

# MMSD Written Statements Report

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First Name	Last Name	What is the subject you will be addressing?	Comments:
Tina	Godfrey	Reopening Plan	<p>We need answers. We need truth. Is MMSD going to follow CDC guidelines? Actually follow them? Will they decide school to school, classroom to classroom, based on what works? One room shove in more desks, more students, just because you won't have another room, another teacher? My classroom has 15 desks in it right now, three feet apart. Three feet apart, not six feet apart. I have 26 students, so 15 (not socially distanced) is only 58% of my 26 students. I want to know, our staff wants to know, our community and families deserve to know...What will you do when more students want to come back???? What if only 12 fit socially distanced in my tiny classroom in a 115-year-old school? What about the other 14? What about the other four fifth grade classrooms at my school, all of which have 27-29 students in them? If we socially distance those four classrooms, two of which are larger and could probably fit closer to 17-20 students, we can fit around 65-70 of our fifth graders into our classrooms. But we have 109 fifth graders! What about the rest? What if 60-80% want to come back? What if they all want to come back?!? What is the plan?! I don't want one more person to tell me we are going to "figure it out"! I believe we need to have it figure out BEFORE we decide we are opening up. I have had Covid. It was the sickest I have ever been. I have no idea what health issues will follow me for the rest of my life. I care about my colleagues, I care about my students, their families. But I will hear you, I will hear the science if it says it's okay to go back, and I will go back (I want nothing more than to go back to my classroom after 25 years of teaching), but I want to know if MMSD will actually follow guidelines and if so what in the world they will do with all of the students because we will have around 40 in fifth grade, just at our school, that will be overflow if they all choose to come back. What is the real plan!?!?</p>
Rhonda	Chalone	Reopening	<p>We are putting students, families, and teachers as unnecessary risk by re-opening the physical buildings for school before the previous agreed upon metrics are met and all staff are fully vaccinated. We have been successful teaching online for nearly a year, by re-opening before metrics are met and vaccinations are complete, we will disrupt students learning, cause inequities between those in person and those still at home, and put everyone at risk. Students and teachers have learned to do school in new and innovative ways. Students are learning. Teachers are teaching and learning new skills and creating new ways of reaching students. We are safe and creating those changes we all need to see in education. Please, do not jeopardize our lives. Last night I had a nightmare that a teacher contracted and died of Covid-19 who I knew personally. Everyone at the funeral was saying that it was unnecessary to</p>

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			<p>put her at risk especially when we were so close to being vaccinated. Luckily, it was just a nightmare. The new variants are here, our city has too many cases, people are still contracting and dying of Covid-19. We have no subs who will come in and teach when a teacher gets sick. Most people feel ill for a few days after the 2nd dose of the vaccine...who will teach then? Please, just wait. Wait until all staff are fully vaccinated. We are so close and we have come so far. Remember when Dane County started opening up too early back in June? We increased the capacities at businesses etc... All we need was a few more weeks of lock down. Please, do not make the same mistake with Madison public schools. How will you feel if a child gets sick and dies from Covid-19? How will you feel if a staff member gets sick and dies? How will you feel when a family member gets sick and dies? What will you tell the rest of the family? ...."we couldn't wait a few more weeks until all were vaccinated???"</p>
Torrance	Scott	Returning students to in-person instruction	<p>There is a vaccine so close to being widely available. Going back in-person is as unadvisable as jumping out of the window when your house is on fire just as the firemen offer you a ladder. You would be putting staff at risk of death or long term effects of covid. You would be putting students at less risk of death but unknown risk of long term effects which are starting to emerge. And you're putting families at great risk of having their children be carriers of a disease that could destroy the family by infecting and killing parents and grandparents that care for them. All of these risks would be greatly diminished by next fall. All teachers would be vaccinated, and most of the at-risk and general population would be as well. There is no benefit that outweighs the danger. Instruction continues online. It is not perfect; it takes great effort; but it is largely successful. Entertaining the idea of opening schools for in-person instruction is simply addressing a need for childcare, not instruction. The cost of childcare should not be paid with the lives of any vulnerable person, wether or not they accept the risk.</p>
Grace	Barloon	Reopening of schools	<p>Take Action: Submit a written statement for Monday's BOE meeting Raise our concerns regarding the recent announcement By MMSD for re-opening schools at Monday's BOE Meeting: Submit a Written Statement including questions from today's MTI's Open Letter to Supt. Dr. Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community Suggested text you may copy/paste for your written statement to the BOE: Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. We need</p>

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			<p>remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, MTI Member , Grace Barloon</p>
Berttina	Mills	School rw opening	<p>Schools never should have closed in the first place however we can't change the past. School can be done safely and parents that are not comfortable sending their child should continue with online schooling. However my children are struggling bad and have been since this started the children's education is suffering tremendous damage that can not be fixed. They need to be back in class learning what they should be learning in the environment that is best for them. Teacher need to be back teaching our children. They are essential works and should have to do their jobs just like nurses, doctors, hospital cleaning staff, store clerks, restaurant workers, daycare teachers,ect... that have been working this entire time a lot of districts have had in person school this entire year and it has worked, children need to be in school. And need to have their education thought of. All schools should start back up now. Leave the choice tobthe parents and children. The teachers have a choice to teach or find a new job</p>
Jenn	Drake	School reopening	<p>Questions: -what is the screening and testing protocols in place for the staff? -what kind of PPE will be provided for staff? -what is the plan for students who are non compliant with wearing masks? -why aren't masks required outside? It is unlikely that students would be 6 ft apart the whole time during recess. -what is the vaccination plan for staff? Why not wait until staff has at least begun the vaccination process? -what is the plan to address families that travel around spring break?</p>
Melanie	Sard	Agenda item 4.1 Recommendation from the Safety and Security Ad hoc Committee.	<p>My daughter is 2 years old, and when she eventually enters Madison Public Schools I want there to be anti-racist, restorative justice policies in place. Therefore I strongly support the recommendations of the Safety &amp; Security Ad Hoc Committee to start implementing these actions &amp; ideals. Thank you, Melanie Sard</p>
Stephanie	Rytilahti	School Reopening	<p>MMSD has not adequately addressed many safety concerns pertaining to the re-opening including: ventilation in old buildings (adding medical grade filters is not enough), adherence to new CDC guidance around double masks for staff and students, safe management of hallway and bathroom traffic, decision to return despite high infection rates in Dane County, and decision to return as B. 1.1.17 continues to increase nationally. All teachers should be vaccinated before return. This could be possible within two months and it seems reckless to return before this happens, particularly with new infectious variants. Communities of color</p>

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			<p>have been hit particularly hard by COVID and increasing exposure via school will exacerbate this disparity. If opening proceeds, teachers should not be asked to teach virtually and in-person and no employee should be penalized for taking leave or needing multiple absences to support others. Also, cancel spring break. Finally, many teachers are also the primary caregivers for their own school age child or elderly relatives. It is a gender equity issue to ask teachers to return to buildings when many grades remain closed and/or will face closure due to COVID exposure. This feeds into a larger caregiving conversation disproportionately effecting the careers and mental health of women—and, again, exacerbated for those at the intersections of multiple identities.</p>
Eugenia Maria	Highland Granados	'safety and security' recommendations	<p>MMSD has a vision for Restorative Justice. It's in their strategic framework. The only place RJ is mentioned is within the reactionary, punitive, and racist 'Behavior Education Plan'. And, there is little investment within their own administration staff and community partners across all schools to fully implement RJ philosophy. There are currently only 2 full time MMSD staff dedicated to RJ implementation (over 52 schools from 4K-12th grade; alternative schools; youth attending Metro school while in detention; youth learning from home due to disabilities, etc.) There are only 3 schools with full time RJ coordinators (from outside orgs). These recommendations call for a 3-5 year plan to invest and educate everyone from the Board, to teachers, to youth, and families on RJ. The recommendations call for 2 RJ coordinators in all the high schools. The recommendations call for community members and youth to have paid opportunities to be involved in decision making related to RJ and school conflict accountability.</p>
John	Christopherson	Failed leadership regarding reopening of schools	<p>Jenkins called a snap meeting that principals and MTI reps had 10 minutes notice of. This absolutely disrupted the entire day for the thousands of employees in MMSD. He didn't give complete information, and told media that everyone should ask principals (who didn't have full information). We spent 2 hours with our principal who did her very best to respond, but she was unprepared due to Jenkins' poor leadership. This is not the first time he has disrupted everyone's day by calling a meeting, just the on with the biggest impact and implications. The statements in the press conference were not accurate or representative. NO teachers who actually deliver education would ever choose/design the concurrent model. Jenkins and Doyle should first ask for solutions from the ones who actually do the job instead of laying down poorly thought out mandates.</p>
Brian	Harris	Reopening	<p>It seems like I (a MS CC teacher) am being made to return to the building before I am vaccinated. In the case of my wife (elementary BRT) that's definitely the case. Why would you do that? From what I understand, our return date is only a few weeks before we can expect to</p>

