

Hello. I am the parent of a 1st and 3rd grader in NCSD. I am highly concerned at the thought of returning the age groups, kindergarten to 3rd to the in person school setting.

We have been tasked with stay home, save lives. Stay physically distanced from others not of the same household. And now we are looking at an age group that cannot keep their hands to themselves, stay distanced, many cannot keep masks on correctly (nose and mouth, well fitting mask).

Our teachers may receive the vaccine before returning to school, however the children will not. And with the more virtual strains of covid-19 present, and it appears this strain is more easily contracted by children who would contract it, then bring it home to their parents and if they have an extended living situation, or grandparent, nanny situation, share with them as they also may not have yet received their vaccine.

And then there is the effect the virus has on their bodies. The damage to their vessels and lungs even with an asymptomatic case. Then misc-c possible post covid?

My 1st and 3rd grader do struggle at times with CDL. However they are safe at home. They are not contracting a virus they may share with our family members residing in our home. They are able visit with friends in class in free time. They can ask teachers for assistance if they dont understand something. They are not suffering. I understand that this is not the case for all, some struggle socially.

The question of suicide awareness has come up as rationale for opening. Now, during a pandemic when many are at risk of contracting this virus is suddenly the time to take on suicide awareness and prevention? Where was this drive prior?

This is not easy for anyone, but we have been home for months and are so close to getting teachers, elderly and compromised vaccinated, and hopefully children by fall once approved. Why would we return to in person with people not protected? Then the past 10 months were a waste. I pray you can make a decision that protects our communities at large.

Thank you,

A very concerned parent