

## Community Input – August 13, 2020 Board Meeting

Name	Question/Comment
Kevin Michael	<p>To the Members of the District 25 Board of Education and Dr. Bein:</p> <p>I am writing to you as a parent of two District 25 students (Natalie, grade 6 at Thomas Middle School; and Carolyn, grade 2, at Ivy Hill Elementary School) and a concerned community member.</p> <p>I commend the decision to start the school year with remote learning for all students. The spread of COVID-19 is a serious and upsetting crisis in our state and in the world. Slowing the spread by avoiding large gatherings of students and educators in schools is a necessary measure in slowing the spread of illness.</p> <p>However, I am disappointed and concerned by the decision to require teachers to be in school buildings while delivering remote instruction. While I understand that some teachers may prefer to have access to classroom supplies and technology, I know from my own experience delivering remote instruction to co-workers and students in my district in the spring that the work can be done effectively—and far more safely—from home.</p> <p>While keeping students at home during remote learning greatly reduces the risk of exposure for staff members, putting anywhere from several dozen to hundreds of adults together in the same building, even in separate classrooms, adds unnecessary risk.</p> <p>I ask you on behalf of the health and safety of all residents and employees of Arlington Heights to reconsider this decision and leave the choice in the hands of your educators.</p>