

Dear Senate Committee on Education,

Do not reopen the schools now. Now is not the time. Infection numbers are climbing and the vaccine is on the way. We have made it this far without opening the schools we can make it a few more months. No matter how many problems there are with distance learning it is not worth risking the health of our students, teachers, parents, or community to increase learning opportunities in the short term. . The purpose of schools is to keep kids safe not risk their health.

My kids will not be attending in person until the vaccine is widely available and I know I am not alone. School life will not return to normal until after we have vaccinated most of the population. Please focus your efforts on improving services provided to families as they shelter in place. There are many needs that are typically filled at school and we should be working to fill those needs at home to the best of our ability.

Thanks for your consideration.

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