

## Academic Letter

Dear Governor Sisolak,

As a community and a state, we have been working hard on fighting the COVID-19 pandemic while on the latest statewide “pause”. However, the effects that some of the limitations and directives are having on our youth and staff is troubling.

The current directives are having a negative impact on our students, especially those of secondary education. This is detrimental to their health and wellbeing, as well as their academic success. Simply put, our youth need to be in school as much as they can. The elementary students have shown that the three-foot distance is manageable and have been successful at maintaining distance, being safe and wearing masks. We have shown that schools can reopen safely and have a positive impact on all students. Relaxing the social distancing requirements for the secondary classrooms would allow students to get into the classroom more frequently. The current state of directives, coupled with our infrastructure, do not allow for more than one day of school per student per week in our largest high school.

We are hereby requesting that you revisit the current directives as follows:

- 1) Relax the requirements for social distancing in secondary schools by amounts necessary to allow for secondary students to attend at least two times per week. Lessening the social distancing requirements for secondary schools will allow students in older schools, such as our district, to attend school more often and receive more instruction, and in turn, a better education experience.
- 2) Increase awareness for student and staff needs, which could be supported by but not limited to, organizations such as Communities in Service.

This is a crucial time in our children’s lives and we need to do whatever we can to ensure their health, mentally and physically, as well as their academic success.

ECSD Board of Trustees

Yays

Nays