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			<p>be vaccinated. It would really be unfortunate if I spent a year trapped inside, only to get COVID because I had to start teaching in person a few weeks before I could get vaccinated, wouldn't it? What's the hurry?</p>
Erin	McGrath	School reopening	<p>It felt especially painful for Dr. Jenkins to surprise us with the reopening statement on the anniversary of Scott Walker introducing the Act 10 legislation. This got me to thinking of three substantial labor relations problems that have taken place since Dr. Jenkins arrived. 1. Staff step and lane increases weren't paid with October 1 paychecks. There was no announcement of this. It just happened, and the district only acknowledged the error after staff reported it. 2. MMSD publicly announced that the MTI general membership accepted the .5% COLA increase when we absolutely did not. 3. Now, MMSD surprised everyone with the reopening announcement before coming to agreement with MTI about key issues we have raised over the past few months. I am happy with the changes in MMSD elementary literacy curriculum. I am open to the "Science of Reading" initiative. But, in light of these three substantial labor relations issues in the past five months, it's a lot to take in. Sadly, I have heard a colleague say she's seriously considering not returning to teaching next year. I'm sure others will retire. My personal attitude toward central office is pretty bad and negative right now. Look how they're treating us! Respectfully, Erin McGrath MTI member, 5425 Dahlen Drive, Madison, 53705</p>
Serena	Sato	Safety & Security ad hoc committee	<p>I'm writing to support the recommendations provided by this committee in December 2020. This includes but is not limited to: an intentional and impactful focus on restorative justice, inclusion of a third party facilitator, a plan for implementation, new staff positions, relevant facilities improvements, board training, structured debrief of any law enforcement in schools, reduced class sizes, and regularly evaluated curriculum and instructional practices. This is a justice and civil rights issue and MMSD needs to treat it as such. Thank you and I look forward to seeing the dialogue and results.</p>
Kelly	Cates	In person Instruction during a pandemic	<p>I wish to remain anonymous. Kids are learning. They are used to the structure of virtual and continue to make academic gains. Any skills lacking are more than made up for in tech skills, independence, multitasking, life lessons about their connection and their role in history. Ability to move freely, dress comfortably, sleep later, avoid long commutes, and show off their pets, home, siblings and family members whenever applicable. Teachers literally spend every hour and minute of their day outside of live zoom finding new and creative ways to engage and connect in a entirely new framework with students and families. More interaction with families daily/weekly than ever before. And for all those kids that are considered at risk of abuse or neglect, we teachers are literally peering into their homes 2-3 hours a day. We are watching.</p>

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We see more in their personal lives that we ever have before. With more small group breakout rooms happening for every subject, buddy reading and writing and social meet ups, kids are making friends. Organizing zoom play dates with classmates. Parents volunteer to drop off materials and birthday treats to every student in the class. Last Friday I held a pizza party and publishing party virtually with the support of some awesome parents. I mean if you want to see something beautiful. Visit a school. They have never been closed. Watch a go noodle dance break. Watch the genius of our students and teachers and be grateful for what we have. A solid, loving, safe structure in place where our students and teachers can remain in their learning cocoon together until the real spring arrives(vaccines and infection rates low) and they can safely slide into the building and keep right on going as they have all along. Show some respect. This is hard for everyone! Get over it! People are suffering far worse all over the world! Life is suffering and growing and finding peace in the understanding that we are not that important and we don't deserve any more than any other creature on Earth. Suck it up, wear a damn mask and avoid fucking gyms and bars and restaurants! Talk about kids needs? Our kids needs have been sacrificed because of the modern self-centered believe in they need for our routine social life, tight butt, fucking sports and pursuit of more money to buy more things things things! Teachers and kids face complete tech roadblocks 2-3 times a day sometimes and they just adjust. 20 tech applications in use each day. No joke. Take your job and do the same thing with all your 25 clients in front of you at once and their 50 parents and guardians watching your every move All a learning about 20 to 30 new tech applications needed every single thing from writing to testing to reading the grouping has to be figured out a new way at the exact same time your clients are there, oh and do it with joy a smile on your face and laughter. Don't sacrifice our teachers and kids for your "normal." Bad bad karma! It's literally like no one learned one lesson from this entire experience. And they should have really listened to the lessons so graciously offered through this experience where most of us were safe and healthy we just have no idea what it's like to really suffer because I'm pretty sure based on the math we humans are screwed. The future is going to come with it a lot worse catastrophes bugs and whatever else happens when you screw up your only Goldilocks planet and some day survival like real survival it's going to be tough I thank God to help these kids and teachers who aren't afraid of anything and always find a way to maybe save your ass. Pardon the language. I support staying virtual until vaccinations are fully administered and Warmer weather comes and we can go back to school with masks and extra cleaning but function normally or use outside space to breathe. And do not require teachers to teach both at home

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			and virtual at the same time what a joke. Pay teachers more or stop asking them to do more. And for heaven sake's get some kind of sick leave pay I'm not giving up my sick time for mandated quarantine of a student staff member or my own child's fellow student or teacher. If teachers are gonna be sent back into the danger zone do some thing to tell them we got their back.
Jill	Ellefson	Reopening school buildings	I want to express my gratitude for the physicians, board members and district leaders that spoke at the last info session on schools reopening. I feel that they appropriately described the decision as a way to help students that are suffering from isolation, depression and anxiety while also taking the virus seriously and needing to have safe mitigation strategies in place. We can and should do both. I hope to see a continued focus on a safe, phased reopening and less negativity coming from teachers and the union.
Linda	Stouffer	MMSD opening in person instruction 4k-2nd grades	I want the BOE to demand staff be vaccinated before we are put at risk via in person instruction. My daughter has SICKLE CELL DESEASE, thus is high-risk if she contracts Covid-19. She has not been able to access the vaccines. my wife is high risk factors of over 63, diabetes, heart condition. Myself, am an SEA and will be 64 next month. I know other districts have vaccinated their staff, and this should be done for MMSD as well.
Katie	Reynolds	Re-opening plans	I understand the need for re-opening for many students and families. I want to support it but I feel there are a few huge areas that need to be addressed. 2 of the top items are: staff needs access to quality PPE, medical grade or equally as effective masks, etc. to be and feel safe and protected. The other need is that many staff have young children at home and have lost childcare due to covid or currently have children in hybrid models of learning at other school districts. The only option that has been offered staff is to come to work or take a leave of absence. Unless for personal medical reasons these leaves are unpaid and without benefits. Teachers are being asked to choose between caring for their children or their careers. I implore the district to offer more options for teachers who are also parents or who have at-risk family members--whether that is more flexibility in scheduling, ability to work virtually some of the time, or having less costs incurred for taking a leave of absence. As a teacher I love my job. I love my family. It is painful feeling forced to choose between them and having no good options. Please give us more options; realistic options. Thank you.
Katy	France	Re-opening	I think it is wrong to re-open schools before teachers all have the chance to be vaccinated. We are putting them in horrible positions. I am sick of hearing "transmission rates are no worse in schools than in the communities at large, if schools take the proper precautions to mitigate risk." The difference is drastic and critically important: in the community, teachers and staff

