



PUBLIC COMMENTS

Due to Covid-19 state-wide restrictions and in keeping with the efforts of social distancing the meeting of the Beaverton School District School Board for June 15, 2020 will be conducted online.

Public Comments were accepted by online form submission from 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 11, 2020 through 12:00 p.m. on Monday, June 15, 2020. Comments received are below.

Amy Knutson OSEA, District Staff — Good evening My name is Amy Knutson. I am stepping into the role of OSEA Chapter 48 President. I would like to thank the BSD and OSEA bargaining teams for all the time and careful considerations invested in the tentative contract agreement. I am particularly grateful for the persistence demonstrated in continuing negotiations throughout this uncertain spring term. I am happy that we passed the ratification vote with strong member support. A strong contract is particularly valuable to our classified staff now with so many questions about what next year will look like. I thank all of our staff for digging deep to address all the different needs of the district in the wake of COVID 19. In every department and classification our members stepped up in new ways to meet the needs of our families and we are committed to continue to pivot so that we can give our best to the community. I look forward to the coming year and facing challenges head on as we shape what education into the future.

Jodi Monroy, Parent/Community Member - Please remove SROs from schools. The very presence of police officers in schools contribute to a climate for many brown and black students that increases fear and decreases security and a place of belonging in school. SROs do not contribute to a safer environment at schools, and if they desire to build relationships with diverse students lets encourage them to spend unarmed and un-uniformed time on the basketball courts with kids or volunteering in schools. The school to prison pipeline is a very real thing for students of color. In 2015 BSD referred 30 students to law enforcement. 20 of those were students of color. SROs contribute to funneling children into the criminal justice system and have no place in schools, much less in school budgets when those resources could be better utilized providing support services that are prevention oriented instead of reactionary. Let's take a moment and listen to our underheard student voices. This is the time.

David Haywood, District Staff - Nationwide, SROs have demonstrated the same racial bias in schools as they do outside of them. Children do not deserve to have their behavior criminalized. They need help from social workers, school psychologists, teachers, administrators, and other support staff.

Kelly, Parent/Community Member - Please consider following PPS's brave lead in removing SROs from our schools. Funding mental health supports is far more effective and equitable in making our schools safer than SROs. BSD needs to stand on the right side of history when the reckoning comes for schools.

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Ayeisha Haswarey, Beaverton School District Student - Please remove SROs from BSD schools. They are a damaging presence and contribute to the schools-to-prisons pipeline that ruins the lives of so many Black and non-White kids here in Portland and all over the rest of the country. Additionally, they have been damaging specifically within the lives of my cousins and my family in general through unwarranted investigations into us following an incident of misbehavior by my cousin. The BSD SROs' investigation into my father (despite my cousin being the one who misbehaved) was based purely on racial and religious profiling. Predictably, they found nothing indicating their incorrect and racist assumptions to be true. Instead, they caused unnecessary stress and turmoil within my family. Once again, SROs are a damaging presence on campuses and in students' lives and they must be removed. Thank you.

Alex Busche, District Staff - While my statement is over 1000 characters, it's under 2 minutes every time I have read it. Please use this link to access:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rcVhAHDZmu3Oal0OLZYd02j_Boh9bioMEmhDx3g7fwk/edit?usp=sharing

Kristen Payne, Parent/Community Member - We have learned in the past weeks that our BIPOC and other systemically disadvantaged students often have negative experiences with law enforcement officers. Given the light shone on this issue, it seems important for BSD to reevaluate it's relationship with law enforcement/SROs. Please consider having external & culturally sensitive facilitation of listening sessions and focus groups with students and families as you consider what is in the best interest and safety of our students.

Lisa Gilham-Luginbill, Parent/Community Member - I live next door to Montclair Elementary School and have lived in the Beaverton School District for much of my life. As a drama teacher, I taught after-school drama at many Beaverton Schools, including Bethany, West TV, Terra Linda, and others. I am writing to ask you to remove school resource officers (SROs) from the district and to re-allocate that money to services that actually make students safer - mental health support, after-school programs, more teachers, parent support, art classes, etc. School needs to be a place where all students feel safe and we know that black and brown students are more likely to be suspended, arrested, and disciplined at school. The argument that these officers make school safer doesn't take into account the fact that many students of color do not feel safe around law enforcement and are more likely to encounter police violence than their white peers. Let's invest in what actually supports a safe and secure community. Thank you.

Lexy Kliewer, Parent/Community Member - SROs should be eliminated from Beaverton Schools. They have been proven to discriminate against students of color and not support equality. Funds focusing on eliminating disparities and lifting people up are imperative. We don't need to fund services that continue to support systemic racism.

Sayed Qasim, Parent/Community Member - Remove SROs from Schools!

Amanda Morrison, Parent/Community Member - As a parent of a child in Beaverton schools I do not think there is any place in Beaverton schools districts budget for SROs. That money can be reallocated to counselors and crisis intervention workers. The school districts busget is already going to be a mess with Covid issues and the last thing we need is to have any sort of contract with the already vastly overfunded law enforcement agencies in the area. My child has also seen SROs treating BIPOC very differently than heteronormative cisgender white kids and this needs to be addressed immediately. Thank you.

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Dave Nabors, Parent/Community Member - I see that remote learning options are on the table for next school year. How is a family with working parents (or a single parent who works) supposed to enable their elementary age or special needs child to participate in remote learning if they work during school hours? Remote learning seems like an option that benefits a privileged few while leaving most kids behind.

Lisa McGarvey, Parent/Community Member - I would like to give comments on my school's involvement in distance learning in regard to online PE and Music classes. We had two students this spring that participated in distance learning at Sexton Mountain Elementary. The online lessons provided for PE and music were excellent, they helped both our fifth grader and our first grader in so many ways. They provided interaction with a very missed group of teachers, helped them learn skills such as resilience, perseverance, and creativity. Also, providing needed exercise and skills development for PE and knowledge of rhythm and melody for music. Plus they were a lot of fun too! I feel so very grateful that we had teachers that could do so much with so little time to plan and prepare. I truly felt they were a very needed part of the elementary curriculum even during our time spent at home, as both PE and music provide a different kind of brain development that is critical during elementary school. Sincerely, Lisa McGarvey

