

**COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 46
SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
JANUARY 13, 2021**

<p><i>Call To Order and Roll Call</i></p>	<p>The Special Board of Education Meeting of the Community Consolidated School District 46, Lake County, Illinois was held Remotely on January 13, 2021.</p> <p>Vice President Mack called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. Members Present: Jim Weidman, Stephen Mack, Kristy Braden, Jason Lacroix, Kristy Miller, Tamika Nash, and Steven Strack. Members absent: None. Also Present: Superintendent, Dr. Lynn Glickman.</p>
<p><i>Establishment of Quorum</i></p>	<p>A quorum was established.</p>
<p><i>Approval of Agenda</i></p>	<p>Vice President Mack requested a motion for the approval of the January 13, 2021 Special Board Meeting Agenda as presented. Motioned by Weidman and seconded by Braden for the approval of the agenda as presented. Yeas: Miller, Strack, Mack, Weidman, Braden, Lacroix, and Nash. Nays: None. Motion carried.</p>
<p><i>Public Comment</i></p>	<p>Please see the comments attached to the minutes.</p>
<p><i>Motion to Move to Closed Session</i></p>	<p>Vice President Mack requested a motion to enter into a closed session. Motioned by Nash and seconded by Lacroix for the adjournment of the open session and enter into closed session at 5:58 p.m. in accordance with the Open Meetings 5 ILCS120/2(c)(8) <i>“Security procedures, school building safety, and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public or public property.”</i></p> <p>Yeas: Lacroix, Nash, Miller, Mack, Strack, Weidman, and Braden. Nays: None. Motion carried.</p>

<i>Return to Open Session</i>	Motioned by Miller and seconded by Weidman for adjournment of closed session and re-enter into open session at 7:29 p.m. Yeas: Miller, Strack, Weidman, Braden, Lacroix, Nash, and Mack. Nays: None. Motion carried.
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Jim Weidman, Board President

Kristy Braden, Board Secretary

Public Comments

Kelly	Blackler	Hybrid learning	Please delay the start of hybrid learning so that staff have the opportunity to receive vaccinations. Lake county is currently experiencing significantly higher numbers of new cases than when you voted to delay in November. It was not safe then and it is especially not safe now. We have yet to see the full extent of the post holiday spike and many experts predict that it will definitely be significant.
Keri	Cohen	Return to Hybrid	With the limited amount of students coming back to onsite learning, why can't we offer up the safe center to accommodate them instead of putting staff and students at risk? In addition, have you considered waiting to reopen until all staff have been vaccinated and it is safer to return.
Mimi	Webster		If students/families are given the opportunity to choose hybrid or remote, why can't teachers/assistants? At least until after vaccinated (both doses). Remote is working - the best it can. And students in the classrooms will still basically be remote.
Tara	Moats	Return to School	Respectfully, how can you hold a virtual board meeting due to the pandemic, but expect Program Assistants to be present in school on Tuesday, 19th.
Anne	Vargas	Reopening	Hi. I know we are all so ready to get moving. We now have 2 variants of the Covid-19 virus, the UK and Japan variants. How does the district plan to address the challenges of these much more contagious variants? Also, how will the district handle quickly pivoting back and forth, maybe even week to week, as numbers change? This poses great challenges to families as well as school staff. Thank you!
Becky	Storckman	Return to in person learning	I want to thank the administration and school board for their hard work during this difficult time. I understand there are risks to returning to in person learning at this time, but I respectfully urge the board to allow our students to return to school. It's important that you represent the families in this district and that may mean setting aside your own personal fears. Those families who are not comfortable sending their kids to school can continue with remote. I know the hybrid model is not ideal but neither is remote. Please listen to the people of the community and be our voice as you make your decision. Thank you.

Barbara	Pinc	Hybrid Planning	I would encourage the Board to move forward with the move to In Person, Hybrid planning, without pulling back at the last minute. Many members of this community are simply asking for choice! The choice for their child to learn in the best environment for them. The CDC states that It is critical for schools to open as safely and as quickly as possible for in-person learning. Many schools in our community have solidified plans to move forward prior to or around the timeframe we have laid out.
Ashley	Mahoney	Opening for hybrid	It is time to get children back in person and on site when that is what is needed for many. We are one of only 5 schools in this ENTIRE county not going back already. You are failing our children and even though teachers are working hard, it isn't good enough for all. Children were never meant to be remote for this long. There are many safety procedures that can be followed and when looking at the districts mitigations chart, it looks like we are equipped to safely open.
Woodview	Mom	Hybrid learning	Please vote thinking of all students! A lot of parents want the choice for hybrid learning. Please represent all the students.
Diane	Van Donselaar	Return to In Person	There are 26 K-8 school districts in Lake County. 21 of them have either already returned to in person learning or have concrete plans to return in the next two weeks. Grayslake has officially fallen behind under your watch and lack of action. You can not continue to push the decision down the road. You must decide, tonight, to do what is in the best interest of the children in Grayslake.
Breanne	Garcia	Returning	I hope the board will recognize that even though the verbiage from the health department has changed we are still in the highest risk category and should delay the going back.
Lisa	Boxer	Hybrid	I was wondering if parents realize that teachers will still be teaching on the computer and we can't go anywhere near your children to help them? Please parents , make sure you look at what other districts are doing to keep children and teachers safe.
Mom of a Teacher	Mom of a teacher		Families get the choice to send their children to school.Do staff members? Can we wait until teachers are able to get vaccinated?
C	Brown	Return to hybrid	Why would you vote to return when a vaccination is around the corner?

