them and do not infringe on those rights. I want my kids in school.
Melissa Newkirk	There is no reason for an adaptive pause. Let the kids go to school
Carrie Skony	
Janelle Thoma	
Michelle Kuhn	All cases in the school have had no close contacts. The system is working and there is minimal risk for the kids to continue in hybrid. The mitigants in place work.
Stacey Cooke	Signing this to reaffirm our family's position that metrics do not support an adaptive pause and families who are more comfortable with remote learning ALREADY have that option.
Jaime Yeh	I believe that in-person education is the best choice for D25 students given the mitigation measures in place. My own 4 children in the district are more engaged, motivated and connected during in-person days at school. Please continue to maintain that necessary choice for all students. We would be doing a vast disservice to our community if we went on an adaptive pause.
Dominic Franchi	Please lets these kids stay in person hybrid or go full in person. The e-learning has been very ineffective and the devastating effects on the kids mental health is horrible. We are two working adults and this has been virtually impossible and tough on our mental health has well. I fear this will have lasting effects. Please do not go back to an adaptive pause. We can do this with masks, washing and social distancing. This virus is real but the media has overblown it's lethality for political purposes. Please do not continue to live in fear of this virus. Please get all of these kids back in person school. Thank you.
Danny Chiao	No adaptive pause
Joanna Sopel	People who want adaptive pause have a choice to keep their kids home !
Carol Nugent	<p>I've listened to all D25 board meetings, as I have a vested interest as a crossing guard employee and grandmother. I love my job! I understand the choice of sending your child to school or continued remote learning, and I respect both. The parents and children whom I have crossed this year are happy and healthy and love being back in the classroom. I do miss the others who have chosen to stay with the remote concept. I love that it's a choice!! I'm of course afraid that D25 will not continue schooling as it should be. Here's why:</p> <p>I don't believe, after watching the many board meetings and listening to experts and parents, that we should implement an adaptive pause in the educational curriculum.</p> <p>I truly believe as a grandmother of 4 children who attend D25 schools and 1 who's been attending a parochial school since August/September that these children are better served being in the classroom in person.</p> <p>Studies have shown the negative emotional effects on many students. I also feel our superintendent has a skewed outlook, which is a bit dangerous, about our many children living in so-called affluent families not struggling, not to mention the working families and single-parent households who cannot afford daycare.</p> <p>Socioeconomic status should not be a determining factor in the D25 decision. Please, let's get the children back in the classroom with their peers.</p> <p>As far as the lack of teachers, it's my opinion that the district should have had a game plan in place that included interviewing substitute teachers and other ancillary staff. We've been in this for 9 months and D25 has had more than ample time to plan, including over the summer.</p> <p>I hope to hear the next board meeting offer some problem-solving answers instead of excuses. Honestly, if the school district was a company/small business/corporation, we'd be shut down. Our children and taxpayers deserve the best answer. If that's not possible, then please step down and allow someone(s) to step in.</p>

Erin Zurek	Please give parents a choice.
Lisa Duello	
Steve Zurek	Please no adaptive pause
Peter Woolsey	We moved our daughter into private school as a result of the decisions made by district 25. There have been zero issues at her school. She is happier and better behaved than when she was doing distance learning. I worry that she will advance academically more than her public school peers that have been in remote and how that will affect her going back to SD25 when in person is full time again.
Gitana Lapys	NO adaptive pause please! It's no outbreaks in the schools and my kids doing the best in person. Thanks
Chris Duello	Those who want a pause can already do it. It is their CHOICE.
Todd Witherow	
Greg Geissenberger	Illinois Metrics are already improving and our R number is the 2nd best in the country
Peggy Jones	Please take the path less traveled abs do NOT offer an adaptive pause. Reach out to those in the private school community and see how they are making school work for their kids. Our kids need you to fight for them!!
Amy Ashcraft	My kids absolutely need to stay in person, in school. The current, relevant Covid metrics do not support an adaptive pause. Bogus results from biased surveys, inability to keep appropriate staffing levels, poorly negotiated union contracts and a general 'me before we' sentiment from the school district do not warrant even a discussion about adaptive pause in our schools.
Sheryl Terril	
Maryann Zaleski	Follow what the science tells us- it is safe for children to return to school and we can do so responsibly. Hold parents accountable for their private lives and tell them if their kids in-person education is of upmost importance right now, then people need to consider eliminating or reducing all unnecessary activities to reduce exposure so we can continue to make school a safe choice.
Elizabeth Green	
Kristin Irmén	
Jennifer Ponivas	
Melissa Lenski	My child learns best with in person learning. He has an IEP and is finally allowed to go back 4 days a week. Please do not take that away from him.
Brian Ashcraft	Please keep the schools open for in-person learning. There seems to be a good number of people that want the schools open, and the reported in-school transmission rates are low. These two measurements are strong indicators that the kids should have the opportunity to learn in the building.
Eileen Ryan	
Lisa Jordan	No adaptive pause
Dan Ryan	
Kristin Keil	I submitted a public comment but I understand there is a petition going around in regards to an adaptive pause so I am signing this petition in support of no adaptive pause. I hope that the school board recognizes that these petitions don't have as much value as the personal public comments as anyone can sign without reading the fine print, especially when the petition is pages in length. This petition is short and to the point with no underlying text.

