

I am writing to all of you who have been making decisions about our schools, and I am asking you to let all of our kids back to school as soon as possible.

I know that the WLWV district has a plan for elementary, but we need to get all of our kids back to some kind of normalcy.

There are schools all over the country that have been open since August, while our state has let our children languish at home staring at a computer all day.

My daughter is in 10 grade. She used to be a very dedicated student. She no longer thinks her grades are important. She doesn't see any value in sitting in front of Zoom classes for hours every day.

She has not hung out with friends for months, and has depression and anxiety. I worry about her every day. She is not the same person that she was a year ago.

The decisions that have been made by the Governor, DHS, ODE, and others have been an absolute disaster. You have let the teacher's unions dictate the decisions that have been made, to the detriment of all of our children. Kate Brown does not have children, so she is unable to see first-hand the mental health issues that have occurred with so many children across the state. It is so disappointing that our state is not following the science and the guidance to put schools first. We need to open up all grades.

I am asking you all to please look to other states that have been open and operating safely for months. Please do this for our children.

Thank you,
Kristi Johnston

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/global-health/science-and-disease/schools-should-close-last-resort-insists/>



[Schools should only close as a 'last resort', WHO insists](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/global-health/science-and-disease/schools-should-close-last-resort-insists/)

Schools should only close as a last resort, the head of the World Health Organization has said, as research shows that half of students around the world have still not returned to the classroom.

www.telegraph.co.uk

<https://www.providencejournal.com/story/news/education/2020/11/24/dr-ashish-jha-schools-should-last-close-covid/6413945002/>



[Dr. Ashish Jha: Schools should be the last to close from COVID](#)

"This is a topic where I have changed my mind," says the director of Brown University's School of Public Health.

www.providencejournal.com

<https://www.sfexaminer.com/opinion/ucsf-health-professionals-call-for-february-1st-school-reopening/?fbclid=IwAR0NG7TrC3XgixkW2CMB8W6PyYftYOb-9HdF3IRvwTHzqhQuJENeAmF33wY>