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			<p>have the right to stay home to protect their health. They do not have to assume the risk if they don't want to. We are so close to vaccines being widely available, I just cannot believe that we are not guaranteeing vaccination for teachers before opening schools. Also cannot believe the plan for 4K... they're gonna go for two full days? They're gonna show up for two days before spring break and then have 10 days off? What kind of messed up plan is that? And then they're going to proceed by having full days, at age 4?? I urge you to reconsider.</p>
Rachel	Kiley	Proposed recommendations submitted to the Board by the Safety and Security Ad Hoc Committee December 2020	<p>I support the recommendations of the Safety and Security Ad Hoc Committee dated December 2020, highlighting the following from their recommendations: - funding a collaborative planning process to involve MMSD district and school staff, and all community partners engaging in Restorative Justice work, to be facilitated by a neutral third party -a 3-5 year plan for holistic implementation of Restorative Justice in MMSD -two full time school-based Restorative Justice positions be created for all high schools -facilities improvement plans related to the referendum in each high school include dedicated spaces in schools for restorative spaces and mental health. - student training, empowerment, and leadership; family training; and initial intensive and ongoing training for all staff. - a structured debrief process after every instance in which law enforcement is called to schools-continue and strengthen efforts to reduce class sizes - curriculum &amp; instructional practices at the district level are continually evaluated to adopt an anti-racist, anti-abilist, and abolitionist approach.</p>
Megan	Roman	Recommendations and budgeting from Safety and Security Ad Hoc Committee	<p>I support the following: * funding a collaborative planning process to involve MMSD district and school staff, and all community partners engaging in restorative justice work, to be facilitated by a neutral third party with experience in facilitation and deep knowledge of restorative and transformative justice * a holistic 3-5 year plan for holistic implementation of restorative justice in MMSD two full time school-based restorative justice positions be created for all high schools * facilities improvement plans related to the referendum in each high school include dedicated spaces in schools for restorative spaces and mental health. * the Board go through an intensive restorative justice training * a structured debrief process after every instance in which law enforcement is called to schools. * continue and strengthen efforts to reduce class sizes * curriculum &amp; instructional practices at the district level are continually evaluated to adopt an anti-racist, anti-abilist, and abolitionist approach</p>
Kathryn	Boonstra	Recommendations from the Safety and Security Ad Hoc Committee	<p>I support the Ad Hoc committee's recommendations because they present a path for MMSD to shift meaningfully from a discipline and punishment framework to a restorative justice orientation. I endorse the Ad Hoc committee's recommendations for an advisory committee to be established immediately, for a collaborative, professionally-mediated planning process, and</p>



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		<p>for a commitment to holistic, rather than piecemeal or in-name-only reforms. Compared to the district's current PBIS/MTSS model, Restorative Justice represents a foundational shift in mindset and attitude toward adult-child relationships at school and the meanings of perceived student misbehavior. Accordingly, I worry that, without intentional planning, clear guidelines, deep training and support, and ongoing monitoring, the district will attempt to layer a diluted Restorative Justice model onto an existing framework of discipline and punishment with which it is fundamentally at odds. The Ad Hoc committee's recommendations are ambitious, comprehensive, and well-reasoned; by approving the recommendations in full, MMSD can signal its meaningful and authentic commitment to ending criminalizing, alienating, and oppressive disciplinary in schools.</p>
Amanda	crim	<p>In-person plan</p> <p>I strongly oppose the MMSD in-person plan. The rushed way that MMSD decided to inform it's parents &amp; families (not to mention the staff) conveys a deep disregard for all involved. Not only is it unprofessional to drop major decisions on people in this way, but it fosters distrust. Additionally, the re-opening plan (as currently communicated) raises numerous questions while providing few answers. There are serious equity issues here that need to be addressed regarding: parent access to re-opening plan information &amp; answers to questions, student access to quality teacher instruction and support when teachers are teaching concurrently, and increased learning gaps between VL students that will continue with the shorter instructional day whereas in-person peers full day instructing and support (as evidenced from the in-person plan my son's Principal released). How will MMSD address these inequities? Unless Virtual Learners have access to an educator devoted to providing the *same level (quantity and quality)* of interaction and instruction that they have had all year up until now, concurrent instruction will create inequities. Learning gaps will increase for VL students under this plan. In-person students will have access to resources and supports for a full-day bell schedule, while Virtual students will have less instructional time and support. We parents lack the information needed to make an informed decision that's best meets the needs of our child(ren), and yet we are expected to quickly make a decision via survey (between 2/17-2/24). I am a parent with the time, resources, and skills needed to navigate the various platforms to find and make sense of the re-opening plan (as best as can be done when so few details are publicised). Even so, though I have read ALL of the public information regarding re-opening, and attended the Wednesday press conference and the Thursday Q&amp;A, *I still do not know enough to make an informed decision.* And many MMSD families have less access to these details than I do. Asking parents to choose in-person vs VL before clear answers regarding what</p>

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		<p>either reality will be makes no sense, and will harm some families. Additionally, one piece of the plan that *is* known is the requirement for staff to be in-person *even when they have no in-person duties* (Eg. A 4th grade staff member must be in-building when only 4K, 5K, 1, 2, or 3 grade students have returned, OR staff required to be in-person on PD Mondays). This is NOT "following the science". Forcing more bodies to be present indoors when no duties require them to be in-building INCREASES RISK, and does so pointlessly. Finally, with vaccines on the horizon MMSD should be ensuring that staff are vaccinated in order of in-person responsibilities (i.e. those going in-person first get vaccinated first). This decision to return to in-person instruction is being rushed. This is amply clear by the lack of information and answers provided to families and staff. Rushing back to in- person with vital questions unanswered (several of which are equity concerns) is not in the best interests of our students, families, or staff. Sincerely, Amanda</p>
Sandra	Anton	<p>school reopening</p> <p>I strongly disagree with MMSD's plan to reopen. With vaccinations for teachers around the corner, and a new strain that is more contagious spreading, why is MMSD risking the lives and health of staff and students? Would it really hurt anything to wait a few more weeks until elementary staff can be vaccinated? This shows that you clearly do not value your teachers and staff members. Additionally with spring break at the end of March, there will be additional exposure to staff from families that travel over break. I also feel that staff are expected to 'jump into' concurrent instruction without any training in this model. Does MMSD believe this will provide equitable instruction for all learners? Teachers are being asked to do two jobs, and there is no way they can do both well. Virtual instruction will suffer. There will be background noise (have you observed a reading group with a student at a community center? There's a lot of noise!), behavior interruptions, and students won't be able to interact with their in-person classmates. Teachers will also be able to give less attention to in-person students than they are receiving now. Students at community centers and mscr, are receiving a lot of individual attention. It will be impossible for teachers to give this attention while maintaining six feet and teaching virtually. Families will lose care hours after school and on the asynchronous day. What will families do to fill these gaps? Are families aware that there will be gaps in care? I don't think many are. Additionally, the students in person will be in an environment that is completely developmentally inappropriate. Are you aware of what is developmentally appropriate for 5 and 6 year old learners? Why is 4K allowed to have centers and K/1 classrooms aren't. Have any K/1 teachers been consulted? I know this will cause trauma to kids. They are better off learning at home and in the community centers and mscr</p>

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			<p>cares programs where there are more staff members to help them (and not trying to teach virtually at the same time). As a long time teacher with MMSD, I am extremely demoralized and devalued by this decision. It was communicated poorly (with me receiving a notification as a parent before teachers). It does not take into account my safety or the safety of others (you should wait for us to be vaccinated esp with the UK strain), it is difficult for families who need childcare, and it is developmentally inappropriate for young learners. I don't trust that MMSD has remedied the air quality in my school (the heating and cooling has been an issue for years and never addressed), the windows in my classroom don't fully open or stay open for ventilation purposes, the wifi in schools is still glitchy-my mscr kids were breaking up last week and there's only two of them, the sinks in the bathroom are push button that goes off before hands are washed and have no hot water, and I could go on and on. Throughout this pandemic I have taken every precaution because of high risk...I have been to the doctor's office, the dentist, the hospital, and Costco twice. That's it. Opening up when our community spread is high (it is still high!) and county restrictions have been relaxed, means I will be exposed to students who are having playdates, families that are going to restaurants and parties, families that are traveling, etc. Those are risks I am not comfortable exposing myself or my family to. Furthermore, paying staff \$40 an hour for summer school is like a slap in the face. We are unable to get the cost-of-living wage that we deserve! There has been no talk of hazard pay or additional sick days for returning staff (which would not change my mind about reopening). I could go on and on about this...it's irresponsible to reopen, it won't improve instruction (in fact the quality of instruction will decline, and you're risking lives and health). Madison is different than the surrounding districts (where I hear from teachers concurrent instruction isn't working). We have more low income students, more parents working public facing jobs, more racial diversity, more community spread. I will end by remembering Isai Morocho, the students who died from East High School. My daughter remembers seeing him in the hallways at passing time. More students will become sick and die with the UK strain. More staff will become sick and die. Is it worth it? Why can't you wait until we're vaccinated? Why cave to pressure?</p>
Naomi	Smith	returning to in person school before adult vaccinations	I oppose returning to in person school before adult vaccinations.