Evan McGarvey, Beaverton School District Student - As a student at Sexton Mountain Elementary School, PE (Physical Education), PE impacted my life as a student a lot. As PE taught me how to use certain skills such as throwing, catching, agility, it also allowed my health and cardio endurance to improve. This helped me in so many ways. I was able to become a great runner and sports player thanks to PE. As PE can be as fast and fun as I like it being, it can also slow down and make people, like my little sister, get the physical activity she needs at her own speed. As you can see, PE is a good thing for everyone. As we round the bend to Coronavirus time, we see the PE seesaw activities. These were very well fitted for everyone. They were perfect for all of the ages. PE is an Important skill for everyone. It is a kind of thing that everyone needs PE is something that needs to stay. From, Evan McGarvey, 5th grade

Evan Tyler, Parent/Community Member - My name is Evan Tyler and I write to you today as a teacher, concerned community member, and future parent whose children will be students in this district. I want to express my support for the removal of school resource officers from all BSD schools. The presence of SROs in schools has been shown in multiple studies to increase the criminalization of student behavior, which leads to both physical and psychological harm done to students in schools, where students are most in need of a safe, caring environment. This harm is felt most specifically by students of color and students with disabilities. In their paper, "Bullies in Blue: Origins and Consequences of School Policing," the American Civil Liberties Union's first recommendation is to end the routine policing of schools. I urge the school board to end its history of bringing officers and the criminal justice system into our schools. These funds can then be used to support students in other more equitable ways.

Belinda Arnold, Parent/Community Member - Trying to find out if there is any information about sport's programs for the 2020 fall season. Thank You,

Caroline Ott, Beaverton School District Student – Hi! My name is Caroline Ott and I just finished 4th grade at Sexton Mountain Elementary School in Beaverton!! I enjoy PE because it keeps me motivated, and I like making the activities fun so I don't think of them as boring. Some of my favorite activities are tetherball, obstacle course, and jump-roping! I love PE because if I'm not feeling very happy, it helps me focus on having fun instead of feeling down. PE is so much fun because you can

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do it outside or inside – you can make it anything you want! It could be walking, running, playing some type of sport, and so much more! I like to think of PE as something fun to do! It helps if the activities are fun, and I love that about Mr. Miller and Mr. Blake because they always make the activities fun and exciting!

Shannon Schilling, District Staff - Do not create an online school in the BSD for next year. We need to figure out how to do real school with all of its nuances, not flippantly and secretly adopt online school.

Megan Stauffer, District Staff - It comes as quite a surprise to me, that BSD is looking to approve a permanent online school without any input from the people that will likely be tasked to teach from that platform. Also, seeing that we already have an online schooling option, temporarily expanding it during this pandemic seems like a better, more budget friendly option when so many schools will already be feeling the budget constraints thrown upon us. However, my much larger concern comes with the huge inequality issues with this school. I have personally witnessed a lack of engagement from my disadvantaged students that can only be described as exacerbated due to being forced into distance learning. If the district truly wants to stand by its Equity Policy and Pillar, creating this permanent online school does not fit with the beliefs. Creating a new school will likely disproportionally benefit students with privilege and THAT perpetuates institutional racism. Be a source for change not a continuation of a problem.

José Solares-Vega, District Staff - I would like to hear from the Board the qualitative and quantitative data gathered from families or staff that supports this Online School recommendation. Teachers and families can provide testimony on the numbers and level of engagement students were able to demonstrate during the distance learning experience we completed. Please elaborate on items # 1 and # 8 of BSD Equity Policy items and illustrate how the recommendation aligns with them. Is this recommendation what best supports learners or what works best for the district? How does the recommendation address equity; learners with disabilities, English language learners, poverty, access to technology, and technologically literate learners and educators? Has this recommendation been discussed as a part of the bargaining process during budget conversations? Thank you,

Briana Tresenriter, District Staff - Creating a new permanent online school is not equitable to all families. Yes, it will keep some students safe but some of my students weren't able to access this distance learning model due to parents being unable to support them. Please reconsider making the online school a permanent addition to BSD.

Kellie Rice, District Staff - It has come to our attention that you may be moving toward a full time comprehensive K-12 online option. It has been evident that with the emergency closure that there has been significant inequity with ALL of BSD students having access to their education. From wifi, to Special Education support and SDI, English language learning, free and reduced meals, and also just the knowledge and security that adults are looking out for their total well-being. Expanding the FLEX program makes sense for those that can "afford" it. Affording it means that one adult can support the student or students at home without taking time off from work, they have wifi access, and the student is motivated to attend all classes online. Given the lack of student engagement at Mt View during the emergency closure (and not necessarily by student or parent choice), it's clear that so many would fall behind and the District's motto of "embracing equity" would not be applicable.

Margit Lamey, District Staff - While I am not entirely sure that Beaverton isn't just following suit with all of the surrounding districts, I am asking that we think very carefully about this implementation of

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a permanent online learning component. Perhaps we simply don't want to lose the money that would go with students as they try to find private online services, let us not forget the true nature of public education. We are here to serve the students. All of them. We need to be putting our money and time, first and foremost, into the children that we serve. Online learning has been very difficult. Especially for the students who were not able to participate due to family constraints such as caring for younger siblings and family struggles. This was the case for over half of my class in the last few months-- and things will not be different in the fall. When we put our time, energy, and money (that we are short of!!) into programs like this, we are taking it away from families who need our support IN PERSON.

Regina Kawasaki, District Staff - I am concerned about the BSD department of Teaching & Learning proposing creating an Online school. They are claiming this is in response to COVID-19 and parents not feeling safe sending their kids back. However, this isn't a temporary intervention, it's creating a new school. We should be working together on plans to ensure ALL staff and students return safely, not creating a special school that will keep a small group of students safe in an online format. The district hasn't gathered data from families or staff to inform this decision. Educators have seen during COVID-19, distance learning exacerbated existing inequities in our system. Students with disabilities, students who are language learners, students navigating poverty, etc. have not been highly engaged over the last few months. BSD investing in a permanent online school doesn't align with the BSD Equity Policy. Thank you.

Laura Umiger, District Staff - I am very concerned over the vote to create a permanent online school when this has not been discussed with our union even once during the distance learning process. My experience as an educator was that distance learning exemplified existing inequities. Families with internet access, a parent that was available to assist and teach their child, English speaking homes, were all at a distinct advantage in distance learning. Without analysis of distance learning's successes and failures, why is this being brought to the school board for a vote? This ignores the input of teachers and parents. We had to move quickly to an online format with the closure, however, we are at a point when more thought and discussion must be done, especially now that we have had the experience of distance learning in our district.

