

From: <prag16@yahoo.com>

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Subject: [External Email] Public Comments WBOE special meeting 7/15/2020

To: <mdegennaro@woodbridgeps.org>

Based on what I'm reading, it sounds like the Beecher teachers are in nearly universal lockstep on their desire NOT to return to in-person schooling this fall. Does the committee and the board have any comments on this? Is all this in vain from the get go? What is the plan if all CT's COVID numbers continue to look good (or even better), and the state/CDC guidance still dictates in-person schooling but the teachers and their unions refuse to play ball? If they think it's not feasible to return, then at what point does it become infeasible? Many European and Asian countries reopened schools successfully without COVID cases being reduced to zero beforehand (and in many cases without even mandating masks). Day cares have remained open in many cases this entire time. Are these examples being looked at for guidance?

If this forces more distance learning this puts a lot of families at an impasse. Every other industry is back to work, in person in most cases, with the exception of some segment of white collar office workers who can work remotely. If there's a massive COVID resurgence that prompts the state to issue more lockdowns that's one thing, but if COVID continues to fade away from CT and schools are the only holdouts in terms of getting back to normal, this will place a burden on families that don't have the means to work full time and also essentially homeschool their children at the same time.

Regards,

James Turkosz

14 Bear Hill Road, Woodbridge