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Sheldon	Gross	Recommendations of the Safety and Security Ad Hoc Committee	<p>I fully support the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee. I especially want to underscore the importance of the creation of a Superintendent's Advisory Committee with the type of representation found on the Ad Hoc Committee. It is critical that those individuals that have been most impacted have a seat at the table. And it is critical that those voices be given legitimate influence. I am very excited to see the implementation of restorative justice practices on a broad level in our high schools. The recommendations will help ensure this be done in a manner that is most likely to ensure success. It is critical that we do this right and that means investing the resources to do so. Thank you.</p>
Juliane	Stair	Reopening schools	<p>I feel as though MMSD has failed me, my family, my colleagues, my students and my families. We, as classroom teachers have worked incredibly hard since closing last March to do the very best we can for our students and our families. It's impossible to put into words what we have done THIS school year to improve our virtual classrooms. Unless you've seen us, been with us or heard from us, you won't understand. We have made the impossible, possible. The communities we've built and the rigor we have insisted upon is nothing short of miraculous. Now, at mile 25 of our marathon, YOU want to quit??? It's beyond comprehension, reason and sanity. The safety of our students, families and staff should be number 1- NOT politics. Why not wait the extra couple of weeks until all k-2 staff can be vaccinated? Why have our voices not been heard, since we are in fact, the front line workers to our students and families? I implore you, listen to YOUR people! From, a VERY-dedicated public school teacher.</p>
Samantha	Clausen-Ruppert	"Safety & Security Ad Hoc Committee Recommendations"	<p>I encourage the Madison Metro School Board to fully support the recommendations of the Safety and Security committee which calls for the investment and expansion of Restorative Justice philosophy and practices. MMSD's RJ team states that they vision for a district of: "Radically transformed school communities where students, staff, parents, and caregivers are safe, feel they belong, and are actively engaged. All variations within the identities of race, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, language, ability, nationality, immigration status, age, and class are honored; each member of the school community is deeply valued and provided with what they need to be in healthy relationship, learn, and grow. The educational experience affirms each person's authentic self and inspires them to be bold in exploring who they are and might become as members of their communities." This is a vision for safety and security for all. And yet, there are only 2 full time employees trained, educated, and tasked with implementing this vision across an entire district-- from 4K to 12th grade; for young people in alternative schools, charter schools, and at Metro school at the juvenile reception center; for students of all abilities and identities; for all languages and</p>

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			<p>cultures; for all parents; for all staff. And yet, the only place to find how the district is implementing RJ is within the racist, reactive, punitive, and exclusionary policies of the Behavior Education Plan which only has 1 page of information on RJ and nearly 20 on punitive responses. And yet, the vast majority of students, parents, families, administrators, board members, teachers, SSAs, BEAs, SEAs, nurses, bus drivers, social workers, psychologists, parent liaisons, librarians, custodial staff, food service staff, etc have not received any education or training in Restorative Justice. And yet, there are only 3 schools with full time and 1 .5 allocations for Restorative Justice practitioners from local organizations working directly with staff and students in MMSD schools. And yet, there is no equitable, representative, paid, decision making body to review policies &amp; procedures which includes students, parents, community members, and school staff at every school. It's past time that MMSD backs up their strategic plans &amp; visions with more than calls for justice, abolition, and equity from key note speakers and book clubs; more than buzz words and hash tags; more than committees.. it's past time that the MMSD School Board puts its political power into implementing Restorative Justice holistically through long term financial investment, through time commitments, and through policy.</p>
Travis	Olson	Reopening	<p>I encourage the District to continue purposeful reopening of schools to in person instruction. I am especially concerned with maintaining forward momentum to include all grades as a soon as possible. Keeping in mind always the need to be flexible with providing alternatives (virtual, etc) for anyone needing or desiring. Also, there should be much greater transparency about these plans, including timelines. As the last to go back to in person instruction there is no shortage of examples to learn from. There are much fewer unknowns than a year ago. Finally, any partnership that can accelerate vaccination for teachers and staff should be pursued.</p>
Nathaniel	Petreman	Return to school.	<p>I currently oppose going back to in person school until teachers and staff are vaccinated if they want to be. With the more contagious and deadly covid 19 variants spreading and the vaccine so close it would be irresponsible to go back any sooner. Do the right thing. Don't sacrifice staff and teachers, fight to get them vaccines NOW so we can send the kids back to school.</p>
Krista	Eastman	Recommendations received from the 'Safety & Security ad hoc committee"	<p>I am writing to strongly encourage the board to fully implement suggestions around restorative justice practices included in the committee's recommendations. Specifically, I would urge you to fully incorporate all these recommendations, which would require: funding a collaborative planning process to involve MMSD district and school staff, and all community partners engaging in restorative justice work, to be facilitated by a neutral third party with experience in facilitation and deep knowledge of restorative and transformative justice a holistic 3-5 year</p>

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			<p>plan for holistic implementation of restorative justice in MMSD two full time school-based restorative justice positions be created for all high schools facilities improvement plans related to the referendum in each high school include dedicated spaces in schools for restorative spaces and mental health. the Board go through an intensive restorative justice training a structured debrief process after every instance in which law enforcement is called to schools. continue and strengthen efforts to reduce class sizes curriculum &amp; instructional practices at the district level are continually evaluated to adopt an anti-racist, anti-abilist, and abolitionist approach Thank you for your time, Krista Eastman</p>
Jason	Kempen	Recently announced “re-opening” of MMSD buildings	<p>I am writing in opposition to the re-opening of MMSD buildings. I want to note that MMSD has been fully open this whole year with students &amp; staff working exceptionally hard to make pandemic virtual learning work so as to preserve health, safety &amp; life. I don’t know if it’s worthwhile to express thoughts to the board? Is the board involved in making these decisions? It looks to me like Dr. Jenkins is making decisions on his own regardless of input. I oppose the re-opening because there is a myriad of important details that the district has ignored &amp; if they can’t do their due diligence before making the announcement, I find it hard to trust them to get the details right. One of my main concerns is the damage to learning that will happen due to the re-opening &amp; more so the damage to the relationships &amp; systems that teachers have put in place while being virtual. Teachers will not be able to sustain relationships &amp; systems they have built if they are asked to teach concurrently which they are being asked to be. My 4th grade son is going to be sitting in zoom while the teacher is dealing with the in person kids &amp; will be ignored. How is this the direction the district wants to go in?? Huge swaths of kids will completely lose out on the last chunk of this year because of the massive disruption of going back. I also find it unconscionable that district HR is pretending that it is being a fair player when it comes to medical leaves. Teachers that live with immunocompromised people can only take a leave that is unpaid and without insurance. This is how we want to treat our teachers? And does the district really intend to not work with people in these situations so they can work from home. For a district that talks about equity so much, it is astounding how inequitable they are being as the discussion of re-opening buildings comes out. I really hope the board is not powerless in this situation &amp; can make some inroads with the district in terms of righting the many wrongs that are unfolding with the re-opening “plans”. Sincerely, Jason Kempen</p>
Paula	Kedzie	School re-opening	<p>I am the mother of Josh Kedzie, a senior at East High School. We'd like for there to be a plan for high school students, especially seniors, to have some time on site. As more members of</p>