Tyson Erion, Parent/Community Member - An online program for BSD is not an equitable option for our most disadvantaged students. If we've learned anything from the past 3 months, let it be that our most disadvantaged students need more support, not an online program meant to only serve those families that can afford the particular benefits of online schooling.

John K. Wickham, District Staff - I'm wondering why the district is fast tracking the new Flex Online School? I am also wondering why the Beaverton Education Association leadership has not been part of the conversations about this new school. Why do we need to create an entire new school? Could we just expand the current Flex Online program to fit our needs during interim period of this pandemic. I also have questions about this new Flex Online school and how it will align with the district's equity policy? Will all students and families have an equitable opportunity to become part of this new school?

Lexie, District Staff - I understand BSD is looking to create an online school for the 20-21 school year. The purpose behind this is to offset the impacts of Covid-19 and provide a distant learning option for parents to choose, but I worry about the inequity of this. If the physical school is unsafe for students, it is also unsafe for teachers to return. Additionally, the students that would be able to access a remote learning program likely have more support and resources at home, furthering the inequity

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for our less privileged. I ask that you take these considerations in mind and also only make a decision for the next school year and not a permanent online school. Thank you.

Bill Bailey, Parent/Community Member - Most families will be using an online school as a temporary way to get an education with plans to return to school as soon as they feel comfortable with COVID. Will we be using these funds to employ Beaverton teachers and align with BSD learning targets? If we are simply "farming it out" we are doing an injustice to our students that sign up for this.

Amy Evans, Parent/Community Member - I know there are people who feel unsafe with a person with a gun in school. There are also people who feel safer because there is someone with a gun there to protect them in case of a school shooting or some other situation. I would rather error on the side of having police in the buildings. What if something happens and a cop with a gun could have prevented it from happening. Let's not swing too far one way. It's like we have forgotten that very very recently there were people calling for teachers to have guns to protect our kids, not that I want that either.

Morgan Skjeie, District Staff - If BSD chooses to open an online school they will not continue to be equitable. Have they listened to nothing educators have shared? Not only has online schooling been incredibly difficult, but the gap between students has widened significantly. This online school will cater to students who have parents at home and the technological capabilities to support this program. I feel during this time it is a shameful act and goes against everything our district stands for, everything that makes students, parents, and staff proud to be a part of it.

Jennifer, Parent/Community Member - The School Resource Officers are a valuable part of our school district. After the latest school shooting took place my middle schooler did not want to attend school again. She went back with peace because of the placement of an officer in her school. When we were discussing how some Districts were removing their Resource Officers she said, "But that's who make me feel safe."

Jennifer Hoyt, Parent/Community Member - I would like to ask BSD to remove School Resource Officers from ALL BSD schools. Managing students should not require police presence. BSD should instead use those funds to hire staff that is competent in cultural, racial, and child development. It's time to approach our students who need support with understanding, and not a heavy hand.

Lauren McCartney, District Staff - I'm shocked that the District is asking the School Board to approve a new FLEX school in the District without transparency about how this will be implemented. Who is on the Return to School teams? Which community groups will be involved and how? How will input from families most negatively impacted by on-line learning be supported? What did the results of the Certified Staff Survey say? Staff talk did not have all the results, and we havn'tt seen a plan to address the inequities: students with disabilities, students who are language learners, students navigating poverty have not been highly engaged over the last few months. How will BEA be involved? What about removing SROs as a step towards ending institutional racism in the District? In a time when BSD is making commitments to rooting out institutional racism in the district, it is problematic to be creating a new program that will likely disproportionality benefit students with privilege – this perpetuates institutional racism.

Mary Cay Robinson, District Staff - I am concerned about the consideration of families having an option of online learning. I strongly believe that we need to be equitable in our delivery of education

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for our students and teachers. It seems to me that those families with the means will be able to choose online learning and those without the means will have no choice. What would our classrooms look like if this were the case. I support online learning under these Covid-19 circumstances but only if it happens for all students.

Elizabeth Tufty, District Staff - On line school needs to be vetted by the stakeholders, including staff and families. Our hybrid model should look like the on-line school, and that will take some work on all of our parts. Jumping in to adopting an on-line school without support from all makes it a doomed effort. Take time-what is the rush into this?????

Julia Barto, District Staff - I am very concerned about the proposed creation of an online school. These past few months have been trying and undcertain for all stakeholders and I can understand why this seems to be a good step. However, it is a very hasty decision being made without considerations of budget or in conjunction with teachers. The district has a tendency to jump on board with new ideas quite quickly and this new idea can turn out to be quite a drain on resources, time, and energy. Please put effort where it is needed-in a collaborative model addressing ALL stakeholder needs

Jennifer Meyers, District Staff - As a current Kindergarten teacher in the district, I have direct and current experiences with distance learning. While academically, I found that most of my students were satisfactorily served, it was a challenge to maintain the overall sense of community in my classroom. Students, families and teachers had to partner together to ensure success. For most students this was not an issue, but for several of my students, this model did not work and there was limited or no participation during distance learning. Unfortunately, these students were some of my lowest students that could not afford the massive gap in learning opportunities lost this year. As most teachers, I did all I could to encourage participation and regularly appreciated the hard work that parents were having to do on a daily basis to keep their children connected to the classroom. Working families were struggling the most, as parents were working at home and having to assist their child with most learning tasks.

Rina Miyamoto-Sundahl, Parent/Community Member - Hello, my name is Rina Miyamoto-Sundahl and I am a Spanish/English Two-Way Immersion teacher in Washington County. I live in Beaverton. I'm asking the Beaverton School Board to remove school resource officers from schools in their district. Beaverton School District has a strong equity vision and I personally know that the Beaverton School District has a thriving Two-Way Immersion program that has been successful in serving students of color, including or even particularly Black students. In light of current events and concerted efforts from Black-led organizations to raise awareness about the importance of decreasing unnecessary police presence in our daily lives, it appears clear that removing school resource officers from our schools would be a step forward in solidarity with our Black students and families. I hope that the school board considers this as a natural continuation of Beaverton's equity work. Thank you.

Ben Goodwin, District Staff - I concur with Portland City Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty that a budget is a moral document. While I recognize that this is an incredibly challenging time to balance our priorities, I firmly believe educational equity needs to be placed at the top of the list. It is urgent. We as teachers, administrators, and school board members have not prioritized serving BIPOC students the way we should. It is past time to start. In an already strained budget cycle, creating a new Online school puts badly needed resources into something that will disproportionately serve white, wealthy students and families. Every bit of funding we have needs to be spent in ways that will benefit ALL

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students, not just those whose parents have the privilege to work from home. I know members of the board value equity in principle. It is time we put our money where our mouth is.

