

To whom it may concern.

I am a parent of a 5th grader and 8th grader, both will not see the inside of a classroom this year. Why? Because after 22 years of teaching I know despite all the talk of keeping kids safe, and teachers safe, in the end getting bodies in schools would outweigh any other concerns such as safety and frankly death. They are in online school and thriving. Is it easy? No. But they are safe. Safe until I'm told to go back to school without both my vaccines and the time needed to build up immunity. We teachers have been asked to do more with less, keep our students safe, teach more, nurse more, social work more, psychologist more, the list goes on and we do it! Why? Because we live our students. What we cannot be asked to do is play roulette with our lives. I ask the leaders to step up and do what our Governor did not. Demand school wait to open until vaccines are available and given. It's worth it.

Dorothy Berry

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I get to be a third grade teacher!