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			<p>our community get vaccinated, there as to be a way to do this safely. His favorite classes are his shop classes and there is no way to replicate those classes online. So we advocate for those types of classes open sooner rather than later. Perhaps the students only attend half of each week? Perhaps they sign up for time in the lab? But we should be creative in finding ways to meet these students' needs.</p>
Tracy	Stewart	Plan to return to in person school.	<p>I am concerned that the current plan places unfair burdens on teachers and staff and will be different for students but not necessarily beneficial. As a parent, I have witnessed the time, effort and creativity teachers have put in to making virtual learning a success. How will they be supported in this making this change? How will they teach in the classroom and virtually? Are the first graders who remain at home going to be expected to watch their chromebooks for the entire school day? How will the current plan be more beneficial for the physical and emotional well being of students and staff? It may be different, but it also presents challenges. What about transportation? How will students be transported safely by bus? While I recognize the risk of Covid-19 transmission to elementary students is low, what about transmission to staff and families of staff and families of students? As a Covid-19 survivor, I am thankful to not have been hospitalized. However, my experience was very difficult and we still do not know all of the long term effects. Why not use the time presenting an incomplete plan to return to the in person classroom to come up with plan to vaccinate teachers and staff?</p>
Jill	Schmitt	All elementary staff being sent back to buildings	<p>I am an MMSD Teacher/MTI member and mom of a student at Lincoln Elementary. We are a grades 3-5 building. We will not have students in our building until at least April, yet we are told to go back March 1st. This puts us at risk of getting sick and infecting each other. This hurts our families, students, and colleagues. Can we continue to provide our quality, virtual instruction to benefit our students until we have kids back at Lincoln? This is for our safety, please. It does not benefit anyone to have us go teach on our computers in empty classrooms, while we may get each other sick. Thank you for your consideration.</p>
Margaret	Leaf	School reopening	<p>I am a parent of 3 elementary students in MMSD. I'm disheartened that schools are choosing to open K-2 without clear support from teachers and staff, without vaccinating teachers first, and without any clear information on if/when upper grades may return. As a parent with kids in 2nd and 5th grades, this phased reopening presents significant challenges to scheduling and childcare. Can we wait to send younger kids til older grades go back? No one knows for sure. Can we change our minds? All I've heard is "probably." It also makes no sense - and increases COVID risk -- to have upper grade teachers back in the building without students. MMSD teachers are the backbone of our schools and community. They have gone above and beyond</p>

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			<p>this past year. We cannot keep asking them for more, while giving them less -- less of a seat at the table, less communication, less resources. I appreciate that the district has asked for parent input, but we should've asked for teacher input first, and we should directly address their concerns before reopening.</p>
Amy	Muir	MMSD reopening	<p>I am a parent of 3 elementary school aged kids in MMSD. I personally will not be sending my children into the building come March. E learning is going great for us safe at home. I'm hearing a lot of teachers and staff that feel they are not being heard. They are scared and only want what's best for them and their students. I hope you can reconsider reopening until 1. Our covid numbers are within the limits to proceed with reopening (which they are not currently) and 2. Give the staff a chance to fully vaccinate. Thank you, A concerned parent.</p>
Emily	Mabie	The choice force staff into in-person work to reopen schools before students, staff, and their families have been vaccinated.	<p>I am a career educator, and I give my all to my students every day during virtual learning. My wonderful caseload of students with disabilities has shows amazing growth and perseverance during this time of virtual learning - and you are about to remove their teacher from them and have them start over without the relationship and support to which they are accustomed, because I cannot return to work until my partner has been vaccinated. I absolutely cannot risk killing the person I care about the most, so I will be forced to choose between my job and my willingness to sacrifice members of my family to COVID exposure. There is NO reason why we should not be continuing to offer staff the option to teach virtually until their entire families are able to be safely vaccinated against the deadly virus.</p>
Lucia	cina	Opening the schools	<p>Hi, My name is Lucia Cina I am a freshman at La Follette High School. I have been observing this situation concerning school reopening. I have talked to some of the people at my school including classmates. What I have found is that around 95% of people do not want to go back. Some of my classmates have said that they do not want to go back because they do not feel safe. If people are not feeling safe and are anxious, I do not think people will not be productive because they are upset. I personally do not want to go back. I do not feel safe. On behalf of the teachers, they all want to be with their students, but all of the teachers I have talked to say they want to go back and see each other but they do not feel it is safe. My classmates say that they do not think there is a safe way to open. I do not think it is truthful to say that we have to stay 6 feet away from people and wear masks. I do not think this is reasonable for high school students who are becoming adults and are not fully mature. I strongly disagree with reopening the schools.</p>



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Sarah	Hinkley	Community Control Over School Safety & Accountability	<p>Hello, My name is Sarah Hinkley and I am a parent of an MMSD fifth grader. I am so grateful the MMSD board decided to end the contract with the cops in our high schools. And as we all know, that is just the first step. We must continue to put our attention, effort and financial resources behind what is needed to take their place and truly keep all MMSD students safe and thriving. I have read Freedom Inc.'s policy proposal regarding Community Control Over School Safety and Accountability. I have so much gratitude for their wisdom and expertise in this area. We are lucky to have such a wonderful community resource available to us. Please approve their full proposal and fully back this work financially so it can succeed. Sincerely, Sarah Hinkley</p>
Kayte	Cunningham	Reopening rollout and presentation.	<p>Given that the survey of teachers showed over 90% do not support face to face instruction this school year, it was surprising to hear Dr. Jenkins describe at the Feb. 10 press conference, "excitement" by teachers. That said, we understand our jobs and since it appears the timing of MMSD's decision and announcement may be tied to the legislature's decision to tie federal funding to in-person instruction, I wish both staff and the general public were being told that flat out. Place the ire where it should be placed. We deserve facts.</p>
David	Olson	Reopening Schools	<p>Firstly, given the recent study by Hodcroft et. al. identifying new strains actively spreading within the US with "an advantage in spread or transmission," and per the recent release of the CDC's guidance for reopening schools, which "emphasizes the importance of using a combination of mitigation strategies to avoid COVID-19 transmission in schools, including: 1.) Universal and correct wearing of masks 2.) Physical distancing," will the district modify current plans in place that allow individuals to be present at work sites without wearing a mask? Will the district commit to only staffing locations that allow for CDC guidance on physical distancing based on the number of students who plan to return to in-person learning? Secondly, given the way the district has harmed trust over the past year in no-tolerance termination practices, refusal to honor step and lane increases for staff compensation, prohibited practices such as going around MTI as our certified negotiator on matters of compensation, and failure to elicit staff voice into decisions around reopening, how can staff trust that the necessary modifications to building airflow, filtration, and HVAC systems are up to CDC standards for a safe return to school? How can staff trust that the necessary PPE will be available to all who need it? How can staff trust that the district will be honest and transparent with positive cases and management of classrooms that experience exposure events? Finally, what data does the district have to show that buildings are ready for the increased bandwidth from all K-5 staff</p>

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			teaching in-building as well as dozens if not hundreds of students also using devices all day long and dozens if not hundreds more calling in remotely from their safe locations?
Sarah	Chodorow	Recommendations of Safety and Security Ad Hoc Committee	<p>Esteemed Board of Education Members, I am writing to express my wholehearted support for the recommendations issued by the Safety and Security Ad Hoc Committee. I have been a resident of Madison for 10 years and I am a mental health provider working with youth and families in Dane County, as well as a new parent who intends to send my child to MMSD in the future. In reading these recommendations I was so heartened by the creativity contained in them. The plan to create an advisory committee and plans for structured debriefing after law enforcement involvement provide support for the ongoing change process, while the recommendations related to holistic safety needs and the commitment to implementation of true restorative justice practices are effective ways to "look upstream" and increase proactive creation of safety in the school environment. Our community has been through so much. This is such an important moment and opportunity as we look to the future and the return to school in person - implementation of these recommendations has the potential to welcome youth back to a safer environment that will foster connection and deep learning for all students. Thank you all so much for your service to our community. I hope you will work to implement the recommendations of the Safety and Security Ad Hoc Committee. Sincerely, Sarah Chodorow, LCSW 413 Ring St. Madison, WI 53714</p>
Laurie	Gebhard	School re-opening plan	<p>Dr. Jenkins and MMSD Board Members, I am writing today to urge you to reconsider your school building reopening plan. In addition to the questions raised by MTI's Open Letter, I would like to raise several more considerations. The concurrent learning model that you have proposed is neither sustainable for teachers, nor equitable for students. While you argue that you want students to have the same learning experience as their peers, you're advocating for an equal learning experience rather than an equitable experience. If you truly wanted students to have an equitable experience you would have a teacher for in-person students and a teacher for virtual students; A single teacher for both in-person and virtual students concurrently will not give either group of students what they need. As a second grade teacher in the district, I'm frequently occupied helping students with tech issues, or letting students in from my Zoom waiting room when they accidentally get disconnected. If I have students physically in the room with me, how am I supposed to monitor the Zoom students? In-person classroom activities — washing hands, eating lunch, cleaning desks — will leave Zoom students sitting there waiting for their in person classmates, losing out on potential instructional time. Beyond issues with the instructional model, the manner the plan has been rolled out to schools</p>