Bridget, District Staff - After having heard that BSD is wanting to launch online school for the 20-21 school year, I and adamantly opposed to this. As an elementary teacher I have seen first hand how this doesn't not work. This past spring I watched my fifth graders slowly unravel as the work began to get more difficult. I found many of them lying to their parents about the work they had completed and refusing to fix any work that I might send back. My sweet responsible kids became people who I didn't even know. I spent much of my time tracking down uninterested students as well as communicating the lack of progress to parents. It didn't matter if I wore a costume, promised candy, or played games during our Zoom meetings, kids weren't there. Elementary students are ill equipped to manage their own schedules or stay on top of the organization that is required of a strictly online school. Please rethink having this as an option for our kids.

Jen Nevarez, District Staff - I am asking that as the district moves forward with planning for the 2020-2021 that they work in collaboration with other local school districts. I live in Tigard and have school age children who attend the Tigard Tualatin School District. I am excited about the possible return to my classroom this coming year, but if I do t have a similar schedule to my children's school district we'd have no child care and affording it would be nearly impossible. Please keep families like mine in mind when approving a plan for the upcoming school year.

Jessica Lynch, District Staff - I have grave concerns about the inequity that results from distance learning and thus would be present in an Online School. I work with some of BSD's most impacted students with disabilities and I saw a dramatic decrease in skill and participation during our distance learning time these past few months. Providing online school will only exacerbate the inequities that already exist in our system and provide more for the already advantaged of our students.

Colleen Biller – District Staff - Members of the School Board, I am a teacher of the district. When voting on Flex Online School measure, please take several things into consideration. We have seen more than ever during this pandemic, the inequities in our school district and in the education systems at the state and federal level. Students are not receiving the education they deserve, be it accessibility, capability etc. It is my belief that adding a permanent online school with exacerbate these inequities. Please think of intention versus impact white voting on this measure. We need to work together to formulate a plan for safe schools during the 2020-2021 year to make ALL families and students feel healthy and safe. Thank you for your time.

Jennifer R Singleton, District Staff - I am very upset about the sudden creation of an online K-12 school in the BSD. This option already exists through the state for parents that can support their children at home. Why, when facing ANOTHER year of frightening budget shortfalls would we invest in an option that is reserved for the very privileged. In light of recent events, and the BSD's long-standing pledge to foster equity, I am bewildered. I can see where this is headed, and it makes me sick. Live up to your Pillars and do better, Beaverton. Invest in ALL of your kids, support ALL of your teachers.

Molly Hylton, District Staff - Hello School Board, I am very concerned that the students with the highest needs will not be met such as students with IEPs, Language Learners, those that are navigating poverty, or experience a lack of internet. Please consider partial on-line school and access to campus learning for students. I would hope that the Board would create opportunities for discussion on these issues. Thank you for your time.

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Renata Giacomini, Parent/Community Member - As a parent of the Beaverton School District, now more than ever I urge you to focus on equity and social justice. Ensure that our children have access to an inclusive anti-racists curriculum that represents all our students. Value multicultural education. All teachers and other school staff participate in high quality equity training. Remove SROs from schools and invest instead in counselor, school psychologists, and/or social workers. Ensure that your staff that represents the student population. Focus not only on hiring, but also keeping, promoting and especially listening to your staff of color. Share profit from PTOs equally between your schools so the lower income schools have a fighting chance. I'm happy to partner with you on how to do this as I am a school psychologist and look forward to your response on how you reconsider serving each student. Renata Giacomini

Katja Freeborn, District Staff - 1000-character-comment??? We need to be working on getting students and teachers back into the classroom safely, rather than starting new, top-down initiatives, with lack of documented success. Our local teacher's union, was only informed FRIDAY, that you will be voting on opening a completely online school tonight. Did we not bargain to be part of the "new initiatives" planning process? As a High School Language Arts Teacher at AHS, I must ask you to consider the data being released regarding the relationship of high poverty and success with on-line learning. There is research showing the success rate of online learning is double for high income students. We must not fall into the trap of creating a space of inequity, based on income levels. Surely the BSD does not want to create a school at which only high SES families will be successful and more than ½ of low SES students will fall further behind their cohort and peers.

Heather McCollum, District Staff - It's so disheartening to find out that BSD is planning to start an online school without feedback from staff and community members. This is not the time!!!

Renee Oaks, District Staff - I've learned the board is looking at a permanent K-12 online school. I understand no parent or staff input has been sought on this topic. I want to provide some information on my experience with remote learning this spring. As a staff member I found I was working more hours than in the typical school day - new technologies to learn, new tasks to complete. As well, I found there was a huge gap for staff on what was expected for ourselves and for our students. As far as student learning and participation, I had about a little more than half of my class participating weekly. The majority of the students who participated regularly had a good family support structure to help them at home. When I look at those students who did very little work or no work at all, they tended to be students whose families speak other languages, people with no internet or those living in poverty. Online learning was not equitable to all kids- those struggling fell further behind; not to mention socially behind.

Vanessa Rousseau, District Staff - This year my intervention position was split between a Title and non-Title elementary. I would agree with the concerns regarding students at my Title school engaged significantly less often than my non Title school. Having less "brick and mortar" school time would be a huge disadvantage to our community. This would only increase the gap in all areas of academics and the economic future of these and all students of the Beaverton District.

Melissa Mayes, District Staff - Although I feel like we have done the very best we could under the circumstances of learning to become remote teachers in about a one week time period, there are SERIOUS equity issues with this model. Not all children were able to access a remote education. This was a case where the rich got richer and the poor were loaned Chromebooks and hotspots. The difference between children connecting on personal iPads over stable internet were striking in

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comparison to those using the district Chromebooks. Not all children have parents home who can facilitate their child's education. In my class about 1/3 of the children completed the assignments on Seesaw and about 1/2-2/3 participated regularly in Zoom class & small group meetings, so the remainder of my students missed 1/3 of their school year. If it's true that this virus doesn't live long on surfaces as the CDC has reported, then we need to open up our playgrounds this summer. Children who live in apartments need a place to run and play.