Joanne	Wakeman	in-person learning	I would like to encourage the board to move towards in-person learning for our students. The weight of the evidence supports having young children in school safely. Both the negative aspects of remote learning and the risk of COVID transmission should be considered when determining what is best for our district's students.
Nicole	Bean	Returning to school	So, some research has been done from the parents that would like a choice to return to school and we have found that there are 26 k-8 schools districts in Lake County and of those 26 schools, 21 of the districts have already been in person or have concrete plans in place to return to January. I feel as though we are really behind with plans on returning to school. There is a majority of parents that want kids back in school and think we have a right to have a choice and not have that choice be continued to be taken away. I would strongly urge that you look at the way other schools who are in person or have hybrid plans in place to see how they are doing it safely and with the right mitigations in place. Thank you.
Katrina	Kindle	Returning to school	Why can other districts implement a successful hybrid learning environment yet Grayslake can't? Is this decision based on personal views of those making the decisions or the decisions by parents?
D46 teacher	I do not want to get in trouble for using my name	school	Children will be masked. Teachers will be masked and teaching from behind their screen. All we are doing is changing location for some students and adding masks. This is not back to normal teaching and learning. We are in a groove, consistency is important for our students. We know this is not ideal but we are doing so much and our students are understanding what and how we are learning. Please consider the teachers' health and safety, too
Jennifer	Dearlove		I encourage the board, the district and the teachers to look outside our district to other schools in the area that have gone to hybrid in-person with success. Please reach out and build from there successes. As a preschool teacher that has been in person every day for this school year, It has been stressful but rewarding and now is feeling more comfortable. I can only wish to give all families in the district the option to go back to school. Please look to the study published in December and explain how this is reflected on with going back. I appreciate all your work and efforts during this time.

If we are using the CDC guidance, the highest risk is an incident rate of 200. Using our own daily numbers of 34 per day and multiplying by 14 for comparison puts us at 476. That's more than double the highest risk from CDC. What other threshold would we use then other than the highest risk of 200? Is there some super secret highest risk number we should use? The highest number of Americans died yesterday since the pandemic began. Don't be part of the problem. We've gone this long. The vaccines are here. Let's be safe and give it more time. Friends and family are dying out there!

Please for everyone saying we should wait and it's not fair to the teachers, please remember that some of the teachers in this districts have kids that are attending in person school, they shop at target and post about going out to restaurants. Enough of the double standards. Allow parents have a choice now!

Is the reward worth the risk? It sounds like, based on the plan, students will be basically doing remote instruction from desks at school, sitting there with masks on. Doing what they could at home, but with higher risk. We are at the highest risk category. Daily deaths are 4500 in our country, the highest yet. Numbers are going back up in Lake County. Why would now be the time to go back? Are there plans to vaccinate and protect teachers in place? I'm hearing a lot of comments about what other school districts are doing - I think it's better to do the right thing and not be swayed by pressure from other districts that are rushing just to get back.

I am writing in support of the reopening of our schools. A hybrid plan has been outlined that strives to keep our students and staff safe and similar plans have been successful across the district and state. Many families need a choice, and this will provide us the opportunity to pressure test our plan so that we are better prepared for full onsite learning in the fall.

For those who asking "why would we go back in person" for various reasons... I would ask them the question, what impact does providing a choice to others impact you? Many of the parents asking for choice have kids that are struggling! Kids that have IEPs that are not adequately learning! Kids that are struggling!