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has been disrespectful, demoralizing and haphazard. Teachers and school leaders learned about the re-opening at the same time as families, leaving us completely unable to answer questions beyond what was available in the announcement email. We had to watch a press conference to get details; teachers haven't been able to ask questions about the re-opening directly from anyone at the district level. We're being asked to risk our lives to make this model of instruction work, and Dr. Jenkins hasn't even given us the basic respect to talk to us teachers about why it's important and how he and his team will be supporting us. We don't even know if there are teachers on the district re-opening team. How are we supposed to buy-in to a plan we have absolutely no role in shaping? We teachers are people too. We are parents too. We deserve clear answers for what our options are for taking vacation, sick time or a leave of absence if we have reservations about returning in person. During the Facebook Live with parents, Dr. Jenkins said they hadn't even considered what teachers would be doing in terms of childcare for their own children. He and his team have not prepared for the consequences of the plan they envision — it lacks detail that can only be gleaned from involving teachers and staff more honestly. Telling the public that you are planning for teacher well-being is not a plan to keep us safe. We need actions that demonstrate that our safety is a priority, and those actions will take longer than the current plans allow. We need time. Time to get vaccinated, the most effective available mitigation measure. We need time to account for basic things like how teachers can use the restroom, get their duty-free lunch time and planning time. We need time to talk about existing systems and how they need to change to ensure we can stay safe in our buildings. We haven't had enough time to order the things that we need to ensure a safe re-entry — we still need desks, storage buckets for students' belongings, pinnies for recess time. Our school reopening team has not even had time to complete our system planning. We simply need more time to do it all — all while we are still teaching and assessing via virtual learning. The stakes are too high for us to figure this out as we go, but that seems to be the intent of the district staff who have come up with this. We've been told that "there's no reopening plan that involves zero risk" but that's a lot easier to say when it's the lives of others that you are putting at risk. You need more teacher buy-in to make this work. Teachers have been working overtime under virtual learning, and ensuring that we are fully protected before re-entering buildings would do a lot to boost morale and give confidence in your leadership. There is data at this point that might indicate lower risk of transmission in schools than we thought, but that data was captured before multiple variants of the virus hit our country, which could behave differently in our community. More

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		<p>importantly, that data was recorded before vaccination was even an option — why rush when we can do this so much more safely when our staff is vaccinated in just a few weeks, in mid-March or April? I ask you, please reconsider sending elementary staff back into buildings in March. Please, give us time to get fully vaccinated, plan, teach, and execute our safety plans. We need more time to get our supplies to keep everyone safe in buildings. We need more time to figure out the best instructional model. If we simply wait another few weeks — until the fourth quarter begins in April — we will be ready. We will be ready to welcome students back into our buildings with intentional, safe plans in place that we can refine and perfect for next fall. Please listen to your staff. We are telling you that we are drowning and we need more time.</p>	
Sara	Lazenby	Reopening Schools	<p>Dear members of the Board and MMSD Administration: I appreciate your work during a challenging time in which you are making decisions regarding the district's educational practices that you never thought you would have to make. That said, at this time I do not trust your actions because your communication is not comprehensive, transparent, or equal across all schools. To date I have found out more information around the specifics of what a return to in-person learning will mean for safety protocols, virtual learning, the day-to-day specifics of in-person learning, and the impacts of your choices on MSCR Cares students from parent friends sharing information from e-mails that only the most socioeconomically-advantaged schools in our district have access to, while the district refuses to confirm any information about these issues. To be clear, the principals at these schools are doing things the right way, with frequent and transparent communications to their families, but at the same time other building principals do not appear to have access to this information to share with their students, staff, and families, and this is a complete failure of the district to not ensure that principals have equal access to information to share with their communities. All of your students and their families deserve equal, timely access to transparent and detailed information about your reopening plans and how they will affect the day-to-day operations of schooling for both in-person and virtual students. I attended your Facebook Live event last week and almost none of the questions asking for specific information about the structure of the school day for all learners, how this decision will change carefully structured virtual learning environments the schools have had in place, reopening dates for other grades, or requests for detailed information on safety protocols and building safety upgrades were chosen to be asked in this format. This is information that we all deserve to know, and every time you decline to share this information you break down the trust that families and staff</p>

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			<p>have around your ability to make decisions that are in the best safety or educational interests of students, their families, and staff members. This return seems rushed and lacking detail, the motives seem suspect at best (is this because of the state legislature?), and the lack of information shared leads to a feeling that the district is hoping people won't find out accurate information about the lack of protocols in place or attention to the learning environments for students. You have information on what students have struggled with virtual learning via attendance, grades, and assessment -- utilize this information to prioritize these students for a safe return to in-person learning instead of haphazardly subjecting all of us to a discombobulated push to return every student to school, which not only puts the safety of students and staff at risk, but also threatens the success of the virtual learning environment for those who choose to stay virtual. While my above comments specifically address the return to in-person learning, the issues raised apply to any number of topics in this school district. Those lucky enough to attend schools in the wealthiest areas of Madison almost always have access to more information and opportunities than those attending schools with higher levels of poverty. In normal times this is shameful and something the district should not only acknowledge, but fix. In the current times, where we are being asked to trust you to not only effectively educate our children but also keep them safe in a pandemic, it's downright criminal to not provide the most information possible to *all* regardless of what school they attend. Be better, MMSD.</p>
Christine	Cina	School are-opening	<p>Dear School Board members, please do not re-open the school until all the teaching faculty and adult staff have been vaccinated. My children will not return to in person classes until then. Thank you so much for your reconsideration. Christine Cina</p>
Wendy	Samaca	Schools reopening	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. Trust in our institutions is at a record low. The district has made promises to adhere to public health guidelines, safety thresholds and appropriate time for staff to prepare. Breaking these promises will only contribute to further erosion of trust. As COVID cases decrease nationally, it makes sense to wait for safety thresholds to be met. As proven by data from other districts that have been teaching in person, re-opening schools does not pose a threat IF community spread is under control. Using</p>

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			<p>Dane County safety thresholds it can be determined community spread remains high. Ignoring this is taking a gamble on people’s lives, health and quality of life. We need remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, MTI Member Wendy Samaca 3629 Dennett Dr. Madison, WI 53714</p>
Lexy	Aguilar	Answering MTI's questions	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD’s Re-Entry Plan. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We need to remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Sincerely, Lexy Aguilar</p>
Molly	Anderson	The MMSD re-entry plan where students will begin to return March 9 and elementary staff will return on March 1.	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD’s Re-Entry Plan. We need to remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Specifically, the building that I work at, Mendota Community School, is in NO way ready for students to return as our building is in very poor condition (as stated by MMSD administrators on our recent building walkthrough) and has been for many years. I choose to believe it is NOT a coincidence that our school also services some of the largest numbers of Black and brown students and families in MMSD. By sending students, staff, and families back into buildings that are known to be in very</p>

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			<p>poor condition and NOT safe, you are hurting and dismissing the needs and thoughts of many MMSD Black and brown families during the COVID-19 pandemic and putting a group of people who are already at a much higher risk of being severely affected by COVID-19 in danger and unsafe conditions. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, Molly Anderson MTI Member Leader 3rd Grade Teacher, Mendota Community School Madison Resident and Taxpayer 6421 Antietam Lane, Madison, WI 53705</p>
Naomi	Smith	returning to in person school before vaccinating staff	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. We need to remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Who are we serving by returning and what other social and emotional supports can happen without risking lives? To say that returning is the best way to boost SE well being, is not even trying to get past the low-bar of what normal was pre-pandemic. Dane County guidelines recommend that in order for K-2 schools to open, the county "should see a 14-day average of 78 cases or fewer that is sustained for 4 consecutive weeks." Although our community's statistics are trending in the right direction, our last 14-day average (1/28 – 2/4) was 126.5 new cases. Returning Kindergarten ahead of vaccination doses, one and two, for teachers is irresponsible. My good friend in Denver, CO hadn't been sick since before the quarantine last April. Denver sent students back after winter break. The first week of February the teacher reported positive for COVID 19. Then the class went into quarantine. Many of the students tested positive and my friend also contracted it from her daughter. She is recovering now. What a needless sacrifice and predictable consequence. Why is Madison rushing three weeks ahead of vaccinations for teachers?? Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, Naomi Smith 515 Dunning St. Madison, Wi 53704</p>
Maria-Christina	Jackson	Schools reopening	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We</p>