Alisa Harvey, District Staff - I am deeply concerned about the creation of a permanent online school. Superintendent Grotting hasn't informed staff about this proposal, and yet the School Board will vote on it tonight. It is alarming because parents aren't the only ones worried about re-opening schools in the fall; staff are anxious, too. A special online school only keeps a small group of students safe. The district hasn't gathered--or shared--any data from families or staff to inform this decision. BSD already has an online program (FLEX) that can be temporarily expanded during the COVID pandemic to meet the needs of these students. In addition, I am worried that an investment in a permanent online school will exacerbate existing educational inequities in online learning. From our experience with remote learning this spring, we as educators know that it was harder for students with disabilities, those navigating poverty, and our ELL students. We must make decisions that align with our BSD Equity Policy

Liz Fennell, District Staff - I am writing to express my concern in having permanent online schooling for K-12. As a Kindy teacher, I know just how critical it is for these students to be in an environment with their peers where they can grow and practice their social skills, empathy, and learn socioemotional regulation skills. This cannot happen in an online environment. Now, more than ever, our society is telling us we need to learn from others, we need to learn about how we are different and what that means. We need to be in a community where we are valued and represented. This does not happen through Zoom. Most importantly, online school is not an equitable format. My most vulnerable students have not been able to access school since our initial shut down. There are so many road blocks; internet, poverty, language, parent accessibility to technology, ect. Students need to be in school with a positive role model and a safe learning environment where they will receive the best possible education.

Amy Grey, District Staff - On the topic of building a remote learning school in BSD, I ask that you exercise caution. This is not something we should be jumping into. Our numbers have clearly shown inequities in remote learning that will be allowed to fester and further widen the achievement gap with out very precise and strategic planning. I am not convinced that has been done, as no staff or BSD families were polled in the decision to create a completely new learning environment. This is not something we should be diving into blindly. This needs more than a few months of planning and it definitely needs collaboration from stakeholders. We have to be sure this is an equitable option.

Vicki Weiss, Parent/Community Member - The resource officer has a great relationship with students. All students know him at Westview, but he's more like a "just in case" resource. He fosters security for the students. Without metal detectors, the high schools need competent officers. I will pull my son out of Westview if you remove the officer.

Andrew Dennis, Parent Community Member - I am concerned that a rush toward creating a new online school is missing critical and informed input from teachers, their union, and the community. Remote learning is part of our new reality, but that reality is that many of our district's students have had difficulty accessing educational opportunities. In a moment of history when the spotlight is on

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addressing issues like racism and institutional discrimination, where are the voices that can best advocate for meaningful change? Why have teachers and their union, who are on the front lines in classrooms, been given minimal time or opportunity for meaningful input? Why are people with refusal internet access being listened to disproportionately on a rushed vote for a program that history shows us benefits the privileged over the disadvantaged?

Dustin Hoyt, Parent/Community Member - Keen the SRO's for BSD. Makes no sense in completely eliminating them. Maybe re-train them. I always looked up to police officers when in school. Parents will wish there was a SRO on campus when a nut starts shooting the school up. I remember the past school shootings when all the public was so thankful having SRO's on campus. They were "looked up to." Now a few bad police officers nationwide and talk of removing them? One of the stupidest things I've heard of. Keep all SRO's in Beaverton schools.

Jessica McBride, District Staff - My name is Jessica McBride & I am a first-grade teacher in BSD. I'm concerned about the swift & permanent expansion of the FLEX online school program to K-12. While I support accommodating students & families, I have found that most of my students do not do as well in an online format, as the social aspect of classroom learning provides so many more opportunities for growth. We know that remote learning has disproportionately hurt our Black & Brown students, in a time when we are striving for greater racial equity, does it make sense to implement another online program, that at best will continue the status quo? Additionally, the expansion feels a bit reactive to unknown data from our families & our communities. The proposal states, ". Based on data from other countries & states who have re-opened schools, 3% to 25% of BSD families could opt not to send their students back to a traditional school setting". I think it wise for BSD to pause & learn more before we proceed. Thank you.

Jill Putzek, Parent/Community Member - Online, distance learning this last spring was extremely beneficial to some students. There are students who need the physical connection, but for others, it worked well. My daughter was able to learn how to manage her work, was relieved of a lot of anxiety and began talking with us about her feelings. This was huge! We were so grateful to have this time with her at home and lack of bullying/social anxiety. This allowed her to develop in her social emotional needs. I fully support online/distance learning for some students - as it offers an opportunity for kids who may succeed to do this at home. I do not support required online learning, because there are some students who thrive on social connection.

Natalie Ballard Strauhal, District Staff - As a teacher who has seen certain students do very well with the online format this spring, I am definitely not opposed to the idea of an online school. I am a bit worried about a few things, and I think that, if you involve the union in the creation and discussion of this school, it might help. My main concern is about the staff who will be teaching in this format and the students who will be attending and the process of deciding who that will be. Will there be equitable access for all students and staff? I'm sure that the district is thinking about these things, but I know that staff members would be more comfortable with the entire thing if their voices, through the union, could be heard. Thank you.

Eric Cole, District Staff - While I recognize the budgetary impact of a potential mass exodus of students enrolling in online learning programs offered by neighboring districts, investing in the creation of a permanent online school is antithetical to our collective commitment to provide Beaverton families with equitable access to education. Our students and their families are understandably anxious about a return to bricks-and-mortar classrooms, but focusing our efforts on the development of a school where the medium of instruction precludes enrollment for underserved

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student populations is not a solution to that problem. Together, we face the tremendous challenge of reimagining the way our schools function to serve all our students safely come next year, and succeeding in achieving that end leaves little time for steps responsive only to the those families with fast WiFi and quiet study spaces. Thank you for considering my comment as you weigh this decision.

Jill Putzek, District Staff - I fully support Distance Learning for students who need this support. I found it very successful for some of the students who exhibit severe behavior at school. I believe this option relieved them of difficult emotions and allowed for more conversations about social emotional learning. I also felt they were able to complete their work (which was not always the case in school) I would propose that there is someone assigned to students/families (a learning coach) to help facilitate this learning and set up a positive learning environment at home.

Martin Weiss, Parent/Community Member - We need to *KEEP* resource officers in our schools to keep our children safe. There has been too much violence in our schools. Removing the resource officers doesn't help current political events and simply leaves our children with one less protection.