Nikki Wiedner	I would NOT LIKE an adaptive pause. Kids NEED to be in school!
Stephanie Levinsky	How many more experts need to say that in-person school is best AND covid is not being spread in schools?
Robyn Warter	No adaptive Pause is warranted.
Darinka Ferguson	My children's attitude towards school is so much more positive on the days that they are in school versus at home on Zoom. The 7 day rolling average positivity rate has been declining, why even consider an adaptive pause if the numbers are going down????
Alina Laurie	Please follow the CDC and keep the schools open. Our SD25 buildings are the safest place for kids.
Catherine Gripper	
Brittany Polihronis	Please continue to give choice to families. No Adapted Pause!
Jennifer Huntzicker	Procedures for safety in our schools are in place and transmission from students to adults is not happening as far as I can tell from the dashboard. Let's keep these kids in school.
Kelley Costello	
Mark tack	Leave schools open
Adam C Thoma	
Katie Rausch	Parents have choice! Adaptive pause is not supported with metrics and medical experts insisting schools remain open. Follow their guidance on that and keep us open. Parents uncomfortable with in person have the option for remote and that's their choice. I choose for my children to be in person and that's my choice! I have never thought about taking choice away from remote only parents and they should never think that they can take away my choice either!
Erin Felten	My 2nd grader NEEDS to be in school-remote does not work for our family with our son needing in-person for his IEP needs.
Robert Culley	Keep kids in school. Move to 5 day per week in January.
Michele Voris	Back to school and normal life for theses kids!!!!
Jenny Vuckov	
Egidijus Lapys	In person school is the best option for my bilingual family.
Kristy Harvey	Please keep the choice for kids to stay in school. This is so important for the mental health of many of these kids.
Stephanie Rapone	I trust and respect that school board members are continuously seeking factual, non-biased, information about recommendations from the CDC, ISBE, local departments of public health, and other critical non-biased sources to determine metrics to move to an adaptive pause. Schools are not spreaders of COVID. Just like "XYZ school district is doing it" wasn't a good enough reason for full-day in-person, it's not a good enough reason for adaptive pause.
Desiree Barnett	An adaptive pause would only further hurt our children.
Patrick Schiltz	No adaptive pause - use less jargon please
Jen Starr	I support NO adaptive pause.
Christine Boros	
Brian Lisinski	
Sean Molina	Vote no on an adaptive pause. All those families that are uncomfortable with in person learning have the option to remain home and should do so. Let parents make the choice themselves.

Daniela Martin	Our children need in person school! The metrics in our area do not support an adaptive pause.
Stacey Esposito	My children have thrived since returning to in person learning. They are beginning to love school again. Please say no to an adaptive pause.
Mairin Gradek	
Heather Molina	
Cindy Smiskol	School should NOT be the thing that closes. Other businesses & activities should be limiting in-person patronage and "pausing," specifically so that schools can remain open. When there are 8 or fewer children in a classroom, there is plenty of space for distancing and NO PAUSE should be necessary.
John	NO to SD 25 adaptive pause
Michael Zaleski	
Vasilka Aleksieva	
Stephanie Fossler	
Suzanne Volpe	Stop penalizing children because of the teachers' unions fear about Covid
Jeffrey Gradek	
Kelly Dudle	
Jane Zaleski	
Beth O'Meara	
Briana Hafer	
Danielle Valentin	
Diem Lai	According to Dr. Bein there has been two transmissions in the school since hybrid started. This is the data we should be looking at. The district has asked people who traveled during the Thanksgiving break to stay home. Please allow in-person learning from now, 11/30, to the end of the school year (June).
Jenni Von Tobel	Based on the levels in our zip codes and the negligible transmission rates in school, I don't believe an adaptive pause is warranted for SD25.
Andre Newman	Hybrid is working great for my kids and they love being in school. Please don't take that away from them. It's a risk I am willing to take by sending them in-person!
Erin Wiggs	Vote No to adaptive pause.
Richard Duong	I do not support an adaptive pause. I would like my kid to be in-person learning from now to the end of the school year.
Michael Boros	My kids need face to face learning. Online learning is not appropriate for their age levels.
Greg Mikulski	No adaptive pause, data and all government agencies recommend kids be in school. The transmission rate within school are very low. Please consider kids needs when making decision.
Tim Wiggs	Vote No to Adaptive Pause
Ewa Dabrowski	The remote learning is not working for my kids. Sitting for many hours in front of the computer does more damage than good. Their mental health is at stake. It's so hard to explain to the kid's why their cousins, who attend private schools, are full time in school since August and they are doing just fine. This is so unfair. All kids deserve education!
Samantha	Keep schools open! Those who chose to keep their kids home can do so.
Ryan Fetzer	
Kelly Causero	Keep our schools open for the mental health of our children

Marina Lara	No Adaptive Pause! Please keep our kids in schools with COVID rates being low
Anna	No
Angela Zielinski	