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			<p>understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. We need to remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, Maria-Christina Jackson Madison Teacher MTI Member</p>
Katy	Lee	Reopening	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) . I have already submitted a statement on behalf of my colleagues. Moreover, personally I would chose not to return March 1, if given the choice. Families have a choice without needing consent for the accommodation. Staff should have a choice without requesting an accommodation. We are part of your community just as much as any family with a child attending an MMSD school. It is our basic right to have a safe workplace, which you cannot guarantee by March 1. Do your due diligence and then ask staff if we would choose to return. We have rights just like the families we serve. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, Katy Lee MTI Member</p>
Erin	McGrath	School Reopening	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. I have a couple to add: 1. How do you expect us to safely open and run buildings when some buildings have unfilled vacancies? 2. Why are you being so rigid and inflexible about teachers coming into the buildings before you know how many students are coming to the buildings? Please remember that the December survey said 95% of staff could not or would not return to buildings, and only 29% of students would attend in person. This data says that there is not sufficient staff to reopen schools or sufficient student interest in disrupting what's been set up. 3. What has MMSD done to open more MSCR Cares centers, if the need is direct care and supervision of students? We need remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of</p>



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			<p>Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, MTI Member, Erin McGrath, 5425 Dahlen Drive, Madison, WI 53705</p>
Julie	Young	re-opening plan	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. We need to remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, Julie Young MMSD parent, elementary teacher, and MTI member 1207 Whispering Pines Way, Fitchburg WI 53713</p>
Benjamin	Mueller	School Reoping March 9th	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. We need to remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, Ben Mueller</p>
Allison	Worrell	Reopening Plan	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many</p>

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Marissa	Van De Voort	Reopening	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday’s BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD’s Re-Entry Plan. We need to remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, MTI Member, Marissa Van De Voort</p>
Olivia	Pies	reopening	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday’s BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD’s Re-Entry Plan. We need to remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, MTI Member / Olivia Ann Pies / 309 W Johnson St apt 613 Madison, WI 53703</p>
Eve	Bertrand	Re-opening schools	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and</p>

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Katy	Lee	Reopening	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. We need to remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, Katy Lee MTI Member</p>
Jen	Milne-Carroll	Reopening School Buildings	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. We need remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, MTI Member &amp; MMSD Educator / Jen Milne-Carroll / 208 N. Paterson St. Madison, WI 53703</p>
Cindy	Ball	concerns regarding the recent announcement By	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We</p>

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Hanna	Hartmann	Reopening plan	Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. ( <a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a> ) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. We need remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, Hanna Hartmann BRT Leopold
Ryan	Reich	School re-opening	Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. ( <a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a> ) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. We need remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, MTI Member, Ryan Reich 1205 Chapel Hill Rd Madison, WI 53711
Kathy	Anderson	MMSD Re-opening plan	Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. ( <a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a> ) We

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Meredith	Borchert	Reopening Schools	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. We need remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, MTI Member / Meredith Borchert</p>
Jennifer	Herdina	Reopening	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. We need remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, MTI Member / Jennifer Herdina / 9618 Shadow Wood Dr. Verona, WI 53593</p>
Fawn	O'Brien	Reopening of schools	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We</p>

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Brad	Vonck	Reopening of Schools	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. We need remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, MTI Member / Brad Vonck</p>
Ashley	Pearson	MTI's questions about the re-entry plan	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. We need remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, MTI Member / Ashley Pearson / 202 Milky Way Madison, WI</p>
Angela	Wahlberg	Concerns regarding the recent announcement By	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We</p>

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Abigail	Mannenbach	Ropening	Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. ( <a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a> ) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. We need remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, MTI Member / Abigail Mannenbach
Abbie	Lindl	Returning to in person learning for k-2	Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. ( <a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a> ) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. We need remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, MTI Member / Abbie Lindl / 208 Larkin St.
Symantha	Robinson	Reopening of school buildings	Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. ( <a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a> ) We

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Heather	Lawnicki	Reopening of Schools	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. We need remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, Heather Lawnicki 121 Vine St. Sun Prairie, WI 53590</p>
Emily	Braun	Reopening schools	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. We need remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, Emily Braun 706 Delladonna Way Madison, WI 53704</p>
Ellen	Nordgren	MMSD Reopening	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We</p>



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Elizabeth	Miranda	MMSD re-opening schools during pandemic	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. We need remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, E. Miranda</p>
Andrea	Dinndorf	Schools reopening before all safety protocols have been discussed with and approved by staff who will be in those buildings	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. We need remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, Andrea Dinndorf MTI member</p>
Katie	Bell	Re-opening elementary schools and requiring staff to return on March 1st.	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We</p>

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		<p>understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. The CDC has provided new guidance which I am sure will be discussed at tonight's meeting. The news continues to create headlines with blanket statements like reopening schools is safe. However, in the guidance, it states that when making decisions about reopening, school districts need to look at the number of cases per 100,000 people over 7 days, and the positive test rate to determine the level of transmission. According to our most recent numbers in Dane County, our cases over the past 7 days are 138 per 100,000 people - lying well within the high transmission level. Positive test rates are in the low transmission level. The CDC guidelines CLEARLY state, that when the two indicators do not match, the higher threshold should be chosen. The number of cases in Dane County are unsafe. Employees of MMSD were told to report to their schools 19 days after the announcement was given that schools were reopening. Dr. Carlton had committed to providing staff with 3 weeks notice. What is being done to support staff who are care takers for family members? What is being done to support staff who have family members who are in a high risk group? It was stated during the Facebook Live event that not a thought has been given to staff with childcare needs. When will this be thought through, given that staff are going to have these needs? Currently the only options are taking a medical leave for yourself or taking unpaid time off AND paying premiums for insurance. This does not seem like best practice during a global pandemic. Additionally, we need to remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, MTI Member Katie Bell 440 Linde Street DeForest WI 53532</p>	
Michelle	Reis	School Reopening	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) The concerns and questions raised in that open letter are important, and each one needs to be publicly addressed by the BOE and Dr. Jenkins. Families and teachers have asked specific questions about what the in-person learning experience will look like, how teachers will be able to effectively teach students via Zoom and face-to-face, and what the plan is if more students than can safely fit into a classroom return? These, and other questions have been met</p>

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			<p>with responses to the effect of "we're working on that". That is not a transparent or respectful answer. In additions, we need to remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, MTI Member: Michelle Reis</p>
Kyla	Pilliod	MMSD's Reopening Plans	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, In reviewing the CDC's recently updated K-12 Mitigation toolkit, I noticed a number of questions that were not answered clearly in the Facebook Live event last Thursday. There were some important things to consider in regards to sick leave policies, supplies (no touch hand dispensers, etc.), no touch water foundations, transportation, alternate work options for those with increased risk, and student and staff mental health services. I wanted to share in hopes that it would be helpful (<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/FINAL-0321420_B_K-12_Mitigation_Toolkit508.pdf">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/FINAL-0321420_B_K-12_Mitigation_Toolkit508.pdf</a>). The questions under each section help consider all facets of reopening. Additionally, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. Some of the questions in the open letter are similar to the questions I had after reviewing the CDC Mitigation Toolkit. We need remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, Kyla Pilliod</p>
Elizabeth	Miller	Reopening plan	<p>Dear Madison BOE members, I am writing to ask you to delay reopening until elementary staff have been vaccinated. We become eligible March 1. A delay until April 1 should be sufficient. As it is, there are staff working with special education students and MSCR Cares students who have not been vaccinated. This jeopardizes staff members' health needlessly. I am also writing in support of MTI's position. Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-</p>