Jason Peterson, District Staff - I'm concerned for the health of our district. I've been proud to work in Beaverton, a district who engaged teachers, with leaders who valued teacher input, knowing better solutions resulted from many minds, but I admit this core belief about BSD is waning. Historically our union and district had a strong relationship, doing things in partnership. This seems obviously to have deteriorated. Historically, teachers from around the district were engaged in decision making. This also seems to be less frequent or genuine than in the past. Historically when a teacher spoke out with concerns or ideas, they were often greeted with open ears and empathy. This too seems less than the norm. Please know I'm am Beaverton through and through. Educated in our schools, and dedicating 20 years to our Title I schools and our entire district. I hope that our school board and district leadership can consider a return to engaging our staff in finding better solutions together. With genuine respect, Jason

Laurie Paz, Parent/Community Member - I have a son that attends Sunset High School and a daughter that attends Springville K-8 and I would not feel safe sending my kids to school without school resource officers on site! Parents shouldn't have to worry about our kids being safe when they go to school, but the fact is there are still many school shootings every year. This policy should not be changed in order to appease a political cause. Our kids safety should be a top priority no matter what.

Sophia Feinberg, Beaverton School District Student - I just finished third grade at Raleigh Hills, and I think that we should teach history the way it is instead of covering up the bad parts. We don't really talk about racism at school. For example, Abraham Lincoln didn't want Black people in our country, but I didn't learn that at school. When we learn about real history it's easier to understand the actual world. Right now it's really confusing because at school they taught me that all the problems, like racism, are an easy fix. But at home I've learned that we need to change policies and laws to support students of color. We need to listen to students about how to change curriculum so that they can learn things that help them be who they want to be.

Matthew Paz, Parent/Community Member - Please do not remove our School Resource Officers. Kids need to have positive interactions with police. I'm am also concerned about school shootings and I believe the police presence on campus deters that. We need our police officers and I believe they are as important as teachers, firefighters and other public servants. Police officers should not be vilified for the actions of a rogue officer in Minneapolis, any more than all teachers vilified for a teacher that

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committed a crime against a student. I want my child to be safe in school. I will find another private school option for my daughter if resource officers are removed.

Emily Krytzik, District Staff - Hello- I am very concerned about the decision to create a permanent online school without any input from teachers. There are many questions I have about what this change would mean for teachers- would this create more jobs? Take away jobs from schools? I understand and support that we need to look at new ways of schooling during this national pandemic, but rushing through decisions without discussing with stakeholders is irresponsible.

Alex Weiss, Beaverton School District Student - I don't think school would become a safer place without a resource officer. I think school shootings are still a thing, and I would feel much less safe Somewhere that is prone to shootings without a policeman. It's like a bank without a security system, it's just asking to be robbed.

Kelly Carnevale, District Staff - BSD has decided NOT to communicate with stakeholders and NOT to gather data from stakeholders (optional teacher chats are NOT data) in its drive to create a permanent online school, a program that will NOT benefit all students, but will disproportionately benefit students with privilege, a program does NOT align with the BSD equity policy, but will perpetuate the very institutional racism that BSD has committed to eradicating. Many students in my classes, most of whom are students with disabilities, students who are language learners, and students who are navigating poverty, did not engage in online learning. Please do not invest in a program that has exacerbated existing inequities in our district. We all have concerns about the safety of returning to school and should work together on plans to make sure that ALL staff and students can return safely. It is irresponsible in this time of budget cuts to create a new program when FLEX could be temporarily expanded during the pandemic.

Sara Groat, District Staff - I want to work in a district that I know values the mental health and well being of its students and staff. I am sure that through making conscious choices within our buildings of removing security resource offices and our monies to police bureaus, in conjunction with other anti-racist measures, we can send that message to our families and communities as well. Assigning a resource officer to a school doesn't guarantee greater safety; in many situations it is often a teacher or even students that help to deescalate an unsafe situation. There is no data to show that "positive relationships between officers and outcomes for the school" are sufficient to warrant maintaining these officers. We have seen in data from PPS that arrests in schools follow the same disproportionate racial biases that we are seeing in the streets across the country. The value of spending any part of our budget having officers patrol schools should be in question during a budget deficit. Black Lives Matter.

Jo Fidler, District Staff - I am responding to the proposal of a permanent online school. I know that there are some students that benefit from online learning, hence why there are programs like OCA. I know that there are families that will not be returning to buildings this fall for reasons such as health issues. That being said, I am very concerned that BSD is looking to fund a permanent k-12 online school, the emphasis on permanent. With so many unknowns right now it seems premature and reckless to make this decision. The authorization states "3% to 25% of BSD families could opt not to send their students back to a traditional setting." Where does this data come from? What has the district done to collect data from our families? What are the financial aspects? Why the rush? Why wasn't BEA part of the discussion? ODE outlines instructional models including comprehensive distance learning, how is different? I believe that there needs to be more information and discussion before this permanent decision is made.

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Leslie Buhler, District Staff - I have concerns about the possibility of BSD creating a permanent Online School WITHOUT the DUE DILIGENCE of CONVERSATIONS with students, families, staff and our community at large. This feels sneaky and rushed.

Quinn Hannan, District Staff - The board should not move forward with approving online school at this time. Online school is a format that deserves time and consideration on how to implement while maximizing equity and minimizing systemic racism. Moving forward with online school without properly informing the community and giving them time to clarify how this program will work, is sure to heighten distrust at a time when building a strong community is essential. Voting to authorize this program will be a surefire way to let down the community you are supposed to represent.

Trish Pazdalski, District Staff - I urge the school board to vote not on the creation of a permanent online school with little to no discussion with students, staff, and other stakeholders.

Lindsay Ray, District Staff - I'm startled by the appearance of a proposal for the establishment of a permanent K-12 online school in the board agenda. There is a disturbing lack of detail in the proposal before the board (how will this be paid for? Who will staff it? How will all students who want it have guaranteed access? What is the data on the effectiveness of on-line education? What community and staff input has been solicited on this topic?). I understand the desired to maintain as much ADMw as possible for the coming year and I understand the concern for re-opening in the fall in the face of COVID. However, I really think that there should be a LOT more information about this new school provided before the Board is asked to give it a go-ahead. How is this aligning with our Equity Pillar and how is this aligning with what's best for students and staff?

Kristine Napper, District Staff - BSD wants to create a PERMANENT online school? With a vote at the last second, and planning done behind our backs?? If the goal is to create safety during a pandemic, then there's no need for a PERMANENT change, and the district owes that safety to ALL students and staff. If the goal is something other than safety, it's wildly inappropriate to use a pandemic as coverup for a project that wasn't discussed with staff, BEA representatives, and families. Realizing that the attention and energy right now is going toward demands for greater equity, most immediately in the SRO issue, you really feel good about using THAT as a smoke screen for another initiative that privileges a small group of students above the most marginalized?? This is why people don't trust our district. And by "people," I mean staff, parents, students, and voters.

