



Public Comments for the board meeting

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All,

Who should I reach out to from the Board to discuss topics of importance from our family, prior to the next meeting and/or the huge decisions that are upcoming?

My topics concerns include:

- Masking decisions post 31 March, seeing if at least one board member will present and/or represent a voluntary option for students/parents instead of just a yes or no solution.....regardless of inside and outside activities. I know there may be some variables and changes, but Teah and I were seriously considering returning our two boys to the district and if the masking decision is made to maintain them while inside the classroom without some kind of voluntary option we will likely steer clear.
- In-person meetings, I am not sure why we are still struggling as a district to do this. I have never said get rid of the remote/AV solution, but thankfully Landon discussed the fact that we should be Hybrid now and forever regardless of whether there is a pandemic or not. In-person should be an option, and one that's in place soon not in six months, or for the next school year, want to know how to do it...seek help from the community or others around you who are doing it today. Heck, many of you are around kids, educators, families, and others today and still some of you meet in a room in-person to discuss board topics.....let/facilitate those options for the public too.
- I love to hear about the health and wellness clinic and the great things it's doing, but I think you could also continue to notify the parents/members attending that there is an opt-out clause. I would in a heartbeat love to use a service like that at school for our kids when it comes to physicals, COVID tests, checkups, sick time, etc.....Teah and I are just not huge fans of the fact that at 15 or older one of our kids could acquire some form of reproductive support/service/pill etc... without us being aware while in a school environment(we know she could walk, find a ride, buy products, steal products, borrow from a friend, etc.....but it being at school makes it even easier for a child to do/and or maybe hide it from a parent as they should be there during the day) . Hey, that's our choice we will have to suffer the decision, but to be fair not all parents or members of the District are paying attention as much as they should and they may not truly understand the reproductive services confidentiality/ease of location access at the school and ability to opt out. I think you would find the opt-out clause statement as part of the update would manage your risk and you would likely still have a very successful clinic as not everyone feels like Teah and I.
- Building more accessible housing for teachers and/or others. The community clearly has that need, and I definitely agree it is outside of the box/agile thinking. I also feel it should be balanced against other potential activities (again where are the risk metrics). Many have made mention of increasing trades, technology, or other differentiating educational options...how much money/time will be spent on building a house/homes by a school district, when you could go well beyond a revamped wood shop or existing trades building.
 - Unique welding training above and beyond the basics i.e. aluminum and stainless
 - HVAC training and skills
 - Plumbing trades training
 - More of the forestry/natural resources that Landon mentioned or even a room/learning environment and formal school program
 - Tech training room with full curriculum and instruction
 - Ag or forestry technology, Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Maybe put together a projects and trades committee, a risk management committee, a curriculum committee (combine them all anything). I attend these meetings all the time and I never hear these are the 5 things we came up with to spend this dollar amount on, which one do we want to spend the money on. I rarely if ever either on these meetings or in the budget committee actually see specific risk metrics around decisions. Ask for help, form a team, poll the parents, get more inclusive with your decision-making and options. Don't let prior results stop you from attempting change realization.
- Possibly consider making public comments take place towards the end of the meeting, you may also want to reconsider no open topics being discussed. As a participant in the call something may come up during the meeting but after the upfront comment period. This would allow for someone to ask questions or bring up a

concern.....about that topic.....true they/we could always reach out after the meeting or write in formally before 12 noon/the next meeting and put up a topic on the next agenda, but that seems kind of unwieldy and much of the value may be lost for others who won't hear the statement or will hear it 30 days later. Again others have overcome this dilemma, you have the ultimate control to mute/censor the speaker due to time or topic and let's face it public comment time is pretty low right now, so what is a little more time/a few more impromptu 3 min statements that you would not even formally have to respond to.

I know some might find it a little challenging to hear feedback, thoughts, complaints, suggestions etc... from people who have not walked in the administrative staff's shoes. So please let me know who if any want to meet in person or virtually to bring these topics to the board. I can meet with one or more individuals at a time in case anyone is worried about verbal/physical abuse....or the other craziness that was mentioned in other districts/areas of the world.

My phone number is 503-812-0909, and of course, my email as evident by this lengthy message is damian.lavolette@gmail.com. I look forward to a response hopefully at least a little bit before the next board meeting.

Damian

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