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			<p>opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. We need remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, Elizabeth L. Miller/MTI member/Lincoln Elementary 5th Grade DLI teacher/</p>
Jill	Schmitt	Concerns for school opening plan	<p>Dear MMSD School Board, Recently, MTI submitted an open letter to Dr. Carlton Jenkins, BOE, and Madison Community regarding the recent announcement for the re-opening of school buildings. (<a href="https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/">https://www.madisonteachers.org/mti-board-statement-open-letter/</a>) We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. We need remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. And why send all elementary staff back together which puts more of us at risk? Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, MTI Member Jill Schmitt 776 US Hwy 51</p>
Shelli	Towne	Re-opening before teachers (and what about students?) are vaccinated.	<p>Dear BOE members, We need answers. We need truth. Why are we being forced to choose between our jobs and our very LIVES? Especially unprotected without even a chance to become vaccinated when we are SO close? And if the District is going to decide from school to school, classroom to classroom, (based on what works) whether it is SAFE, why are all staff required to teach virtually IN PERSON, in buildings starting March 1, when there is not even a timeline for students beyond 2nd grade to return in person yet? I am a 5th grade SEA and I work at Randall, a 3-5 school. I have underlying health concerns and am looking at taking a medical leave of absence, though I DO NOT WISH TO DO THIS at this point in the school year, leaving my students, my classroom teacher, and my CC teacher hanging. I can continue teaching virtually the way I have been doing for a YEAR now, successfully! However, I cannot take the chance of working with students who can't (or WON'T) wear masks now, taking the</p>

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			<p>chance of infecting or losing legal placement of my own son, when I am just a few short years from retiring from the District. Would you expect your mother to do this? Or your daughter or son? Please consider the fact that there are many lives hanging in the balance with your decision. Respectfully, Shelli Towne</p>
Valleri	Quitaniilla	Reopening schools.	<p>As an Sea and Mother, Thank you for sending us back to our buildings. I think that is important to let you know that not all MTI members are in agreement that we should not go back. Our children's social and emotional needs are not being met and there is a large emotional toll happening to our teenagers who have been in isolation for a year. The youngest learners, in the daycare I am currently working at, are constantly frustrated by zoom and only 2 of my children are engaging with their teachers on a regular basis during the day. Zoom has become a trigger word for some of my children. I believe that these same children would do much better if they were with their teachers.</p>
Carla	Oppenheimer	Phased Re-Entry Plan	<p>As an MMSD teacher, I am eagerly awaiting the day I can safely teach my students in person again, but reopening the schools before teachers can be fully vaccinated is reckless and dangerous. First, it places the staff and students who are already working and learning in person at greater risk for community spread. Second, in densely populated areas where schools have opened successfully, it has been in conjunction with restrictions in other areas of communal life, such as bars, restaurants, and places of worship. I see no indications of this happening in Dane County between now and March 9th. Third, the challenge of providing high-quality concurrent instruction is well-documented at this point as a cause of teacher burnout and attrition, something that MMSD claims is a priority. Fourth, the arguments about "learning loss" discount the creative and unique ways that students are learning and growing in collaboration with their families throughout this global crisis - we should be focusing on how to make systemic changes to how we do school rather than rushing to get students back into classrooms so that we can administer our standardized tests on schedule. And finally, vaccination for all school staff is not far off - why not wait until then to make this shift? I urge the board to oppose the decision to re-open until all school staff can be vaccinated.</p>
Lisa	Lockwood	the many unanswered questions surrounding the re-opening plan	<p>As an MMSD staff member, I am writing to you because I am very concerned with the re-opening plan. There are so many unanswered questions and when we have asked for answers the response has been "We will figure it out". We are in the middle of a pandemic. Asking staff to come back with so many unanswered questions is scary. Asking staff to come back without being fully vaccinated with no uniform plan is terrifying. Many classrooms are too small and the desks are not 6 feet apart. What happens when a student will not wear a mask? We have</p>

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			<p>been told that an individual plan will be made for that student. What does that mean? What does that look like? Who will be supervising unmasked children during their lunch periods in the classroom? That is not safe. What about the school buildings? They supposedly have been ready since last year but many had not hot water and the temperature in the rooms was not able to be regulated. I am concerned that Dane county's level is still considered high. One of the Dr's on the re-opening board said that for schools to open people in the community need to social distance but just recently Dane County rolled back their order so that more people are able to gather. Now 50 people can gather inside instead of 10. That can increase the spread. Why are people with family members who are at high-risk not able to get an accommodation to work virtually? I live with my husband who recently had a liver transplant and my elderly father who is wheelchair bound. I am their only caregiver. I cannot expose them to severe illness or possible death or get myself sick. I am a cancer survivor and was told that I myself do not qualify for an accommodation. My only option is to ask for an unpaid leave or quit my job. I have worked for the district for 21 years. I love my job but my family comes first. No one's life is expendable. I am able to support my students virtually and they have been doing well. I have a great relationship with them. All I am asking for my colleagues and myself is to be fully vaccinated so that everyone at school can be safe and have peace of mind. Thank you for your time.</p>
Liza	DiPrima	Plans to reopen MMSD schools for prek-2 in March	<p>As a teacher in MMSD, a parent of a student in MMSD, and an MTI member, I'm writing to oppose MMSD's plans for reopening school buildings for in-person learning for primary grade students. The CDC just issued updated guidelines that put Madison firmly in the "Red Zone" (along with 99 percent of the students in the country). The guidelines for how to "safely" open schools include resources and metrics that we are not meeting. We're told that 6 feet of distance is an absolute guideline in order to even consider opening. (According to science, 6 feet is probably not enough. But in my classroom, which is supposedly set up for in-person learners, the desks are NOT 6 feet apart. I don't have a sink in my room (or hot water at the sink that I share with 4 other classes in the hallway). The HVAC is outdated and ventilation in my room is nonexistent. I teach first graders, and I will not be able to stay a safe 6 feet from them during the school day--they need their shoes tied, their coats zipped, they need support with pretty much everything. Similarly, my students are not developmentally ready to maintain a safe distance from each other, keep masks on for 8 hour stretches, and follow all the protocols that we are told are necessary for safety. So any guidance for how to safely work in person is basically lip service only when it comes to our youngest students. I don't feel safe</p>

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			<p>with a bottle of spray cleaner and empty assurances that everything is fine. Will I have PPE? As a district, we pride ourselves on being driven by the data and science, not by politics. But that's clearly not what's happening here. Now, weeks away from a vaccine, we're shoving unvaccinated teachers and students into small, contained, poorly ventilated spaces and we're supposed to ignore all that we've learned about how this virus spreads. This is playing politics, caving to pressure, ignoring science, and risking my life and health, and the lives of my colleagues, our families, and our families and students. I don't feel safe, my colleagues don't feel safe, and many of our families don't feel safe. Why are we ignoring science and common sense and rushing to reopen when we could wait a few weeks to make sure that teachers, at a minimum, have received the vaccine? I urge you to ask hard questions and make decisions that will preserve the life and health of our staff and community and rethink this hasty and misguided plan to reopen for our youngest and most vulnerable. We understand the Board of Education and Supt. Dr. Jenkins are going to continue examining and discussing the re-opening of school buildings at Monday's BOE meeting. We have many unanswered questions about MMSD's Re-Entry Plan. We need remain focused on addressing the immediate needs of Black, Latinx, Indigenous Peoples of Color, and Special Education students and their families. There are historical disparities and mistrust that continue to exist in the Madison school community and our work must serve to restore that trust and build a stronger community and school district. Thank you for responding to our questions tonight. Sincerely, Liza DiPrima, MTI Member, 6721 Colony Drive, Madison, WI 53717</p>
Marnie	Miran	Reopening schools	<p>As a parent with 2 kids in the district, I have many concerns around the proposed reopening of schools, including the safety and mental health of our students and staff. My question today is why? Why are we sending any learners back into joyless buildings, with nothing on the walls, requiring them to be tethered to their desks for 7 of the 7.5 hours in the day. That is the truth. That is what is going to happen. Stop lying to parents. There will be no circle time, no reading on the rug, no flexible seating, no centers, no moving within 6 feet of their friends. This is not social-emotional learning. This decision is irresponsible. I urge you to really look at the truth and ask Dr. Jenkins to reconsider. Thank you. Marnie Miran</p>
Susan	Freiss	Safety & Security Ad Hoc Committee Recommendations	<p>As a longtime Madison resident and semi-retired teacher still teaching middle schoolers online on a part-time basis, I find the recommendations of the ad hoc committee thorough, reasonable, and doable. I can't image how the school board could NOT accept and implement these recommendations for restorative justice, accountability, and the promotion of mental health for our children of color at our high schools and all our schools.</p>

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Bliss	Kilzer	Would MMSD consider changing their policy in regards to a teacher being required to instruct in person students and virtual students at the same time? Could some teachers teach Live and other Virtual?
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