Andrew King, District Staff - I have just been informed that you are voting to authorize the creation of a permanent online school in BSD. Before starting a new program, I ask you, have you taken the necessary steps to ensure this decision is appropriate, both financially and logistically? Does starting this program align with the BSD equity policy? Is starting a new program during a time of budget cuts and layoffs seem ethical and best for our students and families and staff? Who will benefit from this program? Do all community members have an equal opportunity to attend? Also, have you included community members and teachers input from all of the various cultural backgrounds that represent our community? How will this program better serve our families and students? Does the data support that online schools provide a better platform for student achievement? I hope you take the time to consider these questions and reflect on what is best for ALL students, families and staff members in our district.

Clarice Mohammadi, District Staff - I am very concerned in hearing that there has been no conversation about BSD opening an Online School that involves staff. Please involved teachers and

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staff in this decision, as we will likely be affected by this. Please give us a chance to give input before moving forward with this decision.

Christine Prince, Parent/Community member - School resource officers are vital to the safety of our children. In a time where there is much uncertainty and turmoil they provide peace of mind for students and parents. In addition, resource officers serve as positive role models for our youth during a critical time in their development when they need it most.

Cindy Keegan, District Staff - BEA leadership has had zero conversations with Teaching and Learning about the creation of an online school, or the impact on our bargaining unit. Typically, when the district is planning a new program, we would have had collaborative conversations about the impact on members, staffing, working conditions, etc. but this has not happened.

Betsy Thornewood, District Staff - I am concerned about the creation of a permanent K12 online school. While I understand the fear of our already tight and insufficient budget being reduced even more should parents opt not to send their children to school in person for the 20-21 school year, the fact that this massive undertaking is happening with zero input from teachers who have spent the last months teaching online is upsetting. The fact that there has been no public plan presented of what this school would look like, how teachers would be selected to teach there, how many students it would serve, how students would be selected, how it would fit into our budget, etc. is distressing. I fear that this will further exacerbate the inequities of our district. I'd ask that the board request and make public a more detailed plan for this school before voting to approve this item. The community continues to show that we are interested in school affairs and yet continues to be excluded from major decisions. Live out the WE.

Ron Hall, Parent/Community Member - I have heard from my wife who is a teacher in the district, that there is talk of creating a permanent online school option. As a parent of an incoming kindergartener, that troubles me for many reasons. Shouldn't the district be working on creating a plan that will allow and encourage the safe return to in person learning? That should be the focus of attention and money. We have heard over and over throughout these past few months, that students are missing out for various reasons, and there is no substitute for in-class learning. Makes sense. So why now, would the district do a 180 and start to develop or push a program for learning at home. The district should be working on a remote learning program, but one that will be used for everyone and only if needed. A whole new optional home school is ridiculous. BSD does not have the time, resources, or experience to start working on this now. We should be focused on closing the achievement gap, not providing more opportunities to widen it

Wendy Gibson, Parent/Community Member - Our BSD schools still NEED Resource Officers. If something dangerous takes place on campus, I want my children to be protected and they won't be if we force the SRO's out. Also, I beg of you not to implement all of the guidelines in the the ODE blueprint. Our kids need more normalcy, they need their activities back and they need to socialize. Their mental health is at stake, we must do everything we can to get them living their lives freely again! Please don't keep my kids from their passions, Theatre, Choir and Band are EVERYTHING for them and they would be devastated to not have those to help them through this ordeal they face! Thank you.

Ethan Paz, Beaverton School District Student - I don't understand the boards thought process, you think taking away defenses will somehow support this cause, it's irrelevant, we need safety at school I don't care how liberal you are, having cops at schools will save lives whether you like it or not and

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to take them away because they're "racist" like are you kidding me? Listen to yourselves, this is about a lot more than race, the number of school shootings will go up in every single liberal state and that is a fact. And it sucks that there's people out there that want to kill kids but that's the sad reality, and how can you possibly ignore that? Did you even notice how many school shootings there were this year in January & February, and you're thinking about taking cops AWAY?? It's gonna be really sad when sunset is unprepared for a real threat, it's gonna be even more sad watching your friends die just because the school board wants to turn liberal. Cops are there to protect us.

Rebecca Hall, District Staff - The Flex online school plan is being voted on without input from staff or BEA. Also, no data has been shared showing that "3-25%" of students may choose an online option. More transparency is needed before this is voted on and passed.

Brian Bertram, District Staff - Hello, my name is Brian Bertram, a teacher in the Beaverton School District for 14 years. My first real experience with online teaching/learning came with the COVID epidemic, and as parents are probably aware, was not good for a vast majority of students. Online learning removes the most essential element of the classroom, the human element. We do not value that element enough. It teaches us how to discuss, engage, empathize, problem-solve, embolden, support, lift up, and care about our fellow human beings. The topic of a permanent online option for our students has not been fleshed out nor communicated with teachers and parents, and as a teacher, I would like to adamantly assure parents, that online learning means less learning. Yes, facts and procedures can be taught through the use of online tools, but what students learn about relationships, trust, and people in general is not.

Christena Keller, District Staff - Creating an BSD online K-12 school seems misguided and a knee jerk response to the COVID 19 pandemic. Why has the district not brought in ALL stakeholders to make an informed decision? Those stakeholders include district teaching staff(including ELL and Behavior specialists), counselors, principals and parents. Our educational system was not created as an online school and more time needs to be taken for careful consideration to create this online school. Please rethink this quick decision without all stakeholders' voices heard!

Andy Thompson, District Staff - I would like to voice my concern with the district opening an online school with zero input from the community. This feels like a secret vote and I believe the decision is based strictly on money and has nothing to do with actually educating children. My experience with online education has not been positive and I don't think it works for most students. If you factor in students with special needs, language learners, and students navigating poverty, online school is downright harmful. On top of all of this is the fact that an online school will certainly benefit students with privilege much more than other students. BSD claims to embrace equity in their pillars of learning but this feels more like an embrace of institutional racism and systems of oppression. I strongly urge a delay of this vote so that the community can provide input and a plan can be developed that supports all students and not just the budget.

Lindsey, Parent/Community Member - As a alumni of the Beaverton school district. I wanted to express my concern about the use of SRO in Beaverton school district. Does the district plan on looking into alternative to having Officer in the school?