Those asking to stay remote, still have the choice to stay remote! If that works for you, great! But a large percentage of kids are struggling and although I am ecstatic for your child/children,

Dan	Tebusek	Hybrid
Woodview	Mom	Hybrid learning
Father of two Woodview students	Parent	On-site education
Kelly	Desino	Hybrid learning
Barbara	Pinc	Hyybrid Learning

			please have compassion for ours!
Elementary	Parent	Hybrid plan	Children may be learning some academics, but they are struggling mentally and emotionally and the only way to help some of them is to be IN the school. Masked or not, there is connection and interaction that they are NOT getting via Google Meet. I have been teaching in person/hybrid since September 29 and children's eyes light up when they are in the building and some were in TEARS when we had to take an adaptive pause around the winter break.
Jill	Batson	Wait Just a Little Longer	Since we know the teachers will be able to be vaccinated in February, can't we just wait until we can be safe? Some of us can't wait to get the vaccine, and then we will feel less anxious. Of course, we want to be back, but why would we go back when it's getting worse right now?! Please, wait until the vaccine is available to teachers. Thank you!
Clayton	Gable	Hybrid plan	I don't understand the school board setting metrics to returning to school then voting to ignore those metrics. The board made a commitment to the community to only return to school when certain metrics are met and if its safe to do so. Why are we even having this discussion?
Amy	Lechman	Hybrid learning	How many of those school in lake county that are open or opening are serving lunch to students as is stated in our plan.
d46 teacher	d46 teacher	return	Yes, families have a choice. Yes children will be happy to be back at school. What about teachers? We all want to go back when it is safe. It is not. We have not gotten vaccines. We are not getting a choice.
Carrie	D	Return to in-school	Metrics are still rising and until FULL vaccination can be completed its irresponsible to move forward with the hybrid plan. This is putting staff and their families(as well as students/families) at risk to be a glorified and very underpaid for PSRP babysitters.
Amy	McLester	Hybrid	Please give us a CHOICE, I believe is Grayslake Public Schools are as Safe as Private Schools in our town . Will the district mandate vaccines for all employees?

How am I supposed to explain to my Kindergartner that it's safe enough for her sister to go to high school next week, but not safe enough for her and her other sibling to go in the end of January and early February? The Grayslake districts need to be in sync. I've virtually attended all your meetings and read through your emails and data points. The communication and decisions coming from D127 makes sense to me. You have had the opportunity to plan for months now just as D127 has done. You have heard the overwhelming support for choice from the community. We trust the mitigation strategies in place and backup remote plans if those strategies fail. Surrounding school districts have been going in hybrid or plan to soon. Please explain why D46 should be different. Explain it to me like I'm 5.

Please keep in mind that while the county no longer would like to make decisions about school openings, their data still speaks volumes. We are in the highest risk category. The community numbers are higher than they have ever been when we have considered a return to school-we are still in Tier 3 mitigations, this meeting is even being held virtually. Please allow teachers to be vaccinated before having to return in person. We should not be afraid to come to work. The district set safety metrics based on public health recommendations and they should not be ignored. Please value the teachers that have been working so hard.

Thousands of people are going to work without a vaccine! Its time for D46 to get back to doing their job!

We should not be going back right now. The community spread is too great and our staff has not been vaccinated. I understand that our students are severely impacted, but it is not safe for our staff. Please postpone our return until our teachers and staff can be vaccinated. The students in our safe center were not wearing their masks and were not physically distancing. We cannot be safe when we are not vaccinated, not wearing masks, and not staying 6 feet away. Do parents understand that if their child reports any COVID symptom, they and their siblings will be sent home? They will either need to go the doctor, get a COVID test, or are out for 10-14 days.

Rael Swigert Hybrid plan

D46 teacher D46 teacher Returning to hybrid

D46 Parent Hybrid

CCSD Staff Member CCSD Staff Member Hybrid Planning

			<p>I believe families should be able to choose what is best and right for their family. If you vote no to begin this hybrid plan then there is no choice given to us.</p> <p>Many people have never skipped a beat going into work since COVID began. Because if they did they would have to quit or get fired. If grocery store staff can work to help feed you, doctor offices and their staff can continue to serve you, the least this school board can do is start the hybrid plan for our community. This remote learning cannot be our only option.</p>
Nicole	Miller	Back to School	
d46 Teacher	Brown	hybrid return	<p>I listened to the return to hybrid plans this morning. My heart shattered at the dystopian plans that will occur. Parents need to know the truth of what hybrid return actually means.</p> <p>No one asked grocery store workers, doctors, firefighters, and other professions if they wanted to go back to work. They worked because it is their job. It is disheartened to hear so many Grayslake teachers shy away from returning to their job. First we were told to wait in the fall because the teachers weren't comfortable returning. Then we were told to wait until after the holidays. Now, we have to wait for a vaccine. What next do we need to wait for?</p>
disappointed	parent	return learning	
C	D	"What's good for the goose is good for the gander"	<p>How is it that we are all expected to return but the people who are deciding this won't even return to hold their meeting in a smaller group??</p>
A teacher	Boxer	hybrid	<p>I know the high school is going back, but they are not serving lunch.</p> <p>As much as we want to be back, please delay until teachers and staff have an opportunity to be vaccinated. As a staff member who submitted ADA paperwork but was denied the ability to stay remote, my family and I have been put in a position to make an impossible choice. Please take staff safety into consideration. Please allow teachers and staff to be vaccinated before returning to work.</p>
	D46 teacher	Return to Hybrid	