Erin Seitz, District Staff - I am very concerned to hear that the BSD is proposing a new permanent online school without disclosing very important information about how this will be run, first. How will it be paid for? Who will staff it? How can we ensure ALL students can access it? What input has been sent out to teachers about this decision? Who will be teaching online? Will the online

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curriculum be the same as the curriculum that is used in buildings? How much does this program cost? I hope the board does not pass this until there is MUCH more information released to the public. We can not make haphazard decisions that deeply affect our students and community out of a temporary need. Nor should we send the message to families that authentic in-class learning experiences can be replaced by a PERMANENT online education.

B Everett, Beaverton School District Student - Fall is approaching and our son is to attend his first year in the district, if officers are in the school he won't be attending, we plan to move to a school where officers will not be present as safety for the children is primary concern.

Rebecca Larson, District Staff - I'm concerned with so many things, but I'll narrow them down to a few that are most pressing. Firstly, that we continue our commitment to equity in this new budget situation. I hope what was in the SSA will still take prescient in our new reality. With that said, I think cutting our SRO's in school would be a good place to start because we know the harm their presence can create for our students of color. I'm also concerned about the new online school BSD is looking to pass due to the inequitable fall out that could happen. I understand the need for Flex to expand due to Covid, but I think moving so quickly to a new school that will have so many ripple effects in our community is reckless. I hope the board will reconsider making this a Permanent

Lisa Twain, District Staff - After participating in distance learning over the last three months, I have many misgivings about the efficacy of voting on a serious topic without full discussion about the pros and cons. Those that have been struggling through distance learning deserve the opportunity to share their experiences and concerns. I am concerned about lack of social interaction. Students increased fascination with technology has already damages social interaction and ability to related to others. Distance learning has no magic button to instill self motivation or time management skills, which are required for D.L. Chances for distraction significantly increase, inability to get immediate feedback, malfunctioning software/hardware would bring learning to a standstill. Distance learning also complicates the nature of the tech used, as it limits online education to students who are computer and tech savvy. Students, families, and educators deserve to be part of the discussion!

Debra Gisler, Parent/Community Member - It is time to remove resource officers from our schools. Stop feeding the schools to prison pipeline.

Geoff Hunnicutt, District Staff - As a Beaverton teacher I am concerned about the proposal to create a permanent online school. Your proposed 5, 10 and 15% cuts have not been made public. Your budget process happened behind closed doors. Creating an online school during a time of cuts is misguided. You say this is in response to COVID-19 and parents not feeling safe sending their kids back to school. If there are parents who are concerned about safely returning to school, they are in the same boat as educators! I am very worried about returning to school a possibly contracting COVID-19. My spouse has underlying health conditions that could be fatal if he contracted COVID-19. I also have an 80 year-old mother who I take care of. Why are we not working together to make ALL students and staff safe rather than creating an online school for a few students? BSD has an online program (FLEX online), that could be temporarily expanded to meet the needs of students and families who want an online learning format.

Mateo Ballard Strauhal, District Staff - I am a Dual Language teacher in BSD. Many of my students had barriers to learning in the remote setting this spring. Most of my students are students of color from families who don't speak English and some are in transition or poverty. I am concerned that even if these families wanted to access a Remote Learning School they could not. It is concerning that the idea is being voted on without conversations with the BEA or the teachers who work with students directly. One of the pillars of the BSD is Equity. Is this really an equitable idea? If this school is created, how is BSD going to ensure that our students of color and other disenfranchised groups will have equitable access just like our privileged families? We are ALL nervous about going back to school, and we need conversations that include the voices of teachers and the union before creating a new school using BSD funds that could be used instead in making this district more equitable. (Which it is not right now.)

Dawn Cheung, Parent/Community Member - We need to keep resource officers at the schools! The teachers and other school staff are there to teach the students. They do not need to also have to defend the school and students against a person at the school that is there to cause harm! Most of the time the kids and the resource officers become friendly and the officers have the opportunity to become mentors to the students. We need our resource officers to stay at our schools and maybe they get more training on how to deal with the students who are having a problem, without having to call the police.

Courtney Bird, District Staff - To Whom It May Concern, The School Board is voting to authorize the creation of a permanent K-12 online school in BSD. As we have been teaching online since March, it is extremely apparent that investing in a permanent online school doesn't align with the BSD Equity Policy. Additionally, this decision will perpetuate institutional racism. This form of education doesn't meet the needs of all students. Students, teachers and parents struggled significantly during this time and high academic learning was not obtained. Students were not highly engaged in activities and many students especially striving students could not access online learning or Zoom meetings. To promote student development and teach students at their rate and level teachers need to make connections with students that are personal and trusting. Students need to have a safe environment in which to learn and feel valued. To do this we need to be in a classroom environment, this cannot be done through a computer screen.

Jessica Pierce, District Staff - The Beaverton School District has contributed to the historical and present-day marginalization of our Black students and families. Our policies and practices, including exclusionary discipline and curriculum that centers Whiteness and tokenizes/demeans/pushes out Blackness, cause lasting pain and hurt. An "equity pillar" or talk of trauma-informed practices are an empty gesture without a full-throated commitment to antiracist work.

Megan Valentin, District Staff - This is in reference to the permanent online school that the board is voting on today. My experience as a 3rd grade teacher doing online learning was much more challenging to meet the needs of my students given all of the technological challenges that we faced during this chaotic time. Kids get kicked out of meetings, background noise, and limited space for students to work in a quiet environment all impede the quality of learning. In addition, many students faced problems with meeting times, and I truly believe that the kids who need extra support are the ones that will be left even further behind than their peers. My most struggling students were almost never able to attend their meetings, let alone meetings for language development and special education. Many of them were never in contact at all during the past three

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months. Additionally, if we believe in collaboration as best practice, this was essentially non existent. I don't think any of my 3rd graders thrived in this. Vote no.

Josh Feinberg, Parent/Community Member - The Beaverton School District has contributed to the historical and present-day marginalization of our Black students and families. Our policies and practices, including exclusionary discipline and curriculum that centers Whiteness and tokenizes/demeans/pushes out Blackness, cause lasting pain and hurt. An "equity pillar" or talk of trauma-informed practices are an empty gesture without a full-throated commitment to antiracist work.

Madeline Hudson, District Staff - I was surprised to hear from my union today that the district is considering creating a new online school. Considering the equity issues that we know from the pandemic are in play with online learning I was astounded to discover that this has been planned without teacher or community input. This concept needs, at the very least, to be fully discussed and planned in partnership